

Jesus spoke to them saying,  
"I am the light of the world.  
He who follows Me shall not walk  
in darkness, but have the light of life."  
John 8:12



LIKE A DOVE  
A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONES  
OF PRODIGALS & PRISONERS

A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry December 2022 Vol. 18 Issue 12

455 South Church Street  
Winston Salem, NC 27101

Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Thursday  
10 am-2 pm

or by appointment 336-829-5060  
[sandra@onwingslikeadove.com](mailto:sandra@onwingslikeadove.com)

### Prayer Support Group

Prayer Support  
December 5th  
Fellowship & Prayer  
6:30 pm  
We will NOT meet Jan 2nd

Feb 6th will be our next meeting

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

### Ladies Bible Study

Each Tuesday  
At On Wings Office  
From 12:30-2:00

December 20th  
Christmas Fellowship  
12:30

We will begin a new Bible Study  
on January 3rd 2023  
Isaiah  
by Melissa Spoelstra



## A Year of Miracles

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way, walk in it'"  
Isaiah 30:21

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way, walk in it'. " Isaiah 30:21

Are you shocked like me that it is December already? This year has been a whirlwind in many ways, but a year filled with miracles. My goal is to write down the ways ONLY GOD could have orchestrated those miracles both in my life and the life of On Wings Like a Dove.

Our board had identified housing for men and women as the greatest need for returning citizens to have a fighting chance of success in their journey facing the pressures managing life again on the outside.

We had always depended on donations to operate the ministry. This year someone offered the opportunity to apply for a grant. We decided to do just that! It didn't take long to receive a letter of approval which was a real sign of God's approval to move forward in meeting this housing need.

Our next step was to pray for a house to rent that would accommodate at least 5 residents. Having made connections with men who would be released soon, we choose to set our first house up for men and refer to it as On Wings of Hope. Thankfully God connected us with an area pastor that rented houses and had a heart for the residents we planned to serve.

Every piece of furniture and household item was supplied by first one donor, then another until we had every bedroom furnished, the den set up, and the dining room table in place. We call the dining table the "Table of Grace" because it represents God's Grace for us all as we fellowship around it. Each time a resident comes home we celebrate with a dinner in their honor. It is a blessed time of fellowship and the beginning of koinonia as we rejoice in the goodness of God and His provisions.

Currently, we have four men who are living in the house. Three of them have jobs and are sowing back into On Wings of Hope. They each have chores to do to keep the house operating as it should. There are restrictions and meetings to attend as well as church attendance on Sundays. We have two women residing in the Women's house which was established in September. Both of those women have already started new jobs. Each resident in both houses has a personal assigned mentor who walk with them on their journey.

Along with the joys and celebrations come disappointments and hard issues to deal with but we are never discouraged enough to quit doing what God has called us to in ministering to those who come our way whether for a year or for a season. Hopefully those seeds that were sown will one day grow and flourish as God intended. It is only our job to sow and watch God bring the increase. We wish those who choose to leave our program the best in life and a return to the Father's open arms one day.

I am so grateful for each one who is pouring their lives into this outreach, which is changing lives and hearts, mostly ours.

It has been a challenging year but a rewarding one as we have seen God's hand moving in ways that are marvelous in our sight. We continue to follow hard after His will as He leads and guides whether it is to the left or right and our focus is straight ahead on our Shepherd Who guides us.

Speak Lord, your servant,

~ Sandra

## Prayer Thoughts

### WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE NAME OF JESUS?

The name Jesus, announced to Joseph and Mary through the angels (Matt 1:21; Luke 1:31), means “Yahweh saves” or “Yahweh is salvation.” Transliterated from Hebrew and Aramaic, the name is Yeshua. This word is a combination of Ya, an abbreviation for Yahweh, the name of Israel’s God (Exodus 3:14); and the verb yasha, meaning “rescue,” “deliver,” or “save.”

The English spelling of the Hebrew Yeshua is Joshua. But when translated from Hebrew into Koine Greek, the original language of the New Testament the name of Yeshua becomes Iesous, In English, Iesous becomes Jesus. Thus, Yeshua and, correspondingly, Joshua and Jesus mean “Yahweh saves” or “the Lord is salvation.”

The name Jesus was quite popular in first-century Judea. For this reason, our Lord was often called “Jesus of Nazareth,” distinguishing Him by His childhood home, the town of Nazareth in Galilee. Despite its commonness, the name Jesus is remarkably significant. Jesus was sent by God for a particular purpose, and His personal name bears witness to that mission. Just as the Yeshua/Joshua in the Old Testament led his people to victory over the Canaanites, the Yeshua/Jesus in the New Testament led His people to victory over sin and their spiritual enemies.

Galatians 4:4–5 says, “But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.” God sent Jesus to save us (John 3:17). The meaning of Jesus’ name—“Yahweh saves”—reveals His mission (to save and deliver) and His identity as Savior of the world. At the same time, the commonness of Jesus’ name underscores His humanity and humility. The Son of God emptied Himself of His glory to become a humble man (Philippians 2:6–8). The Lexham Survey of Theology eloquently captures this dual significance in the name Jesus: “He was, from one angle, ‘just another Joshua,’ and yet, in another sense, he was the true Joshua—the one who would live up to the meaning of this name in ways that no others could.”

