



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry

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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

Prayer Support Groups

No Prayer Support
Meeting in July or August

Kickoff Prayer Support
September 7
6:30 PM

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

We are currently studying
HEBREWS
The Nearness of king Jesus
by Lisa Harper



Save the Date

OCTOBER 14th

Day Retreat with Dawn Bray

DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING

My Greatest Joy

"I have no greater joy than this,
to hear of my children walking in the truth"
3 John 1:4

One of my greatest passions is helping people know God is pursuing a love relationship with them. I gave my heart to Jesus as an eight-year-old and immediately brought my friend to church and walked down the aisle with her as she made her own decision to follow Christ.

I experienced many periods of unfaithfulness on my part to Him in my teens, but the Holy Spirit always drew me back home. When I was in my forties, I signed up for a Bible Study by the name of "Experiencing God" written by Henry Blackaby and Claude V. King. It proved to be a life changer for me. I finally believed that God loved and accepted me without judgment and wanted to spend time with me.....me who had little self-worth or confidence. Me.....who always felt left out and unworthy. Me.....who never seemed to measure up. Me.....who often felt unloved. See, I believed the lies of the enemy, but God wanted me to know my worth in Him so He led me to this study.

Now nearly forty years later, I have facilitated the study many times over because I desire for others to fall in love with Jesus as well. I believe that it is one thing to accept Him into your heart and quite another to make Him Lord of your life and believe me He wants to be Lord.

I chose our key verse because it is my deepest desire for all to follow hard after Him. I not only desire to see my children walking in His truth but all who I am surrounded by. It gives me great joy to see the light bulb come on as the participants in the study grasp the truth that God loves them with an everlasting love. That He loves them regardless of their actions but He at the same time receives no greater joy than to see us as His children developing an intimate relationship with Him.

Of course, the relationship is a two-way experience. He pursues us but if we don't take the time to stop and listen for His voice, we will not be open to Him being the Lord of our lives.

Take an inventory of your walk with the Lord and maybe ask yourself these questions:

- Do you have a personal relationship with Christ that is real and personal?
- How long do you take each day meditating (eating) His Word?
- What is your conversation with your coworkers, your friends, or your family focused on for the most part?
- Do you make going to His house a priority in your life?
- How does your checkbook give testimony to what is most important to you
- What do you get excited or most passionate about as His child?

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- How is your free time spent?
- What books do you read, what music do you listen to, what movies do you watch?
- Do you make going to His house a priority in your life?

Well, that was hard. Taking inventory makes us stop and think and may lead us to redirect some areas in our lives. God has no greater joy than to see us walking in His truth, being obedient to His voice, and living out the fruits of the Spirit. Inventories of our priorities are often hard but can produce great results.

Happy trails as you continue to walk where He leads and I pray your life brings Him joy.
Love you all,

Sandra



I have no greater joy than this,
to hear of my children walking in
the truth.

3 John 1:4



Prayer Thoughts

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

What is freedom?

Websters defines it this way. "the quality or state of being free: as. : the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action. : liberation from slavery or restraint or from the power of another."

So let's talk about our **freedom** in Christ.

We have been given this **free** gift because Jesus chose to shed His blood on the cross for us. He died so we could be saved and set **free** from our sin.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Jesus came to set the captives **free**. Many of us were trapped in sin, trapped in wrong thinking or trapped in addiction of some sort and when we are trapped, we feel helpless. Yet God, in His mercy, loved us so much that He came to **free** us from whatever sin was holding us.

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and **freedom** to prisoners." Isaiah 61:1

We can all probably remember a time in our life when we desperately cried out to God to help us and when He met us in our mess, afterwards, we knew we had been set **free**.

"Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me **free**." Psalm 118:5

So what do we do with this new found **freedom**? The most important thing is to stop sinning. Jesus told the woman caught in adultery to "go and sin no more." He did not say that her sin was not a problem and continue on as before.

"Live as people who are **free**, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God." 1 Peter 2:16

So after being saved and set **free** from sin, as believers in Christ we should strive to live righteously through Christ. He is our righteousness and we are His slaves. So in essence we trade our **freedom** to become slaves of God.

"You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness." Romans 6:18

We can't be perfect but we should not trample on the blood of Jesus that saved us by going back to the sin that He **freed** us from. We should not use scripture to justify continuing on in sin. Just like Jesus told the woman caught in adultery, "Go and sin no more." we should listen and do likewise.

Love your Freedom and Live for Christ

Contributed by K. Hutchins

Who would think

that hanging out laundry could be a spiritual experience?

I hang out my laundry to dry it. So did my mom, and her mom, and the moms before them. It's a connection I share with them.

Mondays are typically wash day. I wake up, look out the window and check the weather app on my phone. When I see the shining sun image, I rejoice ... and start the washing machine.

There's a pattern to my process of hanging out the laundry, since I'm asking the clothesline to support the heavy load of wet clothes. I start out with a heavy clothing item, then add a support piece. I use a pulley system clothesline, so there are two lines - an upper and a lower. A support piece connects the two lines, to distribute the load between them. Much like a yoke; where two animals are paired together to share the load. Jesus invites those who labor and are heavy burdened to come to Him, take His yoke and learn from Him. (Matthew 11:28,29) In sharing the load, my clothesline is able to handle more laundry being hung out.

I so enjoy reminiscing as I hang out the laundry after we've had company or the children have been home. Each shirt or pants I washed for the children is a reminder that they've come back to visit, of the treasure of having them around again, at least for a brief time. Each napkin is a reminder of someone who joined us at the table, enjoyed the meal, contributed to our fellowship, someone we've laughed with, sometimes cried with, making us richer from our time together. This brings to mind the banquet that the LORD is preparing for us, and the Lamb's wedding feast that we will share when we join Him in Heaven.

I've discovered there are three things that contribute to the ultimate line drying experience: sunshine, a gentle breeze and low humidity. I've also discovered there are three things that contribute to my ultimate growth in Christ: Bible reading, prayer and worship.

Not every Monday is a sunny, rain-free day. Life frequently throws us curve balls that take us off guard and we're not prepared for them. It's reassuring to know that God's faithfulness and steadfast love are not dependent on the weather or any other circumstance. His steady, light yoke is a good one to be joined to.

I'll continue to make use of my clothesline, as its value to me is much more than simply drying the laundry.

