A newsletter from On Wings Like a Dove Ministries November 2014 Vol. 10 Issue 11

On Wings Like a Dove

A Ministry for the Loved ones of Prodigals and Prisoners *Psalm 55:6*

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You Can Make a Child's Christmas!!

Pack a Treasure Box for a child of a Prisoner or prodigal!

Deadline: 12/1

Contact:
Sheila Smith
Sheilakays@msn.com
or
Lauren Canup
lcanup3@gmail.com

Prayer Support Group

1st Monday of each Month
Calvary Central
5000 County Club Rd
Room B 1309
6:30 to 8:00pm

November 3
Speaker: Bob McCaskill
Celebrate Recovery

December 1
Speaker: Veronica Beddick
Al Anon

January 5
Speaker: Don Schmidt
Counselor on Staff

Words from Sandra

Changed

For months I sought God's direction as I prepared for our Fall Retreat at Lake James. He showed me the subject: *Hinds Feet on High Places.* With that settled I started rereading this book written by Hannah Hurnard and preparing a workbook for the time alone with the Lord we would have.

Then I began to collect object lessons to help the ladies be reminded of the journey God has prepared for them. In the book, the deer, Much Afraid, had struggles, trials, pain, but also she experienced Acceptance with Joy, assurance of the Shepherds presence, His promise to come at her faintest call for help, the cordial she had available when she felt faint or was tempted to turn back when the journey got difficult. And there was the tear bottle where He promised to collect her tears.

Each time we meet together we sense the pain in the room. So many bearing the cost as their companions appear to be Suffering and Sorrow.

Days before the Retreat we knew there was a shift in the weather and it would be much cooler at the top of Mt. Mitchell than expected. This was to be our field trip on Saturday since we were so close to the highest peak east of the Mississippi. What better place to experience the journey to the High Place and make our lesson come alive?

I began to question whether to go up or make another plan that would keep us out of the cold. I was encouraged by a friend to give the ladies the experience regardless of the conditions. Then my spiritual Mother, Joan, sent me a verse that gave me confirmation that we were to go. Micah 4:2, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD….and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths". Okay LORD I got that message loud and clear. You have things to teach us on that mountain.

Like Much Afraid in Hinds Feet we discovered the journey would not be without difficulties. Some were frightened of the

journey up the curvy path to the top. The weather was cold and very windy. Some got a little car sick. Some of us walked up to the highest point and looked over into the most beautiful valley and even saw some snowflakes. The view was glorious! However since it was so cold I knew we could not sit outdoors and meet with the LORD as planned so we drove down to the nearby restaurant and God provided a separate room we could eat our lunch and be protected from the wind and cold.

The week before the Retreat there came a request for a young lady fresh out of rehab to join us. God had kept a space for her. Little did we know how significant it would be that she would join us.

On Saturday night I felt led to have her share a little of her testimony which included lots of abuse from the one person we would expect protection from, her mother. Katiee kept her head down as she shared her experience right up to her attempted suicide the year before. This took her to a rehab house in Alabama called Wellspring. God used it to touch her heart, help her to understand His love for her, and draw her to Himself.

After she shared it was suggested that we pray a blessing over her. Before I left home I was compelled to include Sylvia Gunter's blessing book in my supplies. That afternoon I had chosen a blessing to close on Sunday with the ladies. As I had gathered my Bible to bring down that night I "accidently" brought the blessing book with me. It was all about the wounds and the abuse of the past being healed. As I prayed it over Katiee there was a time of healing not only for her but for all the hurt in the hearts of others longing for the return of their prodigal and for the healing of their own wounds of the past. Years of pain and sorrow poured out through our tears. It was a precious time as Kaitee hopefully realized that these women all represented the kind of love she had longed for from her own mother.

God had provided a blessing box which we gave to Kaitee and each attendee wrote out a scripture and blessing to put in the box for her to keep close to her as encouragement.

As I searched for a closing song God took me to Carrie Underwood's new song, "Something in the Water". It's about going down to be baptized and coming forth CHANGED. Kaitee has been changed and her life exhibits that. I can't wait to see how God uses her journey for His glory. Her story gave hope to the others that one day they will see their child changed and following in a totally new direction. Oh God! You are so good to minister so tenderly to us all. You never cease to amaze me, Lord, as we follow Your leading.

Thanks to you ladies who had a part in supplying me the Hinds Feet book bag. I love it. You are too sweet!

Pray ALWAYS

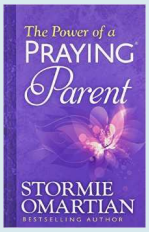
Pray Always: Maintain a heart of continual prayer for your children no matter where you are or what you are doing. "Never stop praying." 1 Thes 5:17 (NLT)

Pray With Scripture: There is an unequalled element of faith when God's children pray God's Word back to Him because they trust Him. Insert your child's name(s) in the precious promises of God and acknowledge that you are believing He will fulfill His Word.

- *Ask God to help your children to love Him with all their heart, soul, mind and strength. (Mark 12:30)*
- *Ask the Lord to give your children the spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they would know Him better. That their eyes would be enlightened that they would know the hope of His calling. (Eph 1:17-18)*
- *Intercede for your child's character. Ask that they would be humble and willing to put the needs of others before their own. (Phil 2:3-5)*

The Power of a Praying Parent
By Stormie Omartian

"The battle for our children's lives is waged out on our knees. When we don't pray, it's like sitting on the sidelines watching our children in a war zone getting shot at from every angle. When we do pray, we're in the battle alongside them, appropriating God's power on their behalf."



After 20 years of raising her son and daughter alongside her husband, Stormie looks back at the trials and joys of parenting and the power in praying for her children. In these easy-to-read chapters, Stormie shares from personal experience how parents can pray for their children.