



# 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 (336-972-4213)  
Email:  
sandra@onwingslikeadove.com  
Website:  
onwingslikeadove.com  
onwingslikeadove.blogspot.com

**Monday Night Prayer and Support Group**  
**6:30-8:00 pm every first Monday night of the month at Calvary Baptist, Bldg B, Rm B1309.**

**Susan Doub from Novant Behavioral Health will share with us on March 3, 2014.**

**Chris Pritchard-Plan for Re-entry for our Prodigal will share with us on April 7.**

**Jeanette Weygandt, Experiencing Grief on this Journey with our Prodigal will share with us on May 5.**

**Susan Young Martin will share her testimony with us on June 2.**

**Save the date: Spring Retreat—Moravian Falls, NC May 16-18**  
**You can reserve your spot with a deposit of \$50. Total cost is \$250 which includes everything you will need. Scholarships are available.**

**Fall Retreat—Lake James, NC October 3-5**

## To what are you addicted?

Definition of Addict: "To apply or devote oneself persistently or habitually; to cause to pursue or practice continuously; one who is addicted to some habit, especially to the use of narcotic drugs. Accustomed; inclined to the pursuit, practice, or taking of anything. One is addicted to that which he has allowed to gain a strong habitual, enduring hold on him." (Funk & Wagnalls)

As I reviewed the definition of addict/addiction I realized we are all addicts. We may be addicted to our job, our hobby, a sport, a relationship, a food, to luxury, or any number of things. I got to thinking about my addictions:

Coffee  
Wonderful Food  
Reading, Books  
Busyness  
Children - Grandchildren  
Control

Now, not all these are bad addictions but they can be if I focus more on them than on my relationship with God. Our God is a jealous God and nothing is to come before Him. If we put other things or relationships first we cannot experience the intimacy with Christ that God intended.

Exodus 20:5: "You shall not bow down to them or worship

*them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me."*

Years ago, I read fiction novels. Whenever I started one, everything else took a back seat. I was into the story and had to see it to the end to find out what happened. I had quite a collection of these books until I was convicted of the time I spent reading them. What did they really profit me anyway? There was nothing in them that helped me on my spiritual journey or educated me in the ways of The Lord. They had to go. I made a vow not to read secular books again and I have kept that promise.

Even spiritual books can consume our time leaving us little time to read God's Word. In 2014, maybe you would like to examine yourself along with me. What has come between you and God? How is your time spent? What do you pursue or practice above your pursuit of God?

I found myself addicted to my children. Trying to fix them, guide them, prevent them from hardships in life, control their choices, and protect them from being deceived by the evil one. I made so many mistakes and often prevented God's plan in their lives due to my addiction of control. I was out in the wee hours search-

ing for our son, or standing at the window hoping and praying that his lights would crest the hill, and then get up and go to work on little sleep the next day. That sure didn't help me or him. Instead of giving him to the Lord, I was attempting to fix it. It never worked till he was ready to make better choices for himself.

Sometimes, I see some of you struggling with the same things. It took me so many years to let go and let God work. I understand your addiction to your addict, but there is a better way. Entrust your loved one to God. I am now watching Him work in ways I never imagined. I want that for you, my friends. But just like with our children, we can advise but we can't make their choices. It will be a choice you make for yourself.

On Wings will continue to pray for your freedom in Christ to be realized, just as we pray for your prodigal. Make the choice to get healthy for **you** and allow your prodigal the same choice.

Sandra

### Family Care Sponsors Needed

OWLAD is looking for people interested in coming alongside some of our new families. This would entail reaching out to them by phone, card, or a visit and praying with and for them. It helps to have a friend to walk the journey with you. Let us know if you are interested!



Don't you just love it when God prepares a special favor for you! That's what happened for me during my very special gal friends get-away this past week-end. We got away for some much needed time together and with the Lord. We

went for a walk on Saturday morning and were discussing our plans for the day trying to determine if we would just stay in or venture out?

About that time a neighbor stopped by while walking her dog. We chatted a while and then "out of the blue" she said, "Ya'll want to go to a shop close by today for fun?" She began to describe the shop where she and some other artist had some items on display, so we decided to go. We traveled to the shop and enjoyed looking at all the art and jewelry. Afterward my friend Debbie said, "Lets go to the World Village Store in Montreat."

We were enjoying the shop with art from all over the world when we all congregated to the back where the clearance items were. Debbie looked up and said, "Wow, Ms Kearns look at that." It was the art piece pictured at the top of the page. I was blown away. Months before I had been to that same shop and bought a single dove for our office. At that time, the sales clerk mentioned a covey of doves that they were going to get in soon. I longed to see it then and here I stood gazing at this beautiful creation and to top it off it was on sale.

At the time they were also giving 20% off your purchase if you donated a small amount to a charity in the area. It was not to apply on a sale item, but here again the favor came when the manager said, "Oh, I think we can arrange for you to have the discount." Wow. At that point, I knew God had arranged for me to take this art home with me.

My friend Cathy said, "I believe you have come full circle." The piece is in a circle and it is not just one dove but several. She also reminded me of the newspaper article that was written from my perspective years later after our son's picture had been in the paper after his arrest. Things had come full circle once again when Henry Blackaby, who prayed that this Mother would not give up, was prayed for when he was disoriented and could not be found by this very son he had prayed for years before.

Wow, this piece is very significant in my walk and hopefully will open many doors to express how God brought me through all the hard times. Thank you Lord for the very first dove that came to minister to my hurting heart many years ago when I was ready to give up. May I never forget Your faithfulness to use my pain for Your Glory. You amaze me!!

## Answered Prayer!

Our prayer partners have been praying for Jesse's upcoming presentation before the parole board. He had served 7 years of his sentence and done well with his education for a future employment in welding and had taken the time to better himself in other ways. I felt the 7 years was significant as it represents completion. That didn't mean his time would be completed but we prayed it would.

I gave his mother, Jerri, the 2 Chronicles 20 passage about the battle being the Lords...to stand still and see His deliverance. I was in my study at home sitting at the window when I decided to call Jerri to encourage and pray with her. As we were sharing two deer came up to my window. I told her that the deer were very significant and that I would have to go back to SOS and study the passage where it talked about the deer looking in the window. I found the scripture in SOS 2:8-9, "The voice of my beloved! Behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth ("looketh in") at the windows, showing himself thorough the lattice."

Wow!! The note said: "Mountains and hills in the Bible all refer to difficulties and hindrances. "He cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills" denotes that there is nothing so high or formidable as to hinder or prevent His approach to His loved one. Christ is risen and triumphs over every difficulty and hindrance. He leaps!!! All hindrances are removed.

Then as Jimmy and I walked in the neighborhood, 13 deer ran across our path twice...leaping and skipping. I knew in my heart that He was doing a work in Jesse's case and might just bring him home.

Mom texted me this morning to say: **It is accomplished.**

I am praising God for all your prayers on behalf of this family over the years. We have been ministering to them at least 6 years or more. They have come full circle. Tears are shed for a season but joy has come this morning. I may just skip and leap!!!

Our God is Mighty and Worthy of our praise. May this give you all hope in your own situation. We will hopefully hear from Jerri in the coming month or so.

Sandra

## News from On Wings

We are planning to offer an evening Bible Study on Thursday night for those who work or cannot come on Tuesday. Jan Sharp will be leading this study. A location will be decided once we know there is enough interest. Please email us if you are interested in participating.

We are happy to welcome Jan Sharp and Debbie Hampton to the OWLAD volunteer family! Jan will partner with Pat Julian to provide Family Care and teach our Thursday night Bible Study. Debbie will be volunteering at the office each week.