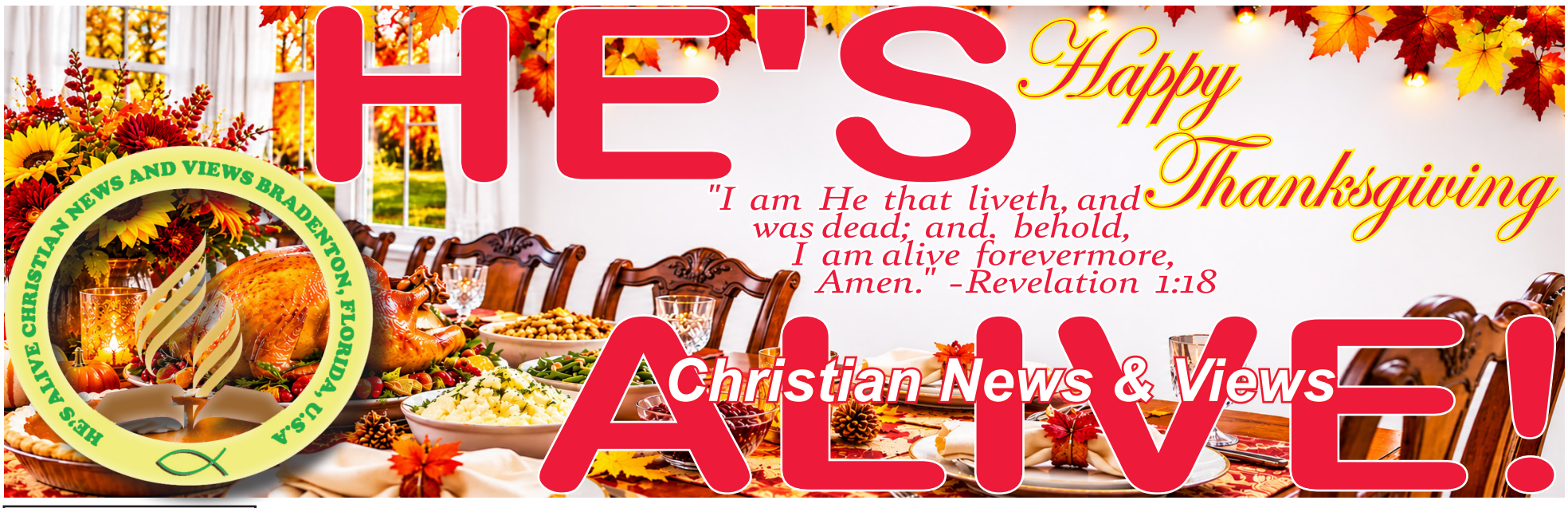
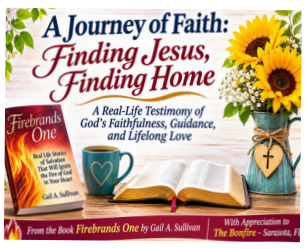


What's inside:

Page 10: **Our New Life Beyond The Cross**



Page 12: **A Journey of Faith: Finding Jesus, Finding Home**



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JESUS IS LORD!

HE'S ALIVE NEWS
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Prodigal Daughters Journey Home

By Denise & Joe Gattuso

My name is Denise Gattuso, and my husband's name is Joseph Gattuso. We are the founders of Prodigal Daughters Journey Home, which is a twenty-four-month residential program for women and children—women who have been in addiction, trafficking, or domestic violence.

My heart has always been for women and children who have been through trauma. My own history of growing up with an alcoholic mother and father has given me a desire to help others change the generational curse that had been on my family. God has given me a purpose through my own addiction and domestic violence.

As a young girl, I began to use drugs and alcohol at the age of 16, which continued my family's legacy of addiction. I can recall being in Catholic school in the third grade and admiring a nun named Mary. I wanted to be like Mary. My soul has always longed to be with the Holy Spirit. As I look back today, I realize I was looking and searching for someone to talk with and someone to listen to me.

At the age of 25, after my dad had passed away, I was at my end, and I cried out to God to help me stop drinking. I didn't even know I had a problem because it was such a norm in our family. He spoke to me and told me I had a drinking problem, and I immediately went for help.

God had a plan. With all that I had seen in my family—the domestic violence, women being treated poorly, and addiction—God placed in me a ferocious desire to save women and children.



Early in my recovery, I met Joe. He didn't drink; he didn't smoke. He had no domestic violence in his family and no addiction at the time. We began our journey, heading for the purpose God had for our lives.

After my children were raised, I began going to school and became a case manager working in addiction rehab. Eventually, I became a licensed mental health counselor.

From the time the Lord placed in my heart to open a women's home, the enemy has been trying to stop me. One of his tactics involved what I now call **my boot story.**

My daughter Melinda received a birthday gift card to buy herself some shoes or boots. Her birthday is in November, and she quickly began shopping for winter boots. Melinda had given her life to the Lord as a young teenager and had a true anointing on her life.

As she was shopping, she heard the voice of God saying to her, *"Don't buy any more boots for yourself."*

Feeling a bit disappointed, she expressed that disappointment to the Lord. He said to her, *"I want you to buy a pair of boots for someone else."*

She left the store and began praying about who she was supposed to buy the boots for. She thought possibly they were for a little child. She prayed every day for three weeks.

Meanwhile, I was looking to buy boots for myself, but because they were so expensive, I didn't want to spend the money on myself.

Finally, God spoke to Melinda and said, *"I want you to buy your mom a pair of boots."*

