The Purpose Driven Cake

***BRING UP THE PEOPLE TO SAMPLE:

The ingredients of a cake are, butter, sugar, eggs, flour, salt, milk and vanilla. All these things in and of themselves don't taste good except the milk and sugar.

We can relate our life to the ingredients of a cake:

- > Butter = divorce, betrayal of a friend (WILL)
- > Sugar = a promotion on your job, or when you graduated from college (Cherie)
- > Eggs = molestation, rape (Molly)
- > Flour = losing your house, bad health (Mark)
- > Salt = death of a loved one (Lauren)
- ➤ Milk = meeting your true love (Kim)

***God has a way of taking things that are bad and making them good!!!!!!!!

Romans 8:28-29 - NIV

²⁸ And we know that <u>in all things God works</u> for the good of those who love him, who^[a] have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Note:

Romans 8:28 Or that all things work together for good to those who love God, who; or that in all things God works together with those who love him to bring about what is good

- God Works in ALL things -
- NOT just isolated incidents FOR OUR GOOD!!!
- EVIL is prevalent in our fallen world –
- But God is able to turn every circumstance around for our long range good!!!
- Note: God IS NOT working to make us happy –
- BUT, to fulfill HIS PURPOSE...
- Not for everyone it is for those who love God and are "called" –
- According to HIS PURPOSE!!!!!

All things may not be good but when we put it all together, it makes a pretty good tasting batter.

- Don't you like to <u>lick the spoon</u> when someone is making a cake?
- Although it <u>taste so good</u>, <u>too much of it will make you sick</u>.

So God has to mold you into the shape he wants you in.

1. BRING OUT THE BAKING PAN:

God knew how he wanted you shaped before he made you.

Romans 8:29 - NIV - 28 And we know that in **all things** God works for the good of those who love him, **who have been called** according to his purpose.

29 For those <u>God foreknew</u> he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

30 And those he predestined, <u>he also called</u>; those he called, he also <u>justified</u>; those he justified, he also <u>glorified</u>.

2. ***Open the BATTER:

God takes the batter that taste so good and places it in a pan that is **lightly greased**, the anointing. With your anointed self **you still aren't ready**.

- 1. You are still wrestling with the fact of whether you are going to come to church or not.
- 2. You are still dealing whether or not you are going to forgive your brother or sister.
- 3. You are still wrestling with Salvation 101

So just as much as you want to be used, he wants to use you!!!!!!!!!

3. SO he <u>preheats the oven</u> and <u>sets the timer</u>.

He places the pan in the oven and allows it to bake.

- No matter how much you holler, **Lord I am ready**,
- He is looking at the timer and says
- "NO, a few more minutes."

Also, in baking you have to make sure that there is *little to no traffic*!!!!!! Too much traffic makes the cake **FALL**.

Be careful of who is walking in and out of your life.

- Relationships and soul ties.
- You have to be careful who you allow to speak into your life.

4. ***BRING OUT THE TOOTHPICK:

- Then comes "TEST", are you ready yet?
- You can place a *toothpick* in the center of the cake,
- If there is no cake on the toothpick, the cake is done.
- The problem with us is there is <u>too much of us</u> on the toothpick.
- So God allows us to cook a little longer!!!!!!!!

5. ***BRING OUT THE CAKE:

Once we are done God will then give us <u>a fresh anointing</u> and lavish us with Frosting.

- You don't even have to ask anyone to come and get some of the cake.
- Once they see it, it's like, "oooo...
- Who's cake is this? I want some."

***You don't have to show out, your gift will make room for you...

And now we know our purpose and we can be used.

Then we can say like Paul in:

1 Corinthians 4:17 - NIV

¹⁷ For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, my son whom I love, <u>who is faithful</u> <u>in the Lord</u>. He will remind you of my way of <u>life in Christ Jesus</u>, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

• Timothy's role was to see that Paul's advice was <u>received</u>, <u>read</u>, and <u>implemented</u>. Then he was to return to Paul and report on the church's progress.

CLOSE:

The Nature of True Apostleship - 1 Corinthians 4:1-4

- 4 This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.
- 2-Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must **prove faithful**.
- 3 I care very little **if I am judged** by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself.
- 4 My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me.

1 Corinthians 4: 14-21 - Paul's Appeal and Warning

- ¹⁴ I am writing this not to shame you but to warn you as my dear children. ¹⁵ Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.
- **16** *Therefore I urge you to imitate me.* ¹⁷ For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.
- ¹⁸ Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you. ¹⁹ But I will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have.
- 20 *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.* ²¹ What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a rod of discipline, or shall I come in love and with a gentle spirit?

So what Paul is saying is that: the abuse, the death of a loved one,

• your <u>divorce</u>, losing <u>your health</u>, or <u>house</u>, **is light**.

Then he says it is for a moment, all those years you cried, all the years you did with out.

It worketh, ETH, <u>continually</u>, even what your going through now, it is working a far more exceeding weight of glory...

I'd like to propose that whatever God is going to do is going to be so heavy that your problem will seem light.