



On Wings LIKE A DOVE

A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONES
OF PRODIGALS & PRISONERS

A newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry

October 2019 Vol. 15 Issue 10

455 South Church Street
Winston Salem, NC

Office Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday 10am-2pm
or by appointment 336-829-5060

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Prayer Support Groups

Prayer Support at On Wings Office

October 7th

—6:30 to 8:00 pm—

**Speaker: Shane Pugh
Substance Abuse Counselor**



**River Oaks Church
Clemmons, NC
Meet in Room #4**

**2nd & 4th Tuesdays@6:30 pm
Currently studying
The Strength You Need
by Robert Morgan
Led by Jeff and Sherye Hall**



**First Baptist Church
Sparta, NC**

**Wednesday night@6:30 pm
Currently studying
It's Not Supposed To Be This Way
by Lysa TerKeurst
Led by Joe & Carolyn Caldwell**

Ladies Bible Study

**Each Tuesday At On Wings Office
from 12:30 - 2:00**

**We are Studying
The Shelter of God's Promises
by Sheila Walsh**



Gifts From God

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17

I just arrived home after a couple of days at my parents home. It's been a difficult six months of caregiving for my Dad and I as we watch my Mother's health decline. I like to be available to help him when I can. She is so weak that she cannot stand on her own and we literally must lift her in and out of bed. It's no easy task for my ninety-year-old Dad, but he does it without complaining!

After 4 months in and out of the hospital and rehab facilities, they are both happy to be back at home for the past five weeks. But of course, that puts most of the burden on my Dad to assist in her daily needs. Just last week we called in Hospice to help us and man, what a comfort it is to know they are there to call on. We have their number on a magnet on the refrigerator and there is always an answer on the other end. They are always ready to help us determine what is necessary for the need at hand. It's just like God as He is available 24/7 to hear our cry and give us direction when we are struggling and He provides everything we need.

Hospice brought a package of medications that they call an emergency pack two or three days after their first visit. It has several different medications in it for any issue that might arise. There are nerve pills, pain pills, anxiety pills and Tylenol if needed. One day, when Mother was hurting, thankfully my Dad had the proper meds available to give her upon the nurse's direction.

Since Mother is not walking now, we were able to request a lightweight wheelchair to get her from the bedroom to the den or dining table and it makes it so much easier to transport her from place to place.

Today a nursing assistant arrived to give her a bath and wash her hair. Believe me, this is a gift from God because it is extremely hard to take care of her daily needs and those extra details are helpful to have someone else provide.

God has been so faithful with His gifts to us or as my friend says, "God kisses". Last month I shared about the fawn that was born in our yard. That fawn and her mother feel so safe in our backyard that they arrive each evening about dusk to partake of the corn and apples we provide. She is often waiting for us if we have been out for the day and doesn't run off as we take her the food. I love these creatures and we have enjoyed them along with two rabbits which are a gift and we are able to relax while watching them.

Truthfully, as I am typing this on the deck, the deer is rounding the corner of the shed and she is headed this way. That just blesses my soul. She is making a beeline for the red apple and then just around the bend appears her friend. Also, coming out from the trees is the rabbit as she waits her turn to partake in our offerings.

At the office the other day, I looked out and saw a large praying mantis. The praying mantis is a symbol of stillness and patience. It has been so long since I've seen one. I knew God was reminding me of His love and His answered prayers during this difficult season for our family. He is so real and personal. One day I was so low I asked Him to send me a dove. I didn't see it until we were standing outside my parents' home in the evening while saying goodbye when up flew a dove on the roof of the house. I just stood and praised Him right then and there.

Why don't you look around you for God's gifts of mercy, love, and grace in whatever form they come to you and praise Him for His faithfulness. Every good gift that comes down is from our Father. Thank Him for it! He is our Gift Giver.

~ Sandra

Yahweh Shalom

Yahweh Shalom means "The Lord Is Peace" - God is the only One able to give us the PEACE that passes all of our own understanding. Gideon knew this well from a time that he and his people were surrounded by a fierce enemy. There was nothing about that time that seemed "peaceful." And yet, God showed up strong on their behalf, He was faithful and brought deliverance straight through fear-filled days. Maybe that's why Gideon felt so led to build an altar to the Lord and call it, "The Lord is Peace." In times of greatest darkness, he had seen how true this was. The PEACE of God often doesn't make sense to a world that would tell us to hurry and worry. A world that seems hard some days, and often so full of struggles. In the midst of it all, He reminds us that He is our TRUE PEACE, so we never need to fear. No matter what we face. "Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and named it The LORD is Peace". JUDGES 6:24



Pressed Beyond Measure

How can I alone bear your problems and your burdens and your complaints?

Deuteronomy 1:12

Moses was overwhelmed when leading the children of Israel through the desert, and he asked in bewilderment, "How can I alone bear your problems and your burdens and your complaints?" Imagine bearing the problems for an entire nation. The truth is, we can't even bear our own problems, burdens, and complaints. We haven't the strength, wisdom, or intestinal fortitude to withstand the weight of life. Even the apostle Paul said, "We were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead" (2 Corinthians 1:8-9).

Problems are a testing ground to prove our dependence on God. When we're pressed beyond measure, we have to cast our burden on Him who blesses beyond measure. The relief of casting our cares on God is like the relief one feels when a long ordeal has ended. We cannot bear our burdens alone, but the Lord Jesus Christ has risen from the dead with strong shoulders.

He can carry your cares today and He can also carry you in His omnipotent arms.

The devil sometimes goes too far.
He drives us straight into the Lord's arms.

Ruth Bell Graham



Taken from Today's Turning Point with David Jeremiah August 26, 2019



Prayer Thoughts

BY JANET LINVILLE

HOW TO LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Read Nehemiah 8:1-9

In our culture, Bibles are so plentiful that we often take them for granted. This was not the case in Ezra's day. After being exiled from Israel for many years, the Jews had finally returned to their land, and today's passage describes their reaction to hearing the scriptures. We may have easy access to Bibles today, but we'd do well to learn to approach God's Word in the same manner as these Israelites did.

With Eager Attentiveness. The people listened attentively as Ezra read scripture 'from daybreak till noon' (Neh. 8:3). How eager are you each day to open God's Word and devote time to reading and study?

With Reverence and Worship. When Ezra opened the scroll, all the people stood up in reverence and then bowed down to worship the Lord (vv. 5-6). Scripture reveals who God is and increases our awe of Him and respect for His Word.

With Understanding. There were people who helped others understand what they heard, similar to the way pastors and teachers do today (vv. 7-8). Do you skim over passages you don't understand, or do you rely on the many sound teaching resources available?

With Repentance. After hearing God's Law, they were convicted of sin and repented with mourning and weeping (v. 9) God's Word is sanctifying, revealing sin and guiding us into righteousness. It's easy to take for granted what is commonly available, but we should never lose sight of the most valuable possession God has given us--His inspired, inerrant Word.



(from In Touch Devotional, by Charles Stanley)