Continued Page: 3



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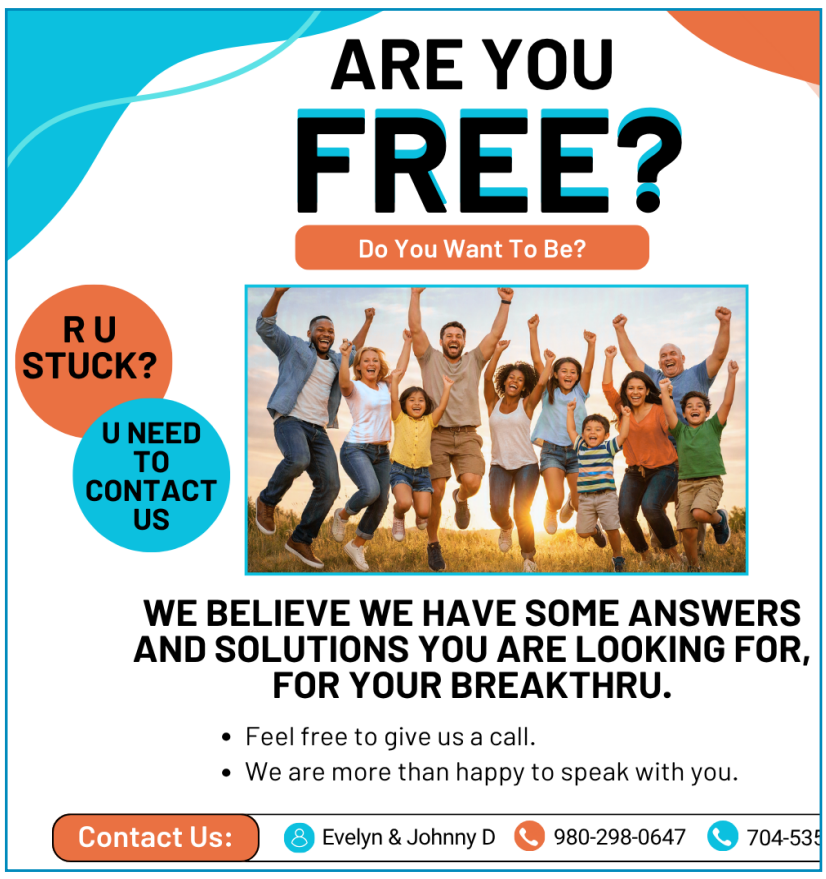
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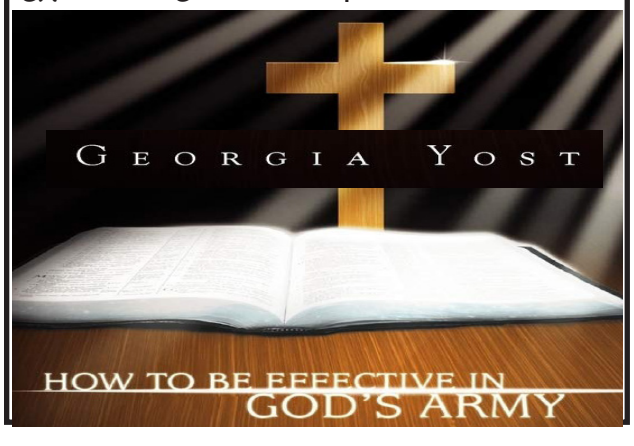
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The Spirit Of Truth:

By Rev. Madeline Montez Duffany

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

SCAN ► www.facebook/madeline.duffany

Isaiah 40:3-5: The voice of one crying in the wilderness. *"Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."* Preparation time! This is a lesson on forgiveness and how it leads to healing and getting prepared to meet Jesus.

While we are here on earth, we must stop being judgmental of other believers. There is only one reason for refusing fellowship, and that reason is unconfessed sin: unrepentant, habitual sin in a person's life.

Rom. 14:10. People who are rebellious refuse to accept Christ. They are full of excuses. *"The church is full of hypocrites; I'm a good person; I was emotionally hurt in church; etc."*

We must be filled with His Holy Spirit in order to reach the lost. We have to start with ourselves. Are we in right standing with the Lord? Can He speak through us? Our countenance must reflect the glory of the Lord.

2 Cor. 5:9 Wherefore we labor (are ambitious) that, whether present (with Christ) or absent (still in this world), we may be accepted of Him (approved by Him), which we will be if our faith is in Christ and the Cross.

2 Cor. 5:10. *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (this will take place before Christ's second coming), that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he or she has done, whether it be good or bad."* This concerns our life lived for the Lord here on earth. Sins will not be judged here, but rather our motivation and faithfulness, for sin was judged at Calvary.

2 Cor. 5:11. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord (should have been translated 'fear') we persuade men, but we are made manifest unto God (what we do, we do before Him, seeking only to have His leading, guidance, direction and approval); and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences. (If our message is acceptable to the Lord, it surely should be acceptable to Believers).

Before we can stand before the Lord and in front of other people, we have to be free of all unconfessed sin, a vessel in right standing.

Forgive, confess sin, preach the gospel. Have more faith in God. Do good while you are still here on earth. God has shown you mercy; now, go show mercy toward others.

Make way for the glory of the Lord!! Clean your house spiritually and physically. Put away from you unclean things, dark things in your home that bring confusion, sadness, and despair.

Keep your mind and hearts on the Lord and His word.

This is God's Truth! The Spirit of Truth!

Pastor Madeline Montez Duffany

++++++++++++++++++++



Prodigal Daughters Journey Home

From Page:1

She said to God, *"But my mom has money to buy her own boots."*

But God said she wouldn't spend the money on herself.

The following week, Melinda asked if she could buy me a pair of boots for Christmas. We went shopping and bought a pair. They were black suede with rubber halfway up the ankle, and I wore them every day.

Three days prior to my major accident, my daughter was asking my husband and me about the story in the Bible, specifically in Numbers, where people were wandering around the desert because of someone else's disobedience. She asked us why someone else's disobedience could affect others. We often had discussions about the Bible.

Three days later, on February 14, 2010, I was wearing those boots and was going to meet my husband at church. It was a cold, wintry day. There had been a snowstorm a few days earlier, and the streets were slippery, especially in an area where snow had drifted because of the wind.

I recall stopping in the garage and praying to God to give me direction about which way I should travel to church.

Life was good at this point. I had a good job. My children were in a good place. My husband and I had finally gotten to a place in our marriage where we were content. I had two beautiful grandchildren, and all was well.

So I thought.

I reminded myself to take it slow because I was driving my brand-new Sebring, which my husband had bought me for my birthday the previous year. It was the car of my dreams—a convertible.

Moving along the country road, singing my favorite hymn, I came around the last turn and hit a snow drift. My car began to spin out of control as I struggled to stabilize it.

I remember seeing white all around me and not being able to see what was really happening. I heard my own voice say, *"Jesus, save me!"* and then thought, I am in big trouble.

I remembered my husband constantly teaching me, *"Don't slam the brakes when you are in a spin."* I tapped them, thinking it would help me get the car under control.

Apparently, when I hit the telephone pole, my right leg was stepping down on the brake. The impact caused my leg to snap like a string bean being prepared for steaming.

The next thing I recall was feeling a pounding on my forehead. I managed to look in the mirror and saw that I had hit my head. As I looked ahead, the landscape was surreal. Everything in my view was completely white, even the telephone pole. I thought I had died.

I tried to open the door and began waving my hand to get someone's attention. I tried to move my leg out of the car, not knowing that I had lost a lot of blood and was in shock.

I can't tell you how long I was there, but the next thing I saw was people arriving at the scene. I remember thinking they were my mother, sister, and father, who had passed away. I truly thought of them as my angels who were there to help me.

