



A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove

May 2026 Vol. 22 Issue 5

Winter is Past and Spring Has Come

"My beloved, spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is heard in our land, the fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away".

Song of Songs 2:10-13

Today I took the time to just sit and take in the sights and smells of the spring season. I watched the birds in their flight and heard them singing, I pulled back the pine straw to allow the flowers trying to rise up a space to sprout. I especially enjoyed the gathering of two doves as they played together and flew into the nearby trees where I believe they had a nest. I am attuned to the sound of the dove and with the beginning of this season I am drawn back to the SOS Commentary by Watchman Nee as I review the material once again.

Let me share a portion with you here:

"Since the Lord now calls her to come away with Him, He sets before her all of past experience and the facts which are before her eyes. The winter is past". Winter is gloomy and cold and not conducive to growth. It represents a time of testing in which there is little to cheer about. In other words, the Lord has already conducted her safely through the experiences of various trials of coldness, darkness, and seeming death. It was He who manifestly brought her through these trials and used His living presence to make her forget them all. Therefore "the winter is past." "The rain is over and gone." The rain here is not the refreshing rain of springtime but that rain which, because of a cold atmosphere, turns into hail or snow. The winter rain can shut you in and make it impossible for you to accomplish any kind of work. In addressing her at this stage the Lord is saying in effect, "those many testing's and trials are now all behind you because of your living sense of My abiding presence."

The reference to flowers, birds, turtledoves, and so on are an appeal by the Lord to His loved one to stand on resurrection ground. Springtime means more than death; it means resurrection life. Flowers are adornments of beauty. Birds represent the voice of a happy song. "The vines with the tender grape give a good smell". We must notice that the vines here are in blossom, and thus they indicate that the life of the believer at this stage gives forth fragrance and shows promise of very much fruitfulness. Fruitage is assured because the vine blossom comes after the young fruit appears."

Wow! That is a lot to take in. Once you have been through the winter of trials and struggle you move up to a new level spiritually and then the fruit is seen coming from your life. God has a purpose in all our winters. Yes, we enjoy the springtime, but it is our winters where we learn to abide in His presence and come forth with His fragrance into His resurrection. Praise Him today. Praise Him even while you are in the middle of your winter season. Now that is faith. When we wait to praise Him after the storm, it saddens Him. I pray we will all realize His faithfulness in the trial we face and will come into a season of fruitfulness and will answer His call to rise up and come with Him. Maybe He is calling you to a quiet place of worship with Him alone today, maybe He has a divine appointment planned for you to step into, or maybe He wants you to sing a new song like the birds as you come into a new season. Whatever His call is today accept His invitation.

~ Sandra

He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

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Office Hours:

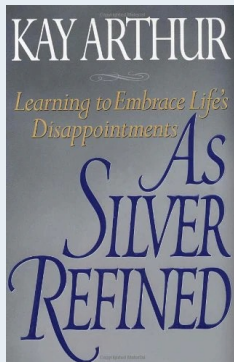
Tuesday-Thursday
10 am-2 pm

or by appointment 336-829-5060
sandra@onwingslikeadove.com

Ladies Bible Study

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

We are studying
"As Silver Refined"
By Kay Arthur



Save the Date

Fall Day Retreat
September 19
Dawn Bray will share
on Spiritual Warfare

Kathy's Korner



MOMS AND WISDOM

Our Moms taught us so many wonderful things. They introduced speech..and being quiet, walking and sitting still, playing and sharing and guidelines on being safe. So many of Mom's words of wisdom, sometimes logical, often times not, have stuck with me through my life. You

heard them too: Don't run with a lollipop in your mouth! Don't cross your eyes or they'll get stuck that way. Don't make me come in there! A lady never wears red to church. If all your friends jumped off a bridge would you jump too? And of course- the universal favorite, Finish your dinner, there are starving children in Africa...

Such sage words of wisdom have guided our thoughts and actions in our childhood years and many we continue to "hear" as we have aged into adulthood. Some have some factual, reasonable basis; others were Mom's own thoughts and preferences. Since we heard them so often, they have stuck with us and now are often repeated to the younger among us. God has words of wisdom too. Words of guidance on life and living. Words of security and victory. Words of His faithfulness. I came so you may have an abundant life! (John 10:10) I have plans to prosper you and give you a hope and a future! (Jeremiah 29:11) Walk as wise and not unwise. (Ephesians 5:15) Call upon Me in your distress and I will answer. (Psalm 118:5) Stay away from foolish and stupid arguments- they just grow into bigger arguments (2 Timothy 2:23) My divine power has given you everything you need to live a godly life (2 Peter 1:3) Just like Mom's words of wisdom and counsel, hearing God's Word repeated often help it take root in our minds and pop up to our memory often. Unlike Mom's sayings, God's are always factual and true. I don't need to scratch my head and wonder where He came up with that one, and realize it doesn't even make sense. His Words are inspired by God and are useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16) The more I read and listen to God's Word, the more I am able to remember it and use it, and have it pop in my head as a gentle reminder.

