

**"WAIT on
the Lord
be of good
courage
and He
shall
strengthen
thine heart"**
-Psalm 27:14

ADDRESS

455 South Church St
Winston Salem, NC



WEBSITE

www.OnWingsLikeADove.com



OFFICE HOURS

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

Ladies Bible Study

Each Tuesday
At On Wings Office
From 12:30-2:00
We are studying
Ruach Journey
By Sylvia & Elizabeth Gunter

Come Join Us!



Throw Off the Garment of Shame

"Anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame."

Romans 10:11

The enemy wants to silence you with shame from your past, but God wants to use your story to minister to those still struggling to overcome theirs. You don't have to carry shame from your past if you have repented and asked Jesus into your life. His blood covers your sin and has cleansed you from all unrighteousness. Jesus does not condemn you anymore so when others continue to accuse you, let it go and don't believe them. Don't receive their accusations or condemnations when God has said in His Word that He will not condemn you.

God's Word tells us in 1 John 1:9, "If I confess my sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." He remembers our sins no more removing them as far as the east is from the west. Dwell on God's promises and the Truth of who you are in Him. Satan cannot stand the fact that you have been redeemed, and Satan will continue to try to convince you that you are not forgiven. Make your choice to believe what God says about you. Sometimes the hardest thing is forgiving yourself and accepting God's marvelous grace. Every time Satan accuses you, come against him with the Word of God and in the powerful name of Jesus. Satan must flee.

Read the passages below and begin to believe what God says about you. Renounce the lie that you are rejected, unloved, or shameful. In Christ you are accepted. Write these Scriptures in a journal, or on an index card and pray out loud when Satan is accusing you:

- ◆ I am God's Child – John 1:12
- ◆ I am Christ's friend – John 15:5
- ◆ I have been justified – Romans 5:1
- ◆ I am united with the Lord and one Spirit with Him
I Corinthians 6:17
- ◆ I was bought with a price and belong to God
I Corinthians 6:19-20
- ◆ I am a member of Christ's Body - I Corinthians 12:27
- ◆ I am a saint, a holy one – Ephesians 1:1
- ◆ I have been adopted as God's child – Ephesians 1:5
- ◆ I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit
Ephesians 2:18
- ◆ I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins
Colossians 1:14
- ◆ I am complete in Christ – Colossians 2:10

~ Sandra





LESSONS FROM A DOG

Our daily routine changes some when we go camping. Our mornings are slower and more relaxed. We get up, get our coffee and then I have a seat at the table, and my husband returns to the bed as we both spend time reading the Bible and receiving what God has to say to us.

Our dog is not allowed to be on furniture at home but has been allowed on the bed in the camper, just to remove 4 of the 8 feet present in that rather confined area. In the morning after she

wakes up, she goes and puts her head on the bed and waits for my husband to get situated so she can jump up and join him. She anticipates and enjoys this morning time with him.

Watching her wait with expectant eyes and somewhat impatient mannerisms, I think of how much God must anticipate with joy our daily times of meeting with Him. Does He think, "It's almost time, she's getting her coffee and sitting in the chair! I have so much I want to tell her today!" Oh, let me anticipate and enjoy my time with the Lord as much as my dog enjoys her morning time with my husband.

After our morning devotions, our dog, Gioia, and I take a walk. She assumes that everyone who is out walking is there to see her. She is so excited to greet new people. There is a friendly body wag and excitement as she greets "Good Morning" to all. I wish to be friendly and engaging to all I encounter and happy to see them!

Gioia is always on "watchdog patrol" when we camp. No brazen squirrel is going to scamper around our campsite. She is a good protector! She is also fiercely loyal; if my husband leaves us, she waits expectantly for his return and greets him enthusiastically. She likes to be close to us, and is a lap warmer and a foot warmer - sometimes desired qualities. She is always game for a new activity or outing. She doesn't complain, she just loves to be included.

I think of God - always guarding and protecting me. Emmanuel, God with us. God is fiercely loyal and a great comfort when needed. Christ Jesus tells me, "Remember, I am with you" as we are enjoying His creation. He wants me to know that He is close and included in my activities!

As the day ends, we all return to the inside of the camper. As we prepare for bed, Gioia gets on her bed, all ready to begin again in the morning sharing some sunshine and time with God with the man she loves. Me, too.



**You can't go back and
change the beginning, but
you can start where you are
and change the ending.**

C. S. Lewis



Prayer Thoughts

As iron sharpens iron, So
a man sharpens the
countenance of his friend.

Proverbs 27:17

The Christian life is a pilgrimage. At times the road is difficult, and we get lonely. Sometimes we may become discouraged and consider abandoning the journey. It is at such times that God will place a friend alongside us. One of God's most precious gifts to us is friends who encourage us and lovingly challenge us to "keep going." According to Scripture, a friend is one who challenges you to become all that God intends. Jonathan could have succeeded his father to become the next king of Israel. But he loved his friend David, and he encouraged him to follow God's will, even though it meant Jonathan would forfeit his own claim to the throne (1 Sam. 19:1-7). The mark of biblical friends is that their friendship draws you closer to Christ. They "sharpen" you and motivate you to do what is right. True friends tell you the truth and even risk hurting your feelings because they love you and have your best interests at heart (Prov. 27:6).

Be careful in your choice of friends! Jesus chose His closest friends wisely. He did not look for perfect friends, but friends whose hearts were set to follow God. It is equally important to examine the kind of friend you are to others. As a friend, it is your duty to put the needs of others first (Prov. 17:17). Strive to find godly friends who will challenge you to become the person God desires. When you have found them, be receptive to the way God uses them to help you become spiritually mature. Strive also to be the kind of friend that helps others become more like Christ.