The first thing one lady said to me was, *"Can I pray for you?"* I thought, Oh no, do I need prayer? I still thought I was dead.

I said I was cold, and immediately they wrapped me in a blanket to keep me warm. I never found those people to give that blanket back. Their names were never mentioned.

The very next person on the scene was a paramedic coming home from work.

God is so good.

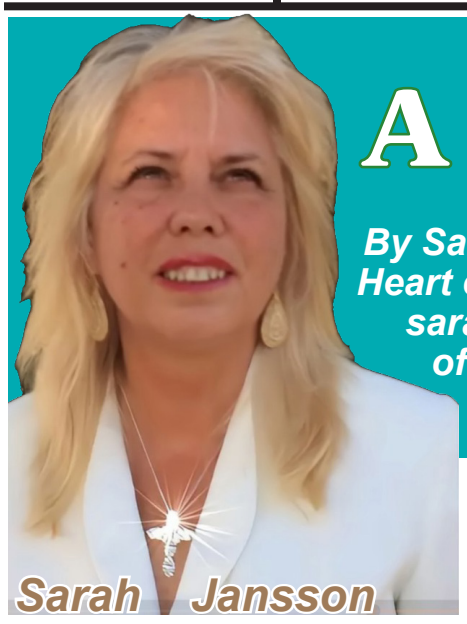
The paramedic got me into the ambulance and took me to the hospital. The trooper who arrived on the scene went to the church down the road and told my family they needed to get to the hospital immediately because I had been in a severe car accident.

The break was so bad that, after stabilizing me, they had to take me to a trauma hospital.

I vividly remember my Amy standing over me, crying hysterically. I said to her, "Don't worry. God has me. It will be all right."

After discussing my condition with my family, they took me..

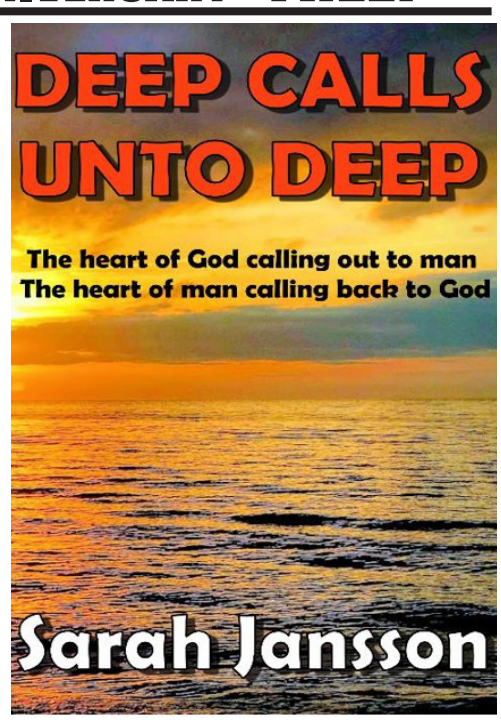
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A DAY OF REVIVAL

By Sarah Jansson | Apostolic/Prophetic Ministry
Heart of Mercy Ministries | www.heartofmercy.net
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Blessings, saints of God
When I need answers in life, I go to the Holy Spirit first and foremost, as He has all the wisdom and answers from the Father in Jesus' name that I need. As it is God's will that I need anyway!

He directs me to guide me and speak to me, according to the will of the Father, in Jesus name!
I do NOT go to artificial intelligence for the answers that I need to be getting from God!!!!
Artificial intelligence is not my God!
This is a new day, a new week, a new month and a new season; all things have passed away, and all things have been made new! This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Amen
It's time for the nation to turn back to God! It's time to get serious, church.
As individuals, a family, a church, a community, and a nation can be healed as a remnant gets on their knees and prays and fasts.
No better time than now. No better person to start this than you
Jesus Himself - prayed and fasted, and then went forth, and signs, wonders, healings, and miracles followed Him. Jesus said there's a kind that goes out not but by prayer and fasting. What I'm learning after all these years... God doesn't look at a man's credentials, the position he can elevate himself to, or what he calls himself; He looks to the motives and intents of the heart. The anointing is his credentials! If we don't have that, we can wallpaper our walls with the credentials and have a title as long as a bridge, and it doesn't mean a thing! Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart!
The Word says to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength
But how do you do that when we are taught by lifelong experiences of human love tainted by hurt, unmet needs and wants, and disappointments
ONLY BY THE HOLY SPIRIT!
Only as we yield and surrender to the third person of the Trinity can we learn to love the Father, the Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit Himself the way they desire and have designated for us to love them. So that we can receive the fullness of all they have created us to receive
ONLY THEN can we love our broth ers and sisters and the people of the world as he wants us to.
ONLY THEN can he love through us the love of Christ for mankind, when Jesus died on the cross and rose again!
ONLY as we yield and surrender to the power of the Holy Spirit to teach and train us in loving our Lord and Heavenly Father God, and the Holy Spirit Himself, can we truly understand and walk in and live in the Agape Love of God.
NOT by might nor by power, BUT by His Spirit, says the Lord
REVIVAL starts on the heels of total surrender to the will and purposes of God for your life, and then that genuine walk with the the Holy Spirit is ignited in others one by one, as they see your genuine passion for Christ within your life.
A total yielding to the work of the cross within one's soul. A total meshing of one's life within the life of Christ, so that you hate the things he hates and love the things He loves, 1st and foremost within yourself. So that your heart's prayer is a genuine cry of: It is not I who live, but Christ Jesus who lives within me!"
That you truly desire to pray as He prays, do the things that you see Him do, and walk the walk that He has for you day by day. That your carnal flesh would not seek to receive any glory and get in the way day by day, but that all glory would go to the Lord.
REVIVAL starts when you receive a genuine passion for the lost, not the fleshly reasons that still bear open wounds that need healing.
As the world sees the genuine light and love that comes from above, that pours out from one's heart for them, and the salt that is truly pure that pours out from one's soul and is not contaminated with the works and reasons of the flesh, then the church is ready to see genuine revival upon the earth.
Word of the lord for today:
For I know the thoughts and the plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace, not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.
Then you will call upon Me, and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear and heed you.
Then you will seek Me, and inquire for Me, and require Me as a vital necessity and find Me, when you search for Me, with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the Lord.
And I will release you from captivity and gather you from all the places in which I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I've caused you to be carried away captive
Jeremiah 29.13 and 14
PRAY;
Lord, do the work that needs to be done in my life, so that it is not I who live, but Christ Jesus the Messiah who lives within and through me to the glory of God.
Burn out anything in my life that stands in Your way from bringing heaven down to earth through my life.
Let my life be all to Your glory in Jesus name.
Many Blessings,
Sarah Jansson, G.C.M.A. S.W. FL Regional Coordinator for: Southwest Florida Chapter of GCMA and Vice President of Heart of Mercy Ministries, an Apostolic/Prophetic Ministry (Equipping the Saints for the work of the ministries) - on the full counsel of God's Word
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PEARL

By Rhonda Jackson

Email:
Rhondajjackson@charter.net

We are going to look at a parable that Jesus told in ***Matthew 13:45 & 46*** (KJV). Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: ***46*** Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Right away, Jesus said that The Kingdom of Heaven is the merchant man.