God used our Mom's for useful training. I am so grateful for the many things she taught me about life and living. I am also grateful for God's Words that guides, comforts and reminds us of His faithful love. I want to anchor myself in His Words. As I get ready to leave the house today, I choose to hide His Word in my heart (Psalm 119:11) and put my lipstick on because "A lady never leaves home without her lipstick" (Mom)



Prayer Thoughts

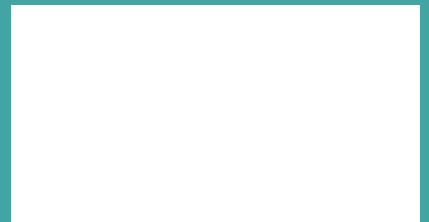
**BLOWING IN
THE WIND:**

**THE POWER OF THE
WIND**

"Cast all your anxiety on him
because he cares for you"

1 Peter 5:7

In the natural, everything that has mass weighs something and is affected by gravity. But the most powerful force in the universe weighs nothing. The Hebrew word for wind is Ruach, which also means spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Ruach Ha Kodesh or the Holy Wind. Wind doesn't weigh anything so the Spirit, like the wind is weightless. In the spiritual realm, things of the world and the flesh are heavy. If you live by them, you carry unnecessary burdens in your heart. Messiah said, "Come to Me all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I'll give you rest. Take My yoke upon you... For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light!" If you live by the flesh, your life will be burdened down. But if you live by the Spirit, your life is going to get lighter. So give yourself a break today and lighten your load. Let go of things, issues, the flesh, and the world. Live, walk, and think by the Spirit and you won't be burdened or filled with anxiety anymore. You'll be light. Live by the Spirit, and you will live weightless.



Taken from
Jonathan Cahn's
Daily Sapphire



From the Desk of
Dr. Kent Oviatt

When the Path Breaks: Finding Peace in Psalm 1

This month I wrote an article for our incarcerated and prodigals from this Psalm 1. The passage challenged them to find peace and security in the middle of their life struggles. The passage has a slightly different look into your life as an outsider of the circumstances, yet you may be right in the middle of the struggle and filled with anxiety. I trust this article will bring peace and confidence to you as the Lord soothes your heart with His word.

Psalm 1 speaks of two paths—one that leads to stability and life, and another that leads to emptiness. For families of prisoners and prodigals, this Psalm can feel deeply personal. You may be watching someone you love walk a difficult road, and the weight of that reality can bring anger, confusion, shame, and even distance within your own heart. Please allow this word from the Lord to sweep over your heart:

“Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked... but whose delight is in the law of the Lord” (Psalm 1:1–2).

One of the hardest parts of loving a prodigal is recognizing that you cannot choose their path for them. Their decisions are their own. Psalm 1 gently reminds us that each person walks a path—and while you may grieve the path your loved one has chosen, you are still responsible for your own. They are responsible for their own.

In seasons of pain, it is easy to be pulled into bitterness, blame, or constant anxiety. Those voices can become a kind of “counsel” that shapes your thinking. But the Psalm offers a different way: turning your attention toward the Lord. Not as an escape from reality, but as a steady place to stand within it. We may be surrounded by these hurtful circumstances, but in the middle of it all is this reality:

“He is like a tree planted by streams of water...” (Psalm 1:3).

When a family is fractured, everything can feel unstable. Relationships shift. Trust is broken. The future feels uncertain. Yet this image of a tree reminds us that stability is still possible—not because circumstances are secure, but because God is.

Being “planted” does not mean life is easy. It means you are anchored. As you begin to rest your thoughts in God’s truth, bringing your grief, your questions, and even your anger honestly before Him, your roots begin to grow deeper. Over time, something changes within you. You may still feel the pain, but it no longer controls you in the same way.

Your peace does not have to rise and fall with your loved one’s choices.

Psalm 1 also describes the unstable life as “chaff which the wind drives away” (v. 4). Many families have watched this play out—the chaos, the unpredictability, the consequences. It can leave you feeling exposed and vulnerable, as if everything around you is shifting. Does this somehow describe what you are experiencing?

But the Psalm ends with a quiet reassurance:

“For the Lord knows the way of the righteous” (v. 6).

God sees your situation. He understands the long nights, the unanswered questions, and the emotional weight you carry. To be “known” by Him means you are not forgotten in this process. Your faithfulness, your prayers, and your struggle to trust Him in the middle of this are all seen.

Psalm 1 does not promise immediate restoration of broken relationships. But it does offer something just as important: a secure place for your own heart. Even if your loved one is far from where you hoped they would be, you can still be rooted. You can still find peace. You can still walk a steady path.

And in time, that quiet strength may become a light—both for you and for the one you are still praying will find their way home. We are praying for you and your loved one. That you will find the true peace of a relationship with the Lord by trusting in and walking with Jesus. We are praying that God’s peace will rule in your hearts.

SOMETIMES GOD

CALMS THE

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RAGE AND CALMS

HIS CHILD.



Our Community Outreach Day took place on April 4th in the Rolling Hills and Piedmont Circle communities. It was a great success. We were blessed to take clothes, shoes, hygiene products and Bibles. Additionally, Easter bags for the younger kids were provided by Beck's Baptist Church along with 50 food bags. We brought an ice cream truck to Rolling Hills and some kind ladies provided hot dogs in the Piedmont Circle area. Several people approached us to thank us for the provisions in both locations. The kids were thrilled with the gift bags, stuffed bunnies and of course, the ice cream. These children do not have many opportunities to partake in these types of things and they loved it. We are thankful for the volunteers who assisted with the activities at both locations to bless these little ones. We could not do what we do without their support and the donations we receive.

