

A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

JOHN 13:34



On Wings
LIKE A DOVE
A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONES
OF PRODIGALS & PRISONERS

A newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry February 2018 Vol. 14 Issue 2

455 South Church Street
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Prayer Support Groups

First Monday of each Month
On Wings Prayer Support:
455 S. Church Street
beside "God's Acre" Old Salem
Winston-Salem, NC
6:30 to 8:00 pm

February 5:

Sherye Hall will share her
journey with her daughter

March 5:

Rob Vega and parents will share

River Oaks Prayer Support
Monthly: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays:
630-8:30 River Oaks Church
Room #4
Led by Jeff and Sherye Hall

Currently studying
Overcoming Addictive Thinking
by Abraham Twerski M.D.

First Baptist Church in Sparta
Prayer Support meets
each Wednesday night at 6:30
Led by Joseph & Carolyn Caldwell

Currently studying
Overcoming Addictive Thinking
by Abraham Twerski M.D.

Ladies Bible Study



Each Tuesday
from 12:30 to 2:00 pm
at On Wings office
We are currently studying
"Beauty for Ashes"
Led by Kay Eyer

SAVE THE DATE

Our Spring Retreat is April 20-22
Call 336-829-5060 or email
Sandra@onwingslikeadove.com
to reserve your space
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Having asked Karen to share her journey with On Wings this month I was surprised at her use of the word acquiesce. I had recently been convicted that God was teaching me to acquiesce. I had to look it up when I first heard it and discovered it means: "to accept something reluctantly but without protest". So that is my new word for 2018...every time I run into an issue or circumstance I don't like, I take a breath and remember not to protest. I know He is working it all out for my good, so I am choosing to be more receptive of the things that come my way because I know God has a purpose and a plan for me both personally and in ministry.

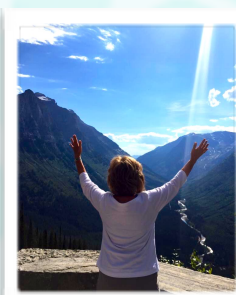
My husband recently had surgery and we were told that it would last 2-3 hours but it ended up lasting 6 hours. I was becoming very concerned about what was going on. I was tearful by the time the surgeon came out and explained that it could not be done laparoscopically and that it was one of the toughest surgeries he had done. I accepted that, without all the why's and the analysis that I might have done in the past. What I didn't say was "But, God, I prayed for it to be an easy surgery," and that is certainly something I will continue to work on. I'm reminded about Paul who said he was content with whatever the circumstances in life were. Oh, how I long to be able to truly say that with conviction. My husband often says, "It is what it is". He has always been able to go with the flow of life more easily than I have. I've always questioned and second guessed, but the more I travel down this journey of life with Him, the more I pray I am becoming more content.

The phrase that keeps coming to me this year whether on my new coffee mug, a gift bag, in the Word or from a song is "**Be still and know that I am God**" Psalm 46:10. You are probably very familiar with that passage, but do you practice it? I think God wants me to put that scripture into practice more and more this year. "Be still Sandra and watch Me work and when things don't go as you think they should, don't complain or protest. Trust Me with it and glorify My Name while in it. After all, **I AM GOD** and I know what is best for you." Let's make a choice to **BE STILL** before Him this year and find our contentment in Him.

~ Sandra

My On Wings Journey

by Karen Dyson



Is it possible this is the beginning of my 6th year at On Wings Like a Dove?

I'll always remember the day Sandra Kearns called me and said, "I need an administrative assistant and the Lord put you on my heart." What? I hadn't seen Sandra in at least three years - why me? My response was...wait. My mother-in-law had terminal cancer and my Mom had Alzheimer's. I didn't have time for volunteering. But her response was "Okay, but God told me and I'll wait for Him to tell you." This unhinged me since I had never known the Lord to put me on someone's heart - especially someone I had no contact with. In February 2012, I finally acquiesced and told her I would help, mainly because I was getting tired of her phone calls!

The Lord knew what I needed. I now know that the Lord was going to show me where He was working. He wanted to show me that he does indeed change lives. He wanted me to meet a young Christian woman who turned from drugs needing a safe place—people to pray for her, to love her, and then to be blessed by seeing her walking consistently with the Lord. He wanted me to attend a Ladies Retreat, one of those "top of the mountain" experiences, led by a former prisoner who found the Lord while in prison and now witnesses of His saving grace and all-sufficient love. He wanted to show me individuals from all economic backgrounds who had survived and been healed of the horrors of drug or alcohol addictions, turning to

the Lord and journeying through their lives devoted to Him. My Abba Father, wanted me to see Him in the people I was

around weekly—how they trusted Him completely—how they stayed in the Word—how they worked for Him in this small but growing ministry. My Abba Father wanted me to see drug addiction given a name...Opioid Crisis and to be touched by it and by parents crying out to the Lord in one voice for deliverance for their children... for each other.

