

SING PRAISE TO THE LORD!



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry October 2024 Vol. 20 Issue 10

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Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Thursday  
10 am-2 pm  
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### *Prayer Support Groups*

Prayer Support  
October 7  
7 pm  
Come Join Us!

### *Ladies Bible Study*

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

We are studying  
Luke in the Land  
By Kristi McLelland

Come Join Us!



## *Come to Me With Your Burdens*

My mind tends to mull over and over issues that concern me. I often allow those worries to keep me from resting. I have a hard time cutting my brain off as I express it to God. It seems the more I attempt to lay it all at Jesus' feet, the more I find myself taking it back and stewing over it until I'm in a place God doesn't want me to be.

I often tell others: "take one day at a time" but then I forget my own advice. God reminds me often that my problem is His battle – His concern. My job is to stand still and watch Him work in my situation.

I don't know about you, but I will hear something about a personal matter, or a world event and I find myself worrying about its outcome.

I love The Passion translation and here is the way it transcribes this familiar passage: "Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you will discover that I'm gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear." Matthew 11:28-30.

The note in the Bible on verse 28 is this: Many times Jesus said "Come after (follow) me" but only here does He say, "Come to Me."

Will you choose to bring your burden, your grief, your Prodigal, your physical issues, all that's on your heart and mind today and find "rest" in Him? He will refresh you for He is your oasis, your shelter, your refuge – there is no other like Him. He not only is grieved by your burden, He is bearing it "with" you.

He calls us to learn His ways, His heart, His unconditional love. He calls you not to condemn you but to gather you in His arms with a loving embrace. Just imagine sitting in His lap with His arms around you as He expresses His love for you as nobody else can. Answer His call to come to Him with ALL your burdens.

*~ Sandra*

*Antoine Isles* WAS  
RECENTLY BAPTIZED AT  
UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH IN  
WINSTON SALEM. HE IS  
PICTURED HERE WITH BRYAN  
MILLESON, OUR MEN'S  
ADMINISTRATOR AND  
SANDRA KEARNS. PLEASE  
KEEP HIM IN YOUR PRAYERS.  
CONGRATULATIONS  
ANTOINE!



WE WENT INTO ROLLING HILLS AND  
GAVE OUT OVER 100 BOOK BAGS  
WHICH WERE PACKED BY CALVARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH, TWO CITIES  
CHURCH AND FRIENDS BAPTIST  
CHURCH. WHAT A BLESSING  
WITH GREAT OPPORTUNITIES  
TO SHARE THE NAME OF JESUS.

Kathy's Korner



## PADDLING AND PRAISING

As the afternoons cool and the leaves begin to change colors, my times out on my kayak remain peaceful occasions of renewing mind, body and spirit.

On a recent paddling jaunt I began pondering some of the spiritual lessons my kayak times had afforded. It started one day as I patted the top of my fizzy water can. I've learned from experience the necessity to pat it first to keep from becoming wet from lake water and canned water! As I patted the top, my mind went back to a study we had done earlier this year, "The Names of God" by Melissa

Spoelstra. In one of her videos she used a soda can and patted the top - comparing the taming of the potentially explosive can and our explosive tendencies. She said to PAT; Prayer, Appeal, Thanksgiving throughout the day. The reminder to Pray, Appeal and Thank is refreshed every time I pat my can.

To get in my kayak, I use a ladder. The first step down is visible, then I must step into the dark water to hit the second step. I'm often reminded that Jesus asks us to step into the unknown, the unseen to do what He desires of us. God calls us to trust Him even when the way forward is difficult to see.

While I'm out paddling, I can make progress with just using my arms. However if I push with my feet and engage my core there is much more power in the pull. I can limit my walk with Jesus by just showing up at church on Sundays, or by only listening to and singing praise songs or by only reading my Bible; but when I love the Lord with all my heart, soul, mind and strength there's a lot more power in my walk.

I often find when I am out paddling and then turn to come back in the opposite direction that I'm now paddling into the wind. When the wind is at my back, I don't feel it, I'm not aware of it. How often is the Holy Spirit working in my life and I'm not aware of what He's doing or of the dangers from which He is protecting me? The Holy Spirit's power is often quiet, and enables me to make progress on the journey and it becomes a resistant power if I am going off course.

I can get sore, blistered and calloused from being out in the kayak. My spiritual walk can leave me feeling battled, questioning and tired. My soreness dissipates, the blisters heal much as faith and trust restore my tired and grappling heart.

Another thing I learned from experience: never untie the rope to the dock before ensuring my paddle is on the kayak. Being where you can reach it on the dock is not helpful once you've started to drift in the water. The paddle allows me to navigate and return to safety and security. Have I allowed myself to drift in my spiritual life? Have the ropes of security and the paddle of direction been set aside? Have my spiritual disciplines of prayer, Scripture reading, meditation and worship been allowed to drift?

I so enjoy the peace that comes from paddling a kayak. The quiet, rhythmic sound of the paddle entering the water, the smoothness of the boat gliding on the water, the company of the birds, turtles and other water life; the enjoyment of God's creation while spending time with the Creator. He speaks, teaches and reminds me of His truths using simple ordinary things around me that I might otherwise take for granted. Let me have eyes to see and ears to hear what He is doing and saying - daily!

*Come join us for a Day Retreat*

**OCTOBER 12TH 10AM - 12PM**

**FRIENDS BAPTIST CHURCH  
1840 LEWISVILLE CLEMMONS ROAD  
CLEMMONS, NC**

*We will share how to discover your Spiritual Gift!*

**WE NEED TO KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO WE HAVE  
ENOUGH MATERIALS FOR THIS EXERCISE  
THE BOOKS ARE \$5 EACH**

**EMAIL US AT [SANDRA@ONWINGSLIKEADOVE.COM](mailto:SANDRA@ONWINGSLIKEADOVE.COM) OR CALL 336-829-5060**

# Book Review #10

## Prodigals And Those Who Love Them

by Ruth Bell Graham

**“I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.” Isaiah 49:25b**

I latched on to this book years ago as I knew that the author had experienced her own journey dealing with a prodigal son. Just knowing her struggle gave me hope as I watched her son Franklin come back to the Lord. Years later now Franklin has been used by the Lord in great ways as he has headed up the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and now Samaritan's Purse which reaches out to so many hurting people in times of their crisis.

I used to have this poem Ruth wrote on my refrigerator:

**I Bring Those Whom I Love**

**I bring those whom I love to You, commit each to Your care: then carry them away again nor leave them there: forgetting You Who lived to die (and rose again!) care more than I.**

**So back I come with my heart's load, confessing my lack of faith in You alone, addressing all I cannot understand to You Who do.**

**You know each heart, each hidden wound, each scar, each one who played a part in making those we bring to You the ones they are (and dearer each to You than us, by far),**

**So---now I give them to Your loving care, with thankful heart, ----and leave them there.**

It was such a reminder to me to leave my burden with the Father because He loves them more than we do. Leaving my son was hard but eventually became easier as my burden became lighter as I did let go.

If you have a Prodigal pray this prayer: “Holy Father, keep through Thine own name those whom Thou hast given me.....I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldst keep them from the evil.....Sanctify them through Thy truth: They word is truth....For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.....Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given me, be with me where I am.” Taken from John 17:11-24.

I praise the Lord that He allowed Ruth to see her Prodigal's return before she went to glory, and I pray that for you all. I think you would be encouraged by her poems and stories.

*~ Sandra*

