

THOSE WHO
TRUST IN THE
LORD FOR HELP
WILL FIND THEIR
STRENGTH

WWW.ONWINGSLIKEADOVE.COM

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Prayer Support Groups

On Wings Prayer Support Group

First Monday of each Month

*** NEW LOCATION ***

On Wings Office:

455 S. Church Street

(beside "God's Acre" in Old Salem)

Winston-Salem, NC

6:30 to 8:00pm

October 3: David and Kim Nickerson
will share their testimony

November 7: Jeanette Weygandt,
Professional Counselor

River Oaks Prayer Support

Monthly: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

6:30-8:30 River Oaks Church
Room #4.

Led by Jeff and Sherye Hall

First Baptist Church in Sparta

meets for Prayer/Support each
Monday night at 6:30.

Led by: Joseph & Carolyn Caldwell

Current study is:

"War Room Bible Study"

Ladies Bible Study

Join us on Tuesdays 12:30 to
2:00 at the On Wings Office for
our Ladies Bible Study.

We are studying "The Healing
Miracles of Jesus" led by Katie
Satterwhite. This is a very pow-
erful study. The study leads us
to pray for our own emotional,
and spiritual healing from past
wounds and hurts. We are
learning so much and encourage
you to join us at any juncture.
We study two to three miracles
of Jesus each week.

On Wings Like a Dove

A Ministry for the Loved ones of Prodigals and Prisoners

Psalm 55:6

Top 5 Most Effective Visitors to the Prisoner

In May, On Wings representatives were privileged to attend and participate in a workshop with the CMCA Summit. What a privilege to be surrounded by like-minded and like-passioned folks. We met many new friends and shared ideas and resources

I attended a breakout workshop led by Harold Dean Trulear, PhD, who gave testimony of his past incarceration. He has several UTube videos, including one entitled "Loving the Incarcerated". Dr. Trulear presented the following statistics from the Minnesota Department of Corrections about the top five visitations that have the most effectiveness in preventing recidivism:

Number One:	Clergy or Pastor
Number Two:	Father
Number Three:	Siblings
Number Four:	In-Laws
Number Five:	Mother

The number one most impactful visitor is the Clergy or Pastor! Is that surprising? How many pastors go into the prison to visit their members or to visit a loved one of a church member? Sadly, not many, even if the family requests a visit. Interesting that the mother is listed fifth because she is expected to visit, even though many mothers don't.

Many churches believe that not many are affected in our congregations. But, if pastors were to ask members to raise their hands if they have someone in their family or extended family, a friend, or a co-worker who is in prison or addicted to drugs, pastors would be surprised. Many more than one might imagine.

Prison ministry has such a stigma. Oftentimes we don't want to get involved because it's too messy. We don't want to be seen as siding with the incarcerated because "after all they are getting what they deserve".

Aren't we glad God doesn't give us what we deserve? Behind that offender there is a family doing time, too, and oftentimes undeservedly ostracized.

But statistics show the greatest impact on the inmate is a visit from the Pastor. According to a survey of Protestant pastors by Lifeway Research.com, there are five barriers churches face in expanding a prison ministry:

Reason and respondent percentage:

Lack of volunteer leaders – 65%
Lack of training for a prison ministry – 62%
Lack of finances – 48%
Do not know where to start – 40%
Church has too many other ministries – 29%

Then, the biggest questions are: How do we



change this? How do we extend the outreach to the prisoner (the broken) and their hurting families? How do we get volunteers, training, and financial support? How do we get the five on the list to visit?

This can't be done by sitting back quietly. It can only be done by finding our voice and be willing to fight for the inmate and for their hurting families. Are you willing?

By Sandra Kearns

Building a Foundation of Hope

Many of our mothers express a sense of hopelessness in their situation with their prodigal. Direct your focus on God - the only hope we have.

Even if you know Jesus as your Savior, you can still lose hope. We learn from Proverbs that "hope deferred makes the heart sick" (Proverbs 13:12). When our hopes are delayed, we can be overcome by a deep sense of despair. So, how did Abraham do it? How did he remain hopeful for more than two decades? Look at Abraham's relationship with God: he was a friend of God (2 Chronicles 20:7); he was also God's servant (Genesis 26:24); and he was totally obedient (Genesis 22).

You can do the same. Here are four practical steps you can take every day to build a sure foundation of hope that will carry you through the storms of life:

1. Submit yourself to God. God is the source of our hope. Come to Him in humility and He will restore you (1 Peter 5:6-7).
2. Strengthen your faith. Allow God's previously fulfilled promises to renew your hope. God has given us written record of countless ways He has provided hope for believers in centuries past. Look to these marvelous accounts for renewal (1 Chronicles 16:11-21).
3. Trust God's timing. Sometimes God answers our prayers and fulfills our hopes quickly. At other times, for His own divine reasons, He allows us to wait. Remember, it was through faith and patience that Abraham's hope was fulfilled.
4. Thank God today. Though it's arduous to rejoice as we wait for hopes to be fulfilled, rejoicing enables God to perfect us in ways we are unable to see at the time. And this kind of hope, purified in the crucible of waiting, and sometimes suffering, "does not disappoint" . (Romans 5:1-5).

As You Pray

Have you lost hope? You can regain lost hope, with Jesus' help. Right now, turn to the Author of all hope and rest in Him.

Pray this prayer:

"Father, forgive me for not seeing You as You truly are. Please use Your Word to encourage me. Help me to hide it in my heart. Let Your Holy Spirit direct me moment-by-moment as I wait in the hope You have given me through our Lord Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Excerpted from "Christian Broadcasting Network".

Prayer Thoughts

How's Your Thought Life?

By Janet Linville

Do you know that your thoughts can dictate your day? They have a direct correlation on how you will feel and act on any given day. Proverbs 23:7a says, "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he".

We can get control of our thoughts from the minute we get out of bed each morning. Before our feet hit the floor, pray "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it". (Psalm 118:24) Determine immediately that your day will be blessed and you will not stress out on the circumstances that may be going on around you. If need be, keep repeating Psalm 118:24 and it will set your mood for the entire day.

Is it easy, you may ask? Not always, and not at first, but God honors His word and if you continue to quote scripture, believing, God will bless you and give you peace.

If you have a stressful job or have children, you know that every day is not always smooth sailing. But you can determine that you will not let the circumstance of your life dictate your happiness or future. Philippians 4:8 says, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things". Also, Isaiah 26:3 says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusts in thee".