I could fill this newsletter with specific instances of how the Lord has amazingly and supernaturally

moved at *On Wings*. I have seen so many prayers spoken from tortured and broken hearts. I have seen so many prayers answered. My Abba Father is at work giving hope and answering prayers, in His time. I began volunteering with four ladies on Tuesdays—Sandra, Barbara, Pat and myself. Now we're all special friends and we're all committed to the Lord's work here. I really don't know how many volunteers we have now. A varied group of humble, committed individuals all working together to help, love-on, encourage, build-up, provide a safe place, study the Bible and most importantly, to pray—waiting and watching for the Lord. All drawn together by one common cord—the loved one of a prodigal or a prisoner. Each praying faithfully for our Abba Father to deliver our prodigals from their tortured lives to lives of freedom and hope. I recently read "The Supernatural working of God will always lower man and elevate Him." Yes, I would agree, and I give my Abba Father all the praise.

Storms of the Heart

Taken from "Pearls of Grace" Devotional Book by Pam Jenkins, Jabbok Ministries

"For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea. They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths; their soul melted away in their misery, they reeled and staggered like a drunken man, and were at their wits end. Then they cried to the Lord in all their trouble and He brought them out of their distress. For He caused the storm to be still..." Psalms 107:25-29



It's comforting to the soul to see God as the One Who calms the storm and speaks to it; "peace be still". These are soothing words to the heart that is sailing through troubled waters or battling the storms of life. But what about the words, "He spoke and raised up a stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea". These are words that our ears do not turn to listen to and our heart does not readily take in. It's easy to accept that God is love, and He cares for us but it's difficult to understand that He is also the One Who wounds and rejects. God's truth is easy at times and difficult at others. My greatest struggles have not come from my wrestling with my flesh, or even with the devil himself but, they have been with God and His will or His way. These are the storms of the heart beloved; those that rob us of peace and joy because they cause us to question the Lord. These storms are fierce because our will clashes with the will of the Almighty, bringing waves of doubt and confusion. But what are we to do?

The Psalmist gives us the answer; "Then they cried to the Lord in all their trouble and He brought them out of their distress. For He caused the storm to be still." The storms of the heart are fought in the cry of the heart itself. God is listening for the cry that says; "I need you, not to calm the storm, or to give self what it wants; not to change circumstances; but simply, I need you and you alone". This is when God stills the raging storm. We are not told He takes us out of the storm, but rather, He causes the raging to be still. The storms of the heart assail our faith and overcome our trust in the Lord. And when we are at "our wits

end", we have two choices, run or cry out. God waits and anticipates for the cry of His child. In fact, it's what He longs for so He can answer. Only God can speak to the storms of our life and calm them; no one else can. This is how God intends for it to be. It's through the storms of life that God teaches us to turn to Him, to depend solely upon Him alone.

Who do you cry out to when you are at your wits end? To whom do you run, precious one, when you are about to sink? Where do you turn for solace, for reassurance in the most trying of times? I exhort you from the shorelines of God's word; anchor in to Him and cry out amidst your storm. He will hear you and He will speak the words your heart is longing to hear; "be still." There is no storm that can overtake you when you cry out to God. Don't let the storms be your focus but, fix your eyes upon the Heaven; this is where your help cometh from. The storms of the heart only God can carry.

I cry amidst the storm to the One who can calm my raging soul.

Prayer Thoughts by Janet Linville

What Do The Experts Say?

Jeff Jacoby, a Boston Globe columnist wrote of the "uncanny ability of experts to get things hopelessly, cataclysmically wrong." The great inventor Thomas Edison once declared that talking movies would never replace silent films. In 1928, Henry Ford declared, "People are becoming too intelligent ever to have another war." Countless other 'experts' have missed the mark as well. Genius status obviously has its limits.

The religious leaders of Jesus's day claimed to have the truth. These scholars and theologians thought they knew what the promised Messiah would be like when He arrived. Jesus cautioned them "You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. Yet, you refuse to come to me to have life." (John 5:39-40)

As another new year is upon us, don't be alarmed by the many predictions that others may say. Our confidence remains in the One at the very heart of the Scriptures. He has a firm grip on us and on our future.

Knowing the future is uncertain; knowing the One who holds the future is a sure thing.