



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry December 2024 Vol. 20 Issue 12

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Office Hours:
Tuesday-Thursday
10 am-2 pm
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Ladies Bible Study

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

We are studying
Revelation
By Jen Wilkins

Come Join Us!

*We wish you a
Blessed Christmas*



How Have We Fulfilled God's Call?

**"I the Lord have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand. You will be a light to the Gentiles to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house."
Isaiah 42:6-7**

Occasionally I go back to this passage and meditate on God's call to me in 2006. It came at the Cove as I sat waiting for the conference to begin. God had already called me away from current ministry to begin a new thing. I had no clue what that "new thing" was but I knew in my spirit that this passage spoke into it.

Rereading this word over and over through the years has kept me grounded and focused on the mission God has for On Wings Like a Dove. As I read it at this time, I asked myself, "How have we fulfilled His call to us?" Have we made an impact?" I believe the answer to this question is yes. As the following prove:

Families – To open blind eyes. We have journeyed with many families as they learned they had enabled their prodigal while not setting healthy boundaries.

Prisoners – We have sent more than 17,000 Bibles to prisoners and hundreds of Bible Correspondence Courses. We have also sent monthly newsletters and have several Pen Pals writing prisoners, thus opening blind eyes who have sat in darkness to God's arvelous light.

Transition Houses – We have brought prisoners out from the prison into a safe house and poured God's Word into their every day lives. Eight residents have graduated and begun a new life on their own.

Rolling Hills – Be a light! We have all been called to be a light in a dark world. For ten years we have sown His Word and His love into this local community and seen God working in hearts.

We are so grateful for all our volunteers who have also accepted His call to walk beside us with the goal of making His name famous.

As we close 2024 we can say we are most grateful that God has held our hand for 18 years.

~ Sandra





COME

My word for 2024 was “expectant” It was a reminder, an encouragement a grounding. I tried on Sundays to remind myself to be expectant as I prepared for church. Expectant to hear the Living God, to meet with Him and be challenged, changed and confirmed.

When difficult days came, I reminded myself to be expectant, to be looking for ways God was revealing Himself in the midst of the circumstances and what He was accomplishing. As I continue to wait for prayers to be answered, I remind myself to be expectant, knowing that God is hearing and is faithful in answering them in His way and His time. God is working all the time, in many ways in and around me. I need a heart that is expectant, eyes to see Him and ears to hear.

This time of year I’ve been drawn to the carol, “Come Thou long Expected Jesus”:

“Come Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; from our fears and sins release us...”

What am I hoping to be set free from? Is there a sin that is easily entangling me? (Hebrews 12:1) Am I prone to worry, to doubt, to fear? Do I sit with my fears and tears for awhile before inviting Jesus in to help? Jesus is our comfort, our strength, our guide, our Shepherd and healer.

“...let us find our rest in Thee.”

Whatever I am dealing with- let me expectantly look to Him to help. Let me find true rest in Him. (Matthew 11: 28-30)

The Israelites expectantly waited and hoped for a Messiah. Jesus came and answered their prayers. I expectantly wait and hope for Jesus’ return; for an end to the evil, the hate, the lies, the injustice, the cares of this world, when Jesus, the Righteous Judge, returns and takes us home!

As I look at the sights of Christmas this year, the lights, the trees, the sparkle, may I be reminded that Jesus came to set His people free, and is coming to judge and rule the world and take His people home. Oh let me rejoice in expecting!

Come Thou long Expected Jesus!



Prayer Thoughts

Light Reigns Over Darkness

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

John 1:5, NIV

When you and I live lives that reflect Jesus, His light in us reveals the darkness of sin and rebellion and ignorance in the world around us. This may begin to explain why your old friends have rejected you or your coworkers avoid you or your neighbors shun you. If they are living in darkness, the light in you makes them uncomfortable.

Our world lives in spiritual darkness, separated from God. But people have adjusted and, generally speaking, are comfortable in their “twilight zone.” They may not be able to “see” God or others or themselves clearly, but they see well enough to get along in life.

When a person who belongs to Jesus Christ lives a life that reflects:

His integrity and morality and purity,

His holiness and righteousness and truthfulness,

His goodness and godliness and grace,

The light of his or her life can cause others to react with spontaneous rejection. But be encouraged! The Light not only reveals the darkness, it also reigns over it.

Taken from Joy of My Heart
Anne Graham Lotz

A Pocket Full of Blessings



The story is told of a man with two pockets. One pocket has a hole that he never repairs. The other pocket has no holes, and if a hole develops, he gets it sown up immediately. Throughout the day, whenever he experiences something negative, he puts it in the pocket with a hole. But every good thing he experiences, he places in the pocket without the hole. Every evening, he empties out his pocket and all he has are blessings. Too many of us put all the good in our lives in the pocket with holes. We take them for granted, forget them, and don't treasure them. Yet, all the negative things we deal with- our problems, frustrations, and worries- we place in the pocket with no holes. Then at the end of the day, we empty our pockets and find all sorts of problems and no blessings. Learn to let go of all the bad and hold fast to all the good so that, at the end of the day and the end of your life, you'll find yourself with no worries- just a pocket full of blessings.

Taken from Sapphires@Hope for the World
October 31, 2024



Antoine & Johnny
have completed the one year program with On Wings of Hope and were recently celebrated with family and friends in attendance. Antoine is working and attending a 12 week Chef program which will allow him to pursue a better job in the future. He is also filling the position of Home Manager in the Men's House. Johnny had recent hip surgery and is recuperating nicely. Paul and Harry were instrumental in the success of these two men during the year as Mentors.

We are so proud of both of them and wish them much success in the future.

**“I HAVE HELD MANY THINGS IN MY HANDS,
AND I HAVE LOST THEM ALL; BUT WHATEVER I HAVE PLACED IN GOD'S
HANDS, THAT I STILL POSSESS.”**

~ MARTIN LUTHER ~

On Wings Volunteer Dinner



Each year we have a dinner for all our volunteers. We also honor certain volunteers and this year we honored the individuals pictured - Jan Sharp, Velma McCloud, Sharon Tyra and Earnie Tyra. Velma is our Board Chair, Jan writes letters to prisoners who write to us with questions or requests out of the ordinary, and the Tyra's come each Monday to send out Bible Study Correspondence Courses. They have all worked with us for many years and are so faithful. We appreciate their time and effort to fill these important positions at On Wings.