Who spent his entire life buying and selling pearls. He was not like a tourist who could be fooled by imitations. He knew pearls, understood their worth, and was always searching for the most beautiful and genuine ones.

Then, one day, he came across the most magnificent pearl he ever saw. He held it in his hand, looked at it, lovingly rolled it in his palm, and said, *"You are the most perfect pearl I have ever seen."* Then he asked, "How much is the pearl?"

Unfortunately, the man who was selling the pearl gave a devilish price. So, in order to buy the pearl, the merchant man would have to sell everything he owned. He had to give up everything.

And that is exactly what he did, for one pearl. He gave up everything. But what was so important about this one pearl? The pearl represents one redeemed soul, and we cannot fully comprehend the value God places on a human soul.

For God to purchase His pearl, He sent Jesus to this earth. 100% man, and 100% God, to give His life. That was the only price that could purchase the pearl.

Jesus paid the price for your soul with every drop of His precious blood, for there is life in the blood. The very life that God created us. There is more power in one drop of the blood of Jesus than in all the kingdom of satan, because there is no blood. It cleanses us from all sin. It sanctifies, by making us pure and holy, not by works of righteousness that we have done, but solely by His blood. So, we can become accepted in the blood. We are the object of God's peculiar affection. We are His special magnificent pearl.

Isaiah 43:4 (amplified bible) Because you are precious in My sight, You are honored and I love you, I will give other men in return for you and other peoples in exchange for your life.

Jesus was willing to exchange His life for yours, because He honors you, loves you, and you are precious in His sight. One soul is so valuable to God that, if there was only one person who ever needed salvation in all the history of the earth, and you were that person, Jesus would have died for you. Even if you were the only person on earth and needed to be saved. Jesus would still die for you, and He would do it over and over, and over again.

James 1:18 (New Living Translation) He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

We have new life because of Jesus. In the Greek it says, we became a kind of first fruit of his creatures.

First fruit represents the best of the best. Your picture is always hanging in the Father's mind, as if it were on His refrigerator or in His wallet. He listens to every word you say, meets you in every need, and thinks about you constantly. What love He has for you! God's Word is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and you are God's prized possession. You are the best of the best. This is how valuable we are to God.

In the end, the merchant did give up everything for the one pearl. As he holds it in the palm of his hand, he looks at it and says, *"You are beautiful. You are the most beautiful pearl I have ever seen in all my years as a mer-*

Continued Page: 6

Prodigal Daughters Journey Home

From Page 1,3 ...to West chester Hospital, one of the leading trauma centers in New York.

One of the first things the doctor said to my family was, *"I want to tell you that if your mom did not have those boots on, she would have died today. The boots served as a tourniquet so she would not bleed to death."*

Now we knew how people could be affected negatively or positively because of someone being obedient or disobedient.

Shortly afterward, my daughter and I went to a women's conference. A woman from the 700 Club was speaking. She decided not to hold the conference as planned but instead to speak to each woman individually.

I rolled up to her in my wheelchair.

She spoke softly in my ear and said, *"This isn't about your broken leg. This is about being bold and stepping out to do what the Lord called you to do."*

I knew exactly what she meant. Like Jeremiah, I didn't think I could accomplish such a calling, but God.

The Lord sat me down for months, and He said, *"I want you to open a women's house."*

He downloaded the entire program to me as I was mending. I realized I had been putting this project off, and what the enemy meant for harm, God made for good.

I was now on a mission, but little did I know I would have to sacrifice my whole life for this calling.

Later, my daughter got married, and she and her husband moved to Florida. We were invited down to Bradenton for her birthday. While I was there, I fell and hit my head and ended up with a concussion.

My doctor suggested that I go to Florida to recover because winter was happening in New York, and he didn't want me to fall again.

That's when God began to work on me and tell me that I was going to open a women's home in Florida. I later realized this would be the only home in the area to take multiple children up to age 12, along with their moms.

At the time, I was not very happy. I didn't want to leave my children, grandchildren, home, job, or my husband's business. I didn't understand why God wanted me to do this in Florida. After months of prayer and losing my job because I had not gotten well in four months, I finally accepted what He was calling me to do.

My daughter and her husband were youth pastors at Oasis Church at the time, and I was attending there. I kept praying and asking God what He wanted me to do. I didn't know anyone here, and I knew nothing about nonprofits.

One Saturday night, after about six months of praying, I said, *"Lord, I don't know what You want me to do."*

The next day I went to church. I was standing in the hall when Pastor Steve came to me and said, *"How is that house going, Denise?"*

I said, *"I don't know, Steve. I don't know anyone, and I don't know what the Lord wants me to do. I'm praying."*

He said, *"You need a church behind you."*

I said, *"I wish I had a church."*

He said, *"We will be your church."*

He hired a lawyer, we got our corporation papers, and my husband did the 501(c)(3) paperwork. Within a month, Prodigal Daughters Journey Home was born.

I then began looking for a home so we could open the doors. A girl I knew called me about a house available with a lease option to buy. I went to look at it, but they wanted $50,000 down. We had raised $20,000, but we still needed $30,000.

Pastor Steve told me, *"Keep praying, Denise."*

He went home that night and prayed. At the time, Steve did not even have a church building. His church had only been open for three years, and they were meeting in a school. As he prayed, the Lord said to him, *"Do what's important to Me, and I'll do what's important to you."*

Pastor Steve went to his board, and the board agreed to give us $30,000.

Now I know that was the Lord because he had only known me for six months. He stepped out in faith and gave us $30,000, and Prodigal Daughters Journey Home was born.

That very same week, Happy Gospel Church called Pastor Steve about a church on Lorraine Road that they wanted to sell to him for $1 million. The property was worth $1.5 million.

Pastor Steve received his church after being obedient, the same week we opened our doors on April 1.

Isn't God amazing?

Prodigal Daughters Journey Home: Denise & Joe Gattuso
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Healing From Bone Problems & Osteoporosis!

Jesus Will Strengthen Your Bones!

