

CONVINAS

LIKE A DOVE

A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONES
OF PRODIGALS & PRISONERS

A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry

March 2022 Vol. 18 Issue 3

Whispers in the Wind

455 South Church Street Winston Salem, NC 27101

Psalm 126:5

Office Hours:
Tuesday-Thursday
10 am-2 pm
or by appointment
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Prayer Support Groups

Prayer Support
Monday, March 7
Timothy Greene
will share his testimony
Please Join Us

River Oaks Church
Clemmons, NC
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
at 6:30 pm
Room #4
Led by Jeff & Sherye Hall

Ladies Bible Study

Each Tuesday at On Wings Office from 12:30 - 2:00

On March 1
We will begin studying
Made To Crave
by Lysa TerKeurst

"God declares His commitment to breathe His call on our descendants "from the East, from the West, from the North and from the South". He says, "I will bring them. I will gather them: I will say, 'Give them up! Do not keep them back!" God is asking us to BELIEVE His word of promise---there is no place My voice cannot reach your children. Call unto Me---and I will call unto them Isaiah 43:5-7

Recently someone requested that we publish this article again and March is a perfect time to re-share it. I read this article by Jack Hayford years ago and published it in my book, "Where Was the Prodigals Mother?".

In the passage above God commits to breathe His call to our children as we cry out to Him believing that He will hear and answer in His timing as our loved ones surrender to His will (after all they have a part in this too). I am reminded that the promise might not be on earth or in our timing but in God's.

"Bring the children home Lord! Jesus said, "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit" John 3:8.

With those words our Lord not only describes God's supernatural ability to breathe life into deadened spirits, but also, He teaches us the wisdom of refusing to doubt He is at work in people we despair of reaching or in human circumstances we think may be beyond redemption.

Even now, I am already going before you, faithful servant. I am breathing into the dark corners of hearts that are darkened, blinded, bound, and tormented. Though no one knows what I am doing or with whom I am dealing each one of them is aware of it!"

God has also given me the following passage for my granddaughters: "But I know where you stay and when you come and go and how you rage against me. Because you rage against me and because your insolence has reached my ears, I will put my hook in your nose and my bit in your mouth; and I will make you return by the way you came" Isaiah 37:28-29.

This helped me to completely take my hands off and keep my advice to myself, unless asked and then with caution. The visual of the hook in the nose and the bit in the mouth helps me know He knows how to get their attention. It also has given me peace to know as I call out to God, He is calling out to them because of my prayers.

If I continued to interject my thoughts, I would be falling right back in the trap of the enemy thinking I was in control. I learned long ago that I was not in control where our son was concerned and after many years of heartache and interfering with God's plan, I discovered that if I didn't back away from trying to rescue and fix things for him, we would continue to go round and round the circle. One day I finally surrendered him to God and have been privileged to see Him doing a miracle of transformation in his life.

One example was me often begging him to come to church with us. It always fell on deaf ears but when I stopped asking and just prayed for God to work by sending someone in his life to reach out he began to respond and is now attending church and feeling the love and support of that church. It needed to be in God's timing and God's way. I couldn't make him see the importance of being part of a church but God could and did!

I believe many of you have learned the same lesson. Trying to rescue or fix your child's problems brought you nothing but sleepless nights, poor health, and anguish of mind. Calling to God and leaving the burden with Him brings peace and focus on the One who works all things for our good. He is to be trusted. The changes may not come as you envisioned or hoped for but be grateful for each step of progress. You might have to endure harsh words or reactions when you start making a change, but it will be worth it as you see changes that God has orchestrated in your loved one. And guess what, you'll have peace that passes all understanding.

Lord, we make a conscious decision to totally surrender our loved one to You. We stop attempting to change them and ask that You change us. Help us to love our prodigal with the love You have for them even though our hearts may be breaking and fill us up to overflow with the joy that we can receive in You alone. Use us to minister to others who may be struggling in this way and encourage them to lean on You alone.

