

So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please...

—Isaiah 55:11



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove

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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!

*As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it without
watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields
seed for the sower and
bread for the eater,
so is my word
that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose
for which I sent it*

Isaiah 55:10-13

Press On

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”
Philippians 3:14

As we come into a new year most of us do a review of the past year. Did we meet our goals or succeed in our resolutions for the year? What will our goals be for the coming year?

Each year I choose a new word or theme and for 2025 I believe my personal goal and that of the ministry is to “press on”. Press on in spite of difficulties and challenges. Press on with our eyes on the prize of Jesus Christ our Lord. Press on with renewed hope.

As I prepared for the October Board meeting, this passage was highlighted to me: “I want to suggest that you finish what you started to do a year ago for you were not only the first to propose this idea, but the first to begin doing something about it. Having started the ball rolling so enthusiastically, you should carry through this project to completion just as gladly, giving whatever you can out of whatever you have. Let your enthusiastic idea at the start be equaled by your realistic action now.” 2 Corinthians 8:10-11 LB.

This scripture reminds us to finish what God has called us to with the same enthusiasm God has called us to, with the same enthusiasm at the end of the year as we had at the beginning. It is a call not to quit because of the hardships we faced but to endure for the cause of Christ. We are to be overcomers in the battles we face because we know He has already won the victory. He is our Commander in Chief and His warriors never give up the fight. We press on toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

We closed 2024 with much gratitude (our word for the year) in spite of the battles we fought both spiritually and physically. God taught us so much and we can honestly say we are grateful for the highs and the lows. His refining is tough at times, but oh so necessary. We trust Him in it all.

Let's choose to “Press On” with hope in our hearts and joy on our faces looking forward to a new year of opportunities to share Christ with those He brings us.

~ Sandra

Kathy's Korner



MORE

Sometime early in 2024 I heard someone saying "More and More in '24!" I loved the sentiment. It really was a prayer, asking God to increase His presence, increase our awareness of Him, increase our faith in '24. There were times I'd look at incredible beauty in creation, feel His gentle presence or nudging, hear something that brought me assurance and I'd breathe out "more, God, more!"

"More" is my word for 2025. More knowledge of God, more deep a relationship, more awareness of the work of the Holy Spirit, more trust, more dependence, more willingness to receive and do anything that God wants to give me. It's really a pretty exciting word.

My prayer is that I will be alert to see God at work in and around me. That I will feel His nudge, I'll be aware of His guiding and inspiration, and I will notice the beauty He puts in front of me. I pray my eyes will see, my ears will hear, I'll know His aroma and His touch, and I will thank God for this- and then cry for more! As God fills me with more of Him, I want to share with others. Let me be a vessel to share His love, His forgiveness, His encouragement, His comfort, His faithfulness....more and more!

This year, my plea is "More alive in '25!" I'm excited to see what this year brings!

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Eph 3:20-21)



Prayer Thoughts

Transformed by Trouble

I once heard someone say that testings will last as long as it takes to change our mind, attitude, and actions.

But isn't it just like our human nature to respond with a knee-jerk reaction like, Yeah, but I really can't see the value or purpose behind all of this trouble and all of these trials?

Our carnal mind is as shrewd as a lawyer looking for a loophole. Let's face it: we don't like tribulation one bit, and if we had our way, it would be us on easy street from here on out! But God's Word tells us a different story.

"In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33 KJV)

The mind of Christ knows that the servant is not above his Lord. The disciple is not above his Master, who learned obedience through the things He suffered (Hebrews 5:8). God is even now preparing a people who cannot be moved, upset, or frustrated by anything. The cry of His heart is for His sons and daughters to share His throne and shepherd the nations with a rod of iron (Revelation 2:26-27).

We have to be a people whose character is unshakable. Can we walk around in the furnace of testing without complaining? Can we still shout praises in the jail at midnight? Tall order, I know, but there is always a purpose in our trials, a purpose in our affliction, a purpose in our tribulations. All the temptations, tears, heartaches, unfaithful friends, loss of property, loss of business, peril, hateful neighbors, fiery furnaces, dens of lions, rugged crosses—all things too numerous to mention—are working for the good of God's elect and are adding, though unseen now, an exceeding and eternal weight of glory to us.

Oh Majestic heavenly Father, we know that all things work together in Your hands, and nothing comes into our lives without it first coming through You. All that comes to us is for our good and Your glory. Your desire for us is that we be refined and purified, even through fire. And at Christ's return, we will be part of His bride, without spot or wrinkle, ready to reign with Him in glory forever. In all things, no matter how trying or difficult, teach us to rejoice and always trust in You.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. (Psalm 34:19)

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