By Rev. Dr. Samuel Massey, India | samueljohnmiracle@gmail.com



Are your bones becoming weak, brittle, or deteriorating? Or are your parents' or relatives' bones becoming weak and brittle?

Have doctors given up, saying, *"This is an old-age problem. We cannot do anything"?*

While I was praying, Jesus told me to tell the people suffering from bone problems and osteoporosis that He has promised to heal everyone who believes His Word:

Jesus has a remedy for every problem and sickness. The Bible has every safety measure and provision.

Jesus will make your Bones Healthy (Strong), as promised in His Word...

It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones. Proverbs 3:8

I believe Jesus wants to heal and strengthen those who are reading this message and praying in faith.

"The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones healthy." Proverbs 15:30

"Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones." Proverbs 16:24

"The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail." Isaiah 58:11

"Your bones shall flourish like green and tender grass. And the [powerful] hand of the Lord shall be revealed and known to be with His servants, but His indignation [shown] to be against His enemies." Isaiah 66:14

JESUS IS THE WORD OF GOD!

Jesus is the Sweetest!

"How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103

"More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." Psalm 19:10

May these wonderful promises of God's Word encourage you to believe, pray, and trust Jesus for His healing power.

With love and prayers,

Your loving brother in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Samuel Massey, B.E. (Elect), M.B.A. (Marketing & Finance), C-DAC, Ph.D.

samueljohnmiracle@gmail.com

PEARL

From Page 5: *... chant. You cost me everything, but I was glad and willing to purchase you. You are mine, and I do not regret the price I paid for you."*

John 10:28 & 29 (NKJV) And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ***29*** My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand

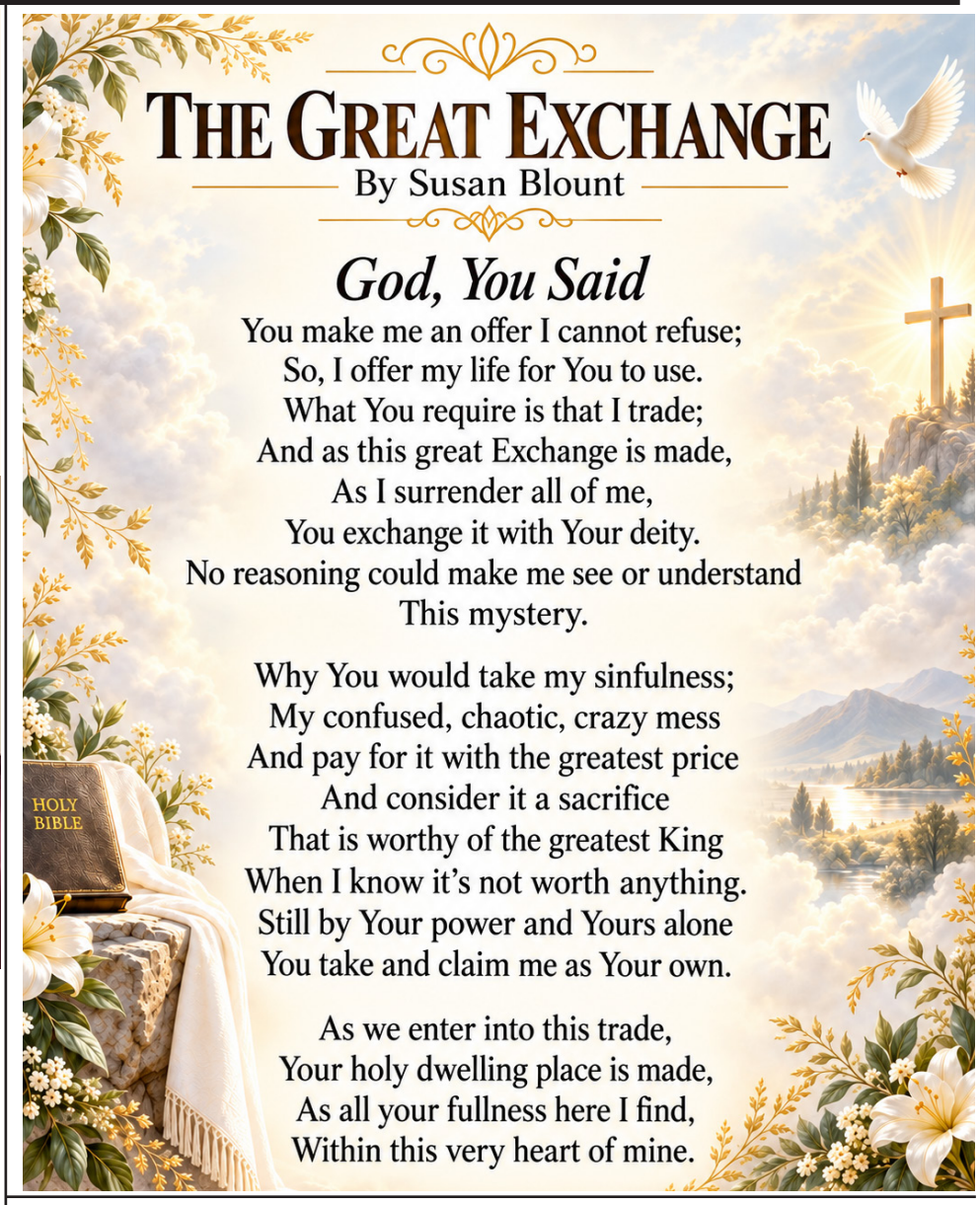
Look at the palm of your hand, at the pearl. And say, you are mine. You cost me everything I have, but I do not regret the price I paid. You are worth it. In my eyes, you are beautiful. You are perfect. That is what Jesus is saying about you, but are you willing to let Him be LORD over your life? Because you do have a choice.

The only thing you have to do is ***Romans 10:9*** (NKJV) that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

It really is that simple. You do not need to get good to get God, because when you get God, you get good. The price has already been paid. Jesus gave everything for you so that you could belong to the kingdom of heaven. You may still stumble from time to time, but each time you repent, God continues shaping you. As I like to say, I am a work in progress.

But the parable does not end with its purchase. A pearl is also formed through a process. In the same way, salvation gives us new life, and grace continues working in us throughout our lives, layer by layer. That is how much He loves you.