Prayer Thoughts

I bless you with the ability to trust God

Spirit, I bless you with experiencing your Father's faithfulness, his faithful love toward you, for your emotions to be aware, to know, to savor, to feel, to relish the love your Father expresses toward you. I bless you with experiencing that so often that you can never doubt your Father's love. I bless you with no anxiety in the present because God has spoken richly in the past. I bless you with the surety of knowing he will speak again at the right time and the right place. I bless you with seeing so much of his protection that you will trust him implicitly. I bless you in the name of your Eternal Dwelling Place".

Taken from Daily Spirit Blessings by Sylvia Gunter





David Walters & Timothy Greene

This is our
On Wings of Hope
Men's House

We accepted our first resident February 6

Please pray for these men and the success of this exciting project God has orchestrated



FRIDAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY APRIL 29 - MAY 1

> **Caraway Conference Center 4756 Caraway Mountain Road**

Speaker Dawn Bray

Space is Limited!!

To reserve your spot call 336-829-5060 or email sandra@onwingslikeadove.com



"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and obey what is written in it, because the time is near." Revelation 1:3

As we've been studying the book of Revelation at our Tuesday Bible Study, this verse continues to capture my attention. "Blessed is

the one who reads, who hears and obeys...".

athy's Korne

What am I to obey? Is it to take heed of what the seven churches are commended for: their works, their patient endurance, remaining true to Christ, their love, faith and service? Is it to evaluate myself to see if I've forgotten my first love, if I've compromised, if I'm lukewarm in my faith. Is it to be aware that we receive crowns related to our actions now, and then we cast these crowns at Jesus's feet? Is it to be aware of the imminent return of Jesus and to be fervent in prayer for those we love and who don't know Him yet?

I don't have an absolute answer, and I imagine it would be a different answer for

each of us. That we are to obey God's Word is clear, however.

The Hebrew word for "hear" is "shema", as in Deuteronomy 6: "Hear O Israel...". The definition of shema includes hearing, paying attention and responding. It calls us to act on what we hear. Jesus says, "Why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46), and, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me, ..." (John 14:21). Through the apostle James He says, "Don't only hear the message, but put it into practice; otherwise you are merely deluding yourselves." (James 1:22) If we read and study the Bible without obediently applying it, perhaps we are missing the point.

In Revelation, or any Scripture you are reading, what is God calling you to hear and

obey?



I'll stand in the gap for my son I'll stand till the victory is won

This one thing I know that You love him so, And Your work in my son is not done

I'll stand in the gap everyday and there I will fervently pray,

And Lord, don't let me waver If things get quite rough, which they may,

I'll never give up on that boy. Nor will You, for You promised him joy,

For I know that it's true when he said yes to You, Though the enemy seeks to destroy

not quit as I intercede for You are his Savior indeed.
Though it may take years
I give You my fears as I trust every moment I plead

And so in the gap I will stand
Heeding your every command
With help from above I'll unconditionally love,
And soon he will reach for your hand!

Author Unknown

A Purpose in Juffering

I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. Job 42:7

So what you're saying is, it may not be my fault." The woman's words took me by surprise. Having been a guest speaker at her church, we were now discussing what I'd shared that morning. "I have a chronic illness," she explained, "and I have prayed, fasted, confessed my sins, and done everything else I was told to do to be healed. But I'm still sick, so I thought I was to blame."

I felt sad at the woman's confession. Having been given a spiritual "formula" to fix her problem, she had blamed herself when the formula hadn't worked. Even worse, this formulaic approach to suffering was disproved generations ago.

Simply put, this old formula says that if you're suffering, you must have sinned. When Job tragically lost his livestock, children, and health, his friends used the formula on him. "Who, being innocent, has ever perished?" Eliphaz said, suspecting Job's guilt (Job 4:7). Bildad even told Job that his children only died because they had sinned (8:4). Ignorant of the real cause of Job's calamities (1:6–2:10), they tormented him with simplistic reasons for his pain, later receiving God's rebuke (42:7).

Suffering is a part of living in a fallen world. Like Job, it can happen for reasons we may never know. But God has a purpose for you that goes beyond the pain you endure. Don't get discouraged by falling for simplistic formulas.

Taken from Our Daily Bread