



# On Wings Like a Dove

*A Ministry for the Loved ones of Prodigals and Prisoners*

*Psalm 55:6*

455 South Church Street  
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10:00-2:00  
or by appointment (336-829-5060)  
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## Prayer Support Group

*1st Monday of each Month*  
Calvary Central  
5000 County Club Rd  
Room B 1309  
6:30 to 8:00pm

### February 2

*Speaker: Ed Cameron*  
Federal Probation Officer  
Re-entry Laws, Needs and  
Probation

### March 2

*Speaker: Barbara Bice*  
Author of "Just Right"  
Barbara will share about the Road  
from Addiction to  
Redemption

### April 6

*Speaker: Bryan Milleson*  
Testimony of an  
Ex-Prodigal

## New Phone Number



### On Wings

has a New  
Phone Number  
Please call

# 336-829-5060

To reach us at the office

## New Bible Study

**Beginning March 5,**  
Jan Sharp will offer an  
evening Bible Study at her  
home. Look for details in  
March Newsletter!

## Words from Sandra AGAPE LOVE

Jesus said "For this reason the Father loves me because I lay down my life that I may take it up again." John 10.17

February is known as the love month. Forty-five years ago this year on Valentine's Day my husband and I were married. The time has flown by! I'm so grateful that God has walked with us every step of the way. There have been sicknesses, financial struggles, relationship struggles, differences but thankfully love won! At the same time there have been joyous memories, great companionship, renewal, and times of laughter after sorrow and a determination to persevere through the good, bad and the ugly. We are not quitters, we are overcomers!

I think that spiritually speaking it is the same. We are in a love relationship with our Lord. He is our bride-groom lover. There will be days of struggle and rebellion on our part but we know He loves us regardless, unconditionally. Since I made the decision to follow Him at age eight (wow that's 58 years ago!) our love relationship is strong. I'm the one who has moved in and out. The Lord has remained steadfast in our relationship.

After our trip to the Bronx, I began to ask Him to give me a bigger portion of His love for others. I want to love like He does. I want to see in others what He see. I want to have agape love. Agape love is the most self-sacrificing love there is. This love was demonstrated by Jesus Christ as he hung on the

cross; for me, for you. Agape love is the love God had for us while we were dead in our sins.

The question is: Can I love others like God - the drug addicted, the prostitute, and the drunkard on the street, the person who cuts in front of me or gestures rudely, or who persecutes me? Lord, this will be a challenge for me but I am asking you to give me agape love in 2015. Don't even let the wrong thought, much less the wrong attitude, come to my mind when I am wronged or when I am faced with others who don't live life by my standards or criteria.



Will you join me in this challenge? Will you allow God to place the seed of His love in your heart? It might be a bit painful at first but I believe it will produce in us a heart for others to know our Savior.

I regret to announce the passing of Mark Allen on January 5. Please pray for his mother, Shirley, and his sons, Matt and Dylan. On Wings has ministered to Mark and his family for 8 years. Cards can be sent to On Wings for delivery to the family.

## Forgiving Yourself

You've blown it. You have really messed up this time. You have agreed with God that what you did was sin. You know that God heard your prayer asking forgiveness, and you really meant every word. You believe that Jesus died for you on the cross and that His sacrifice forgives all your sins. But you still feel guilt and condemnation. You know from the Bible that God has forgotten that sin. He has removed it from you as far as the east is from the west. But you still feel horrible! How do you get past that feeling?

We make life hard by blaming ourselves for things we did in the past. But God says through Paul, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1). What does that freedom really mean? It means that you are not saved from hell to be imprisoned in self-punishment. God has set you free. You are no longer a slave to self-hatred and self-condemnation. The Bible says, "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Rom 8:1)."

Forgiveness is not a feeling. You must choose to deny Satan the accuser and his plans to make you feel guilty and dirty because of sins in the past. When Satan tries to remind you of your past, do these things:

Meditate on the truth of who God is and who you are in Him.

- Take into your heart and spirit scriptures about God's forgiveness, mercy, grace, and love. Psalm 103 is a good place to start.
- Take an objective view of your past to learn from your failure. What did you learn about yourself and God through this experience? Allow God to expose the wound for His healing touch, and refuse the attempts of the accuser and destroyer to harass you anymore, because the King of glory stands as your Defender and Advocate.

**Pray this prayer of commitment and begin enjoying the blessings of forgiveness and freedom.**

Heavenly Father, thank You that you have never rejected me, and You never will. You have received me unconditionally. I am accepted in Jesus. My acceptance does not depend on anything but Jesus, His love, mercy, grace, sacrifice, and righteousness. I am not ashamed before You.

I repent of my sins in Jesus' name. Thank You that I am completely forgiven and cleansed by the blood of Jesus. I will not allow the enemy to harass me about the past. I choose to forgive myself and receive the full freedom of Your forgiveness.

Thank You that my body can function in Your peace, healed and whole. I choose to let Jesus cover past failures and struggles and enjoy Your love, Your thoughts, and Your ways so that my mind is at rest. What amazing grace that You remember my sins and iniquities no more! Jesus took them on Himself. They are nailed to His cross. Because of the amazing forgiveness of Jesus, I can forgive others in His name. I choose to forgive all those who have hurt me, harmed me, or spoken against me. I free them in my thoughts and no longer hold their sins against them. Bless them in Your mercy. I do this by Your indwelling power.

Thank You that I am a brand new creation. All the old has passed away, and I stand clean in Your sight. I can settle this today with You. I choose to receive Your healing grace by the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit within me.

Thank You that You control me, not my emotions or what others say or do. I receive all Your blessings for my life and give You all praise, honor, and glory. Amen.

By Sandy Bonzelaar

*"... In view of God's mercy, offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - This is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing, and perfect will."*

Romans 12:1-2

*Transformation means change and it happens in our world with an ever-increasing rate.*

*Some changes are good and some not so good! On a personal level, we can be changed by the world (that which is opposed to the will of God and His Kingdom) or we can be changed by our Lord by the renewing of our mind by God's Word. The choice is ours. How? By offering ourselves to God as an act of worship. Do we want to know God more fully and to know His will? Metamorphous, transformation, it is beginning inwardly and manifesting outwardly. Eternal life with Christ - our hope and our promise - forever changed!*

Metamorphous ... Transformation

## God Is Love

**7-10** My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God *is* love—so you can't know him if you don't love. This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they've done to our relationship with God.

**11-12** My dear, dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and his love becomes complete in us — perfect love!

1 John 4:8-12

The Message (MSG)

