



A newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry September 2020 Vol. 16 Issue 9

455 South Church Street
Winston Salem, NC 27101

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

PRAYER SUPPORT KICK OFF

September 14 @ 6:30

River Oaks Community Church
1855 Lewisville Clemmons Rd
Clemmons, NC

Ray Keeton, Associate Pastor of
First Christian Clemmons and
Celebrate Recovery Leader
will share his testimony

RIVER OAKS CHURCH
CLEMMONS, NC

Meet in Room #4 on 2nd & 4th

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Currently studying

The Bondage Breaker
by Neil T. Anderson

Led by Jeff and Sherye Hall

Ladies Bible Study

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

We are continuing Ruach study

After much prayer, we will cancel
our October Retreat that was
rescheduled from April. If you
made a deposit, please let us
know if you want it reimbursed
or applied to a future retreat.
Please call the office at
336-829-5060.

Godly vs Ungodly Burden Bearing

In our weekly Bible Study, we had a lesson from Ruach on the difference between Godly versus Ungodly burden bearing. In Galatians 6:2 it says, "Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ". That is where we get the idea that we are to bear everyone's burdens at times.

In Galatians 6:5 it says, "For each one will bear his own load". So, which is it? I think it is both. We need to discern the burdens God has assigned us and what He has not. If we pick up all the burdens, we will eventually burn out. Then we are no earthly good to anyone.

Sylvia Gunter shares three questions to ask ourselves when we are presented with a need:

- Is this You, God?
- What is my part? (Do I have a part?)
- Is this your time (Is it for now?)

Godly Burden Bearing is carrying those people and things in prayer to the Father that He assigns to us for the period of time He assigns it. Ungodly Burden Bearing are the emotional and practical burdens that others put on us and we put on ourselves that God has not given us direction and grace to bear.

Almost fifteen years ago, God laid a burden on my heart for others with loved ones going through the pain of addiction and/or incarceration. I had been through this hard struggle and at times felt alone. I had friends that prayed with me and for me as I poured out my heart, but they could not personally identify with the anguish. At times, I needed someone that understood and could sympathize with my pain.

God began to give me a heart for others walking in the same journey. I shared with my pastor this burden I felt for others and He gave me the name of a couple to reach out to having their own struggle and the rest is history. This was certainly a Godly burden assigned to me as it led me into full time ministry over these past years.

Ungodly burden bearing can leave us exhausted and eventually burn us out. If you are feeling worn out, the burden is more than likely not from Him and you will need to make the decision to pull aside from it and learn from Him. I love The Message version of Matthew 11: 28-30. "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you now to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me. Watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly".

My friend Katie shared another method of laying my burdens down by praying a setting free prayer after ministering to folks because we can pick up issues as we minister. I'll share one paragraph here you may like to use: "We realize that the sickness and evil we encounter is more than our humanity can bear, so cleanse us of any sadness, negativity or despair that we may have picked up. If our ministry has tempted us to anger, impatience or lust, cleanse us of those temptations and replace them with love, joy and peace".

I am certain that I am not the only one who has struggled with ungodly burden bearing. The next time you are tempted to pick up another person's burden, make sure you ask yourself the three questions and make sure it is God's call for you. Then take it on for only the season God intends. I know I have often continued to carry things longer than God desired me to. Lord, continue to teach us!

~ Sandra

Determined

Take up your positions; stand firm
and see the deliverance the LORD will give you.
2 Chronicles 20:17

In this journey of life, you will want to quit. There comes a time in everyone's life when they just want to lie down and stop. What separates those who falter and fail from those who experience victory is their ability to get back up. There are so many battles that are won by simply outlasting the enemy.

We will all get knocked down. You can't stop that, but it is up to you whether you get back up.

Determine to persevere in faith — even when you don't feel strong. Your feelings will limit you because you don't actually know what you are capable of until you show yourself. As we stand firm, our Lord fights for us. It will be hard.

When did we start imagining there could be a victory without a battle? Is there a battle that you keep drawing back from? Is there spiritual ground that you have backed off of? God is calling you back into position.

He who promised you is faithful. God is strong and He wants you strong. He will reveal His strength to you so He can reveal His strength through you.

When you are tired, when you want to stop, remember what He says in 2 Chronicles 20:17:

You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.

The Lord fights for us. Sometimes the victory comes if we just keep showing up. We win as we keep loving, keep giving, keep serving, and keep learning. Other battles are won in song. When we sing the Word of God we are singing a sword of the Spirit. When we pray His promises we are singing a prayer. Some battles are won in silence and surrender to Him. We are so confident that God is good and does good that we just smile confidently, knowing that He has it. When we go out in His strength, we can face anything that life throws at us — discouragement, exhaustion, or outright opposition. We are told,

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help
you; I will uphold you with My righteous right
hand. Isaiah 41:10

Almighty God, I will stand in Your faithfulness as You fight for me. I choose determination and perseverance each and every day, until the battle is won.

I AM STRONG when I stand, confident that the Lord my God is fighting for me.

Excerpted from Strong by Lisa Bevere



Whenever
two or three of you
come together
in my name,
I am there with you
Matthew 18:20

He gives power
to the weak and
strength to the
powerless

Isaiah 40:29