The name of Jesus is important because of its meaning and because of whom it represents. There is power and authority in the person of Christ Jesus, and, of course, the person is designated by the name. More so than with other names, we associate the name of Jesus with His distinctive character, quality, and work, as seen in the following biblical truths:

Salvation is in the name of Jesus alone: “Jesus is ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:11–12).

Forgiveness of sins is received through the name of Jesus: “All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name” (Acts 10:43; see also 22:16).

Believers are baptized in the name of Jesus: “Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit’” (Acts 2:38).

Healing and miracles were performed in the name of Jesus: “By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see” (Acts 3:16).

Jesus teaches believers to pray in His name; that is, to pray, in His authority, the type of prayer that He would pray: “And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it” (John 14:13–14).

In every way, Jesus lives up to His name. The name Jesus reminds us of the power, presence, and purpose of the risen Christ. It assures us that God’s gracious intention is to save us. Our Lord Jesus brought God to humanity and now brings humans to God through the salvation He purchased. In the Bible, when people spoke or acted in the name of Jesus, they did so as the Lord’s representatives with His authority. The very life of the believer is to be lived in the name of Jesus (Col 3:17) and by doing so bring glory to God: “We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Thessalonians 1:12).



Taken from GotQuestions.org

## O Come, All Ye Faithful, Joyful and Triumphant!

It’s that time of year again, with bright, sparkling lights, abundant music, decorations... and a sense of hurriedness, lots of traffic, crowded stores and short tempers. How easy it is to take our eyes off the One we are celebrating, and fix them on our circumstances.



Faithful, joyful, triumphant. Are these adjectives I can use to describe myself? Is it how God sees me?

The dictionary defines faithful as being true to one’s word or commitments; being dedicated and steadfast. This can be demonstrated by our trusting God in all our circumstances, even the “easy” ones we think we can handle; continuing to believe He is working out all things for our good and for His glory; that He was, He is, and He is to come. “Faith is the confidence in what we hope for, the assurance about what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

Joyful is defined as full of joy, great delight or happiness. Biblically, this joy is dependent on who Jesus is rather than what is happening around us. Joy is God-given and it derives from our hope and trust in His Word. “You make known to me the path of life. You fill me with joy in Your presence.” (Psalm 16:11)

Triumphant is defined as victorious, conquering. This victorious living comes from our walk with Christ, following Him into victory. On our own we will fail. But with Christ, there is no circumstance, no person, no financial burden, no fear, no wayward child, no loneliness that He cannot conquer. “In all things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37)

As we celebrate the Christmas season and the birth of our Savior, what does God want us to do as a result of the faith, joy and triumph He has offered us? “O come, let us adore Him – Venite adoremus!” During the quiet moments, during the hectic moments, in joy and in tears, let my first and continuing thought be, “O, Jesus, I adore You!”



# One of our favorite times

of year is when we celebrate our Volunteers for their faithful service. We recognized **Bryan Milleson** as our Volunteer of the Year for 2022.

He is the Administrator of the Men's House and has spent many hours developing the program, mentoring the men, assisting with budgeting and teaching Bible Studies. We can not say Thank You enough for his selfless time and effort.

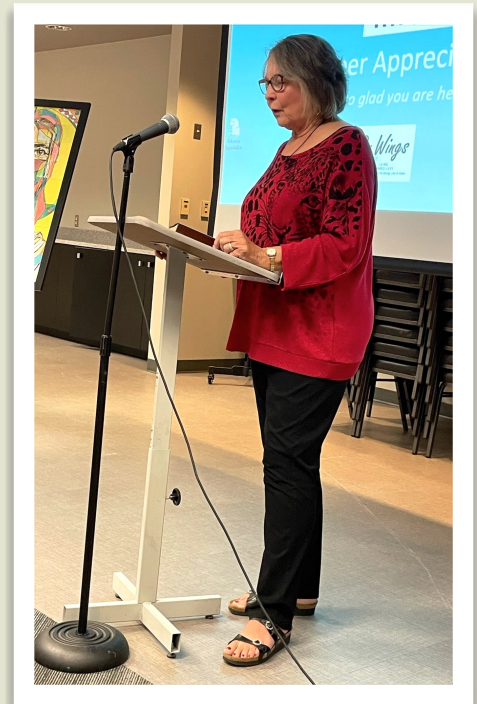


## Congratulations Bryan!!





One mark of revival, during which God comes to His people in power, is that God's people are compelled to offer their lives for His service. Many churches lack people who are willing to get involved in carrying out for Christians to go and share the gospel with those who've never heard it. What we need is not more pleas for volunteers, but an outpouring of the power of God. When God comes among His people in power, there is never a shortage of volunteers or resources for His work! When Christians today are asked what aspects of the Christian life are most important to them, missions is not usually ranked as a priority. This is because we have lost track of why God called us in the first place. We were not saved from our sin simply so that we would qualify for heaven. God delivered us so we would have a relationship with Him through which He could carry out His mission to redeem a lost world. Only the power of God can free us from our natural self centeredness and reorient us toward the mission of God. There is no need to pray that God would come in power. That is the only way He ever comes. We need hearts that are so responsive to Him that He will choose to demonstrate His power through us. Is your heart so filled with love for God that you are watching for the first opportunity to say with Isaiah, "Here am I. Send me!".



~ By Henry Bleach