Taken from
Experiencing God
Henry Blackaby



From the Desk of
Dr. Kent Oviatt

The Discipline of Prayer and Scripture Meditation for Families of Prodigals

If you love a prodigal son, daughter, spouse, or other family member, you know how quickly concern can become a constant companion. Some days bring hope. Other days bring disappointment, confusion, or silence. You may find yourself asking why God has allowed this season to continue.

In the middle of that struggle, it helps to remember that the Lord's work is not limited to the life of the prodigal. He is also working in the hearts of those who love them. While we naturally long to see change in our loved one, God often uses these seasons to draw us closer to Himself.

The spiritual disciplines of prayer and Scripture meditation provide a steady place to stand when life feels uncertain. These practices do not change God's love for us or earn His favor. They simply place us in a position to listen, trust, and walk with Him more closely.

Paul gives this simple instruction:

"Never stop praying." (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NCV)

Prayer is more than presenting a list of requests. It is learning to bring every concern to the Lord and leaving it there. Many parents and family members carry burdens that have become heavier with time. Prayer reminds us that God is able to carry what we cannot.

When anxious thoughts come, turn them into prayers. When disappointment settles in, speak honestly to the Lord. When you do not know what to pray, tell Him that as well. Prayer is not measured by eloquence. It is measured by dependence.

God's Word gives us another source of strength:

"Instead, they love the Lord's teachings and think about them day and night." (Psalm 1:2, NCV)

Scripture meditation simply means slowing down long enough for God's truth to sink into our hearts. Read a short passage. Read it again. Notice what it reveals about God's character. Consider how it speaks to your present situation. Ask the Lord to help you believe what He has said.

One practical way to begin is to choose a Psalm and read a few verses each morning. Keep a notebook nearby. Write down a verse that encourages you. Throughout the day, return to that verse when worry begins to take hold. Allow God's promises to shape your thinking more than your fears.

You might also keep a prayer journal for your prodigal. Record specific requests. Write down ways God provides comfort, wisdom, or unexpected encouragement. Over time, you may discover that while you were waiting for God to work in someone else's life, He was quietly doing important work in your own.

None of us would choose the pain of watching someone we love walk a difficult path. Yet the Lord often meets His children in the very places where they feel most helpless. He teaches us to trust Him when answers are delayed. He teaches us to rest when circumstances remain unchanged. He teaches us that His faithfulness does not depend upon what we can see.

As you pray for your prodigal this summer, spend time reflecting on God's Word and listening for His voice. Ask not only, "Lord, what are You doing in their life?" but also, "Lord, what are You teaching me?" You may find that even in this difficult season, He is drawing you into a deeper walk with Himself.

We would love to hear how God is encouraging you through these practices and how we can pray for you and your family.

In our next article, we will consider the discipline of solitude and silence and how it helps believers seek the Lord with greater focus and dependence.

On Wings Like a Dove

CELEBRATING OUR 20th ANNIVERSARY

YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

With us the 20th year of what God has done over the years!

DR. GARY CHAPMAN
Best-selling Author,
The 5 Love Languages

DR. CLARENCE SHULER
Author, Speaker,
Life Coach

Dr. Chapman and Dr. Shuler
will share with us as we reflect on the past
and look forward to the future.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026
6:30 PM**

The Red Barn at Tanglewood Park
625 RIVER BIRCH CIRCLE, CLEMMONS, NC 27012



The LORD
will FIGHT for you;
you need only
to be STILL.

Exodus 14:14



Gird Up the Loins of Your Mind!

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- 1 Peter 1:13

The phrase "gird up the loins of your mind" used in the verse above isn't just an interesting phrase that Peter concocted when he wrote it. It is an extremely powerful and graphic picture that expresses something very important that we need to understand and apply in our lives!

This phrase "gird up the loins" comes from the Greek word *anadzonnymi* used to describe Orientals who wore long robes. Before taking a long journey or before running in a race, they would gather up their loose robes and tuck them up under their girdle.

Most frequently this word would be used to depict a runner who was running a race. To run freely and without hindrance, he would reach down to gather the long, dangling ends of his garments and then tuck them up under his belt. With the loose ends out of the way, he could then run freely and without distraction.

But the runner would get in trouble if he ever allowed his garments to fall down and become entangled in his legs. Even though he may have been picking up his stride and running a good race up to that point, the encumbrance of dangling, loosely hanging clothes would hinder his steps. And allowing those loose ends to keep dangling would have been a sure way to lose the race!

But notice that Peter is not talking about a garment made of material; he is referring to the loins of our minds. You see, Peter is telling us that if we don't:

- ❖ deal with the loose ends that exist in our minds and emotions
- ❖ correct those parts of our thinking that we know are wrong;
- ❖ grab hold of all those dangling areas in our thinking and put them out of the way;
- ❖ and remove them by the authority of the Word of God.

Then we are choosing to permit things to exist in our lives that will hinder our steps and slow us down in our race and in our ability to successfully walk with God!

If we want to be successful in our spiritual lives and truly walk with God, then we must start by dealing with the "loins of our minds." In other words, we must seek to deal with all the loose ends in our thinking that haven't yet been submitted to the Word of God or surrendered to the Holy Spirit's power.

If we deliberately allow wrong thinking and wrong believing to continue in our lives, we are making the same kind of mistake the runner does who deliberately allows his garment to hang down and get caught in his legs. This is why Peter admonishes us to tighten up those areas that the devil would try to grab hold of and use against us!

The Holy Spirit will help us identify every area that needs our attention and help us grab hold of those loose ends and move them out of our way forever!

-Excerpt from *Sparkling Gems from the Greek* by Rick Renner