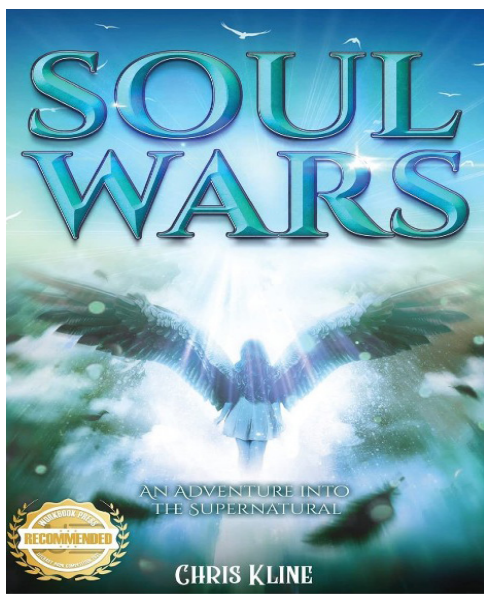
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An adventure into the Supernatural

This is a book with a message. A walk into the supernatural. The story shows how some families have trails of chronic sickness, depression anger, habits of booze and drugs, suicide attempts and tiredness constantly. These are not brought on necessarily by emotions. There is some thing sinister and evil in the background, it'sa battle between angels who fight evil spirits with bolts of lightning and demons fighting for the souls of men. The story follows four families three generations to see how demons are passed from one another. It reads like a movie.





SCAN ▶

Buy at Amazon:

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Worship with Sharilee,

Prophetic Devotionals

Create

Psalm 51:10(NLT)

By Sharilee Rudolph | fruitful4him@outlook.com

Create - Psalm 51:10(NLT)
"Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me."
Abba Father, thank you today for creating in me a clean heart. I am a new creation fashioned by your hand today! Renewed in spirit as I yield to you. Only you are the author of life.
Create in me a clean heart!
So many things come to damage my soul!
My heart gets dusty, then dirty, if not made clean in your presence!
Make my spirit right within me.
I take inventory and examine my spirit that it may line up with your purpose. May the fire on my altar never go out as you make me a house of prayer.
Beloved, your loving Father creates in you today a clean heart.
I pray in Jesus name that you examine your heart and yield to the Master's hand. Remove from you the things that clutter the spirit to stop your intimacy with the Bridegroom. Stay right as the Lord creates a clean heart.
The outcome is a beautiful heart for God!
In Jesus name, Create!
In Jesus name I live.



FEAR NOT! GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL!

An Encouraging Prophetic Word Calling God's People to Trust, Repentance, and Renewed Faith

Received 11/07/2026
by His Servant: Jean Brown Nikolich

A Word Received by Jean Brown Nikolich — November 7, 2026
An Introduction from He's Alive News
In a world filled with uncertainty, confusion, and rapidly changing circumstances, it is easy to become distracted by what we see and hear around us. Yet the Word of God continually reminds us that our Heavenly Father has not lost control, nor has He forgotten His children.
We are pleased to share the following prophetic word received by our sister in Christ, Jean Brown Nikolich, on November 7, 2026.
This message is a timely reminder of God's love, His correction, and His desire to draw His people into a deeper relationship with Him. It encourages believers not to be moved by fear or outward circumstances, but to remain steadfast in faith, trusting in God's perfect timing and His unfailing promises.
THE PROPHETIC WORD
"Those that I love, I correct. Those that I love, I expose… for without exposing, repentance and healing cannot come. My precious ones… when ALL seems to be in a state of chaos and distrust, keep your eyes and hearts focused on Me," says the Lord of Hosts. *"For NOTHING passes by Me that I wasn't aware of. I know ALL things before they occur. This is a stretching... this is a strengthening…. Testing by fire and obedience. FEAR NOT! There is nothing happening now that I am not allowing. Draw closer to Me… Trust in Me… remember who I Am and who you are IN ME. My timing and My Will… walk with Me and continue to Hope in Me… I hold you in my Righteous Right Hand."*
The phrase *"I will uphold you with my righteous right hand"* comes from Isaiah 41:10 in the Bible. It promises divine comfort, strength, and security to God's people in times of fear, exile, and uncertainty.



CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Jeremiah 6:16

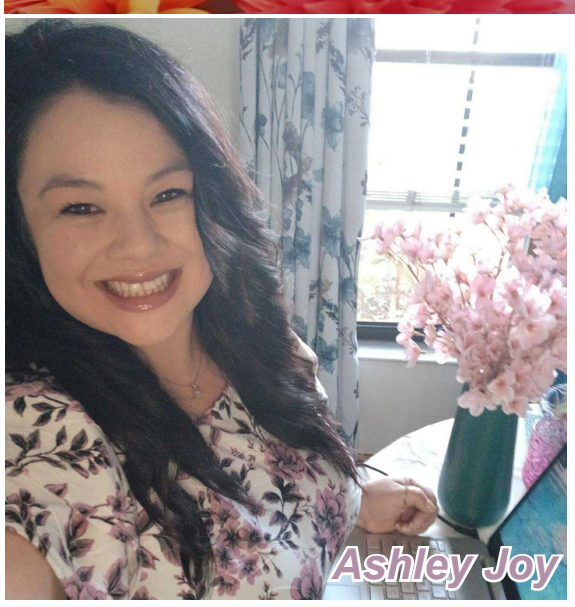
We are not mega, rather small, but mighty. Wheth er you're lonely, missing something or would enjoy knowing the person sitting next to you, you are welcome here. We are family in Christ and family in each other and we have room for more. Lookout, you will see prayer, handshakes and hugs are most common!

You are invited to join us Sunday service or Bible Study.

Location: 1400 10th St. W. Palmetto, FL 34221
Phone: 941-729-2327 | Pastor: James McCrickard
Email: crossroadschristian@verizon.net
Sunday Service: 10AM | Sunday Bible Study: 9AM
Wednesday Bible Study: 10AM
Sunday Service in Español: 12:30PM
Con Pastor David Racke | Iglesia Christiana Hispaña
Website: www.floridacrossroads.com
Youtube chanel: https://tinyurl.com/265h6ra6

Faith-Based Life Coaching: Bloom with Grace

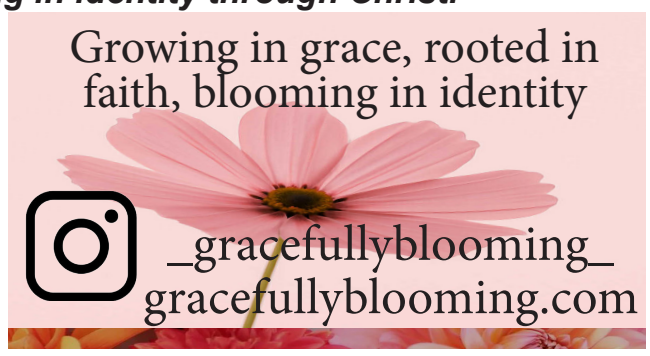
Introducing Gracefully Blooming™



Gracefully Blooming is a faith-based space created to encourage women to grow closer to God and bloom into who He created them to be. Through Scripture, devotionals, and everyday encouragement, my heart is to remind others that no matter what season they are in, God is faithful.

scan: ►

You can find daily encouragement on Instagram and visit: GracefullyBlooming.com to read blog posts and explore the Bloom Shop, where faith-inspired digital resources are available.
Thank you to everyone who has supported, followed, prayed for, and encouraged this journey. Gracefully Blooming is still growing, and I'm excited to see where God leads next.
Gracefully Blooming™
Growing in grace. Rooted in faith. Blooming in identity through Christ.



GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT!

An Amazing Testimony of Answered Prayer During the Fourth Watch

By Bob Ransom | www.witnesstools.org



Around August 3rd, I placed an order with the manufacturer of our Jesus coins. The order was for 7,000 coins, but when I placed the order with the salesman, I had forgotten the stock number and could not find my written list. I asked the salesman to look it up for me and put the order in for 7,000 coins with our website on the back.

The salesman looked up the stock number of the particular coin I wanted and put the order in to be sent to me for my signature. When the confirmation came through, I did not have my glasses on. I knew the salesman would know what I was talking about, so I signed the confirmation and sent it back without reading it.

My signing the document without reading it was the second mistake. The first mistake was that the salesman put the wrong stock number into the system.

Two weeks passed, and I went back and looked at the confirmation I had signed earlier to check the pricing. That's when I realized the error had been made on the salesman's part and compounded by my mistake of signing the confirmation without reading the document.

I immediately called the manufacturer and told them about the error. The wrong coin had already been manufactured and was getting ready to ship. I told the salesman to change the order and put the proper coin into the system.

The coin that had been manufactured with the wrong stock number was a coin we had not carried in a number of years.

The problem now was that I did not have $3,500 for the wrong coin plus $3,500 for the right coin available in our finances. Financially, this was a devastating situation for a nonprofit ministry.

Now I had a problem that I didn't know how to solve. What in the world was I going to do to recover $3,500 from a coin that I didn't carry anymore?

The Fourth Watch

I had read a story about someone who used to pray at 3:00 in the morning. As he explained the story, he would get up at 3:00 a.m. to pray, which was the beginning of the Fourth Watch.

The Fourth Watch is from 3:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. This was the time the Roman soldiers would begin the last watch of the night.

Matthew 14:25 tells us that during the Fourth Watch, Jesus went out to the disciples and walked on the water during the storm.

Mark 6:48 tells the same story during the early morning hours

Exodus 14:24 tells us when the Lord looked down and confused the Egyptian soldiers as His people went through the Red Sea.

Mark 1:35 tells us that Jesus would get up early in the morning to pray to our Father.

I knew these things from reading the Bible, but as many of us read the Bible, the words do not necessarily sink into our minds.

At this particular crisis point in my ministry, a strange thing happened.

The Fourth Watch, praying in the early morning hours, came to my mind when Peanut, our little Chihuahua, woke me up at 3:00 a.m. to go out.

Okay, it's just something that a dog might do.

The next day, the dog got me up at 3:00 a.m. to go out.

This has to stop!

The third day, the dog gets me up at 3:00 in the morning.

Why 3:00 in the morning?

It brought back the thought in my head that it was 3:00 in the morning and the beginning of the Fourth Watch.

Is God trying to tell me to get up and pray, to talk to Him, to listen to Him, or what?

Okay, Father, I'm up! I'm coming out to pray.

Now, when it's 3:00 a.m. or later, I get up to pray.

Oh, and the dog doesn't come in to wake me up anymore at 3:00!

The Battle Is His, Not Mine!

It was at this time that I realized something. Even though I knew it from reading the Bible, it hadn't really sunk in.

I needed to give my problems to God because the battle is His, not mine!

I had a serious financial dilemma that I could not fix. I turned it over to Him, and I said, *"Father, this battle is Yours, not mine. You tell us in Your Word that the battle is Yours."*

I prayed, and I prayed, every day that God would fix this financial problem.

I had a coin coming that I couldn't use. I had a coin coming that I always use.

What do I do?

I give it to my Father.

It's His battle, not mine.

And I did, with my heart and soul, give the battle to Him.

GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT!

I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM THE WAREHOUSE MANAGER THAT THERE WAS AN ERROR IN THE MANUFACTURING OF THE COINS!

He said, *"Mr. Ransom, we made a mistake in manufacturing the wrong coin."*

I said, *"I know. I have already reordered the right coin."*

He said, *"No, you don't understand. We made the wrongcoin."*

I said, *"I know. We've already reordered the proper coin."*

He said, *"No, you don't understand. We manufactured the Salvation coin, not the John 14:6 coin that you wanted."*

I said, *"No! I just received 5,000 of those last week. I can't handle $3,500 mistakes. I don't have the finances!"*

The manager said, *"This is our error. You do not have to take these coins until you need them. The coin you want, with your website on it, is going into manufacturing as we speak."*

I said, *"What about the coin without our website that was made by mistake?"*

He said, *"That was never made because we made the mistake and did the Salvation coin."*

He said they would hold them until I needed them in a month or so.

So financially, it was like the proper coin that I wanted was the only one made!

I COULD NOT HAVE PLANNED THIS, BUT GOD DID!

GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT!

What a great God! He answered my prayers and took the financial burden away!

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T HEAR ME, GOD DID IT! GOD DID IT!

God took a $10,100 financial problem and turned it into a simple $3,500 order!

Thank You, Father, for Your favor and for answering my prayers!

Is God Calling You During the Fourth Watch?

If something wakes you up during the Fourth Watch, God might be calling you!

Get up and go somewhere to pray for a half hour or 45 minutes. You can always go back to bed later.

DON'T DISCOUNT GOD BECAUSE YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE GETTING UP YET. HE KNOWS WHAT YOU ARE THINKING!

I never say, *"I'll do it later."*

Get up and do it now!

Is it convenient for you or God?

I'll go with God, thank you!

Don't know what to pray about? Ask God!

Give thanks first, and ask Him to show you what He wants to show you. Keep thanking Him for what you are thankful for, and He will show you.

You have a problem? Give it to Him.

Your problem is His to fight, not yours.

God says not to worry about anything. Let God fix it.

TRUST HIM!

When you truly trust Him, He will fix it.

I gave Him my problem, and HE DID IT!

GOD DID IT! YES, HE DID! GOD DID IT! LOL! GOD DID IT!

GET UP AND PRAY!

God bless you!

A UNIQUE MINISTRY SCHOOL IN BRADENTON

If you are looking for a way to go deeper with Jesus, take your leadership to the next level, or are simply looking for a great gap year experience, take a look at Kingdom School of Revival based in Bradenton, Florida. We believe Jesus is doing something really unique, powerful, and beautiful through this school. There is both a calling and passion with the school overseers to raise up healthy leaders who overflow in the authentic and powerful love of Jesus to bring His Kingdom influence to every area of society. Kingdom School Director Benjamin Houghton writes, *"We believe there are no limits to the measure by whhich a life can be transformed in the hands of Jesus, and no limits to what Jesus can do through a life fully laid down. We are greatly honored to serve those who Jesus calls to Kingdom School of Revival and we have very high beliefs about where Jesus is taking them"*





When the Supernatural Becomes Natural

Amazing Testimonies of God's Healing Power

By He's Alive News Staff

www.joanpearce.org | www.ficcwordchurch.org

Does God still perform miracles today? Can the same Jesus who healed the sick, restored the crippled, and performed mighty works in the Bible still do those things today?

Evangelist Joan Pearce has witnessed remarkable miracles throughout her years of ministry. In her book, When the Supernatural Becomes Natural, she shares powerful testimonies of people whose lives were dramatically changed through the healing power of Jesus Christ.

The following is an excerpt from her book, describing how a woman suffering from lupus experienced a remarkable healing simply by hearing about God's love.

Healing from lupus

When you walk in the supernatural, wonderful things happen. Miracles will happen. There are so many kinds of miracles. Let me share several more miracles.

There was a lady who had terrible lupus disease and was crippled and could hardly walk. She got worse and worse. Her husband loved to go walking. I was preaching a message on love, not on healing.

While I preached the message on love, she understood that God loved her and was totally healed.

Now that God healed her and she could walk, she said I'm going to be in a 4-kilometer race with my husband.

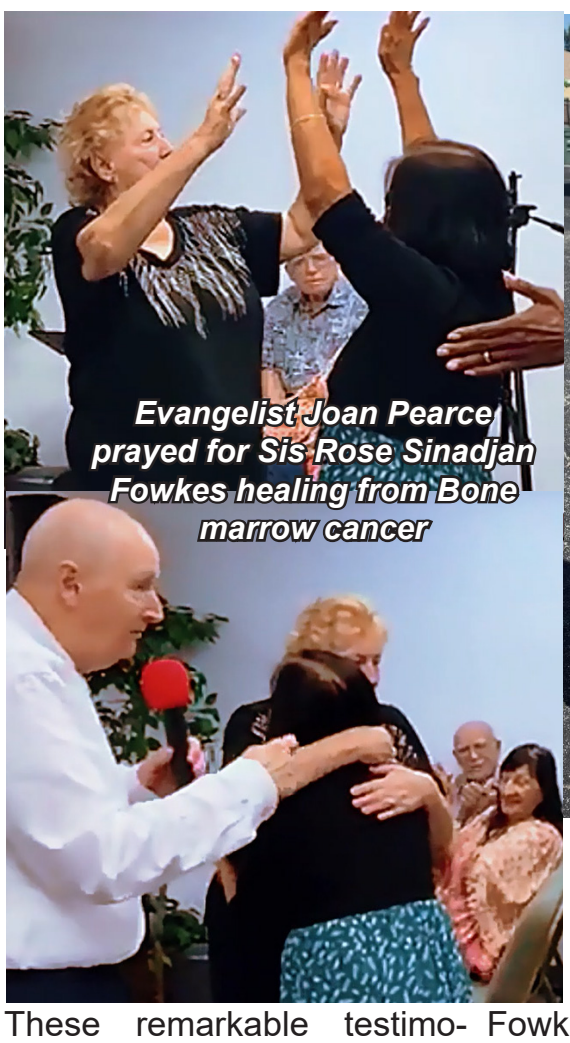
So she put a number on her back because you can either walk the race or you can run the race. Her husband was going to run, but she was going to walk. She had her number on for the section for the women to walk. Then, all of a sudden, she changed her mind.

The Lord healed her, so she said I don't want to walk it; I want to run it.

So they gave her a different number and put her in the women's section to run it. She not only ran the race; she won the race, never to go back and be crippled again. It was all because of Jesus.

Excerpt from Chapter 3, pages 62–63, of When the Supernatural Becomes Natural by Evangelist Joan Pearce.

We've Witnessed God's Healing Power Right Here in Bradenton!





These remarkable testimonies are not limited to distant places or events from years gone by. We have witnessed the healing power of God right here own congregation!

During one of our previous miracle crusades with Evangelist Joan Pearce, our own Sister Rose Fowkes experienced what she testifies was a miraculous healing from bone marrow cancer.

Sister Rose continues to attend our church services today, and we rejoice that she remains cancer-free. Her healing was also confirmed by her doctor!

What a wonderful testimony of the healing power of Jesus Christ!

The Bible declares in Acts 10:34 that *"God is no respecter of persons."* We believe the same Lord who healed then is still healing today!

You're Invited to a Special Miracle Service!

Evangelist Joan Pearce will be ministering at Faith International Christian Center on Sunday, January 3, 2027, at 6:00 PM.

We warmly invite everyone to join us for this special evening of ministry, faith, and prayer for the sick.

Are you believing God for healing in your body? Do you have a loved one who needs a miracle? Come and hear the Word of God, be encouraged by these testimonies, and receive prayer.

We believe Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Come expecting great things from the Lord!

Faith International Christian Center
1831 14th Street West
Bradenton, FL
Sunday, January 3, 2027 — 6:00 PM
Everyone is welcome!
For more information:
https://www.joanpearce.org/
https://ficcwordchurch.org/



MY LIFE IS GOD'S STORY

By Frances Marx | yoursuccessadvocate@gmail.com



The life of all Christ followers is God's story of redemption, salvation, peace, love, and joy.

As I was reviewing the posts for this website, I was struck by the volume of posts I have made over the last three years. I have over 120 posts in which I share things that God has done in my life and in the lives of others. I am humbled and grateful for all that God has done in my life. The posts I've shared are just a few of the ways that God has helped me. God is truly amazing!

I say this to encourage all of you to start looking more intentionally for the ways God is working in your lives. The more you look, the more you will see and realize the impact He can have in your life. In Acts 10: 34-35, Peter explains that God welcomes all who seek Him. "Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."

In the song God's Story, By Ann Wilson,there is a passage that says that we are all just one prayer away from a testimony (of what God has done and is doing in our lives).

That is so true.

John 21:25 says, " Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."

Let's all keep looking for God's blessings in our lives and share those with others to encourage them in the Lord.

If you missed some of the other entries, please go to the blog section of this website and click on each section of the blog to read previous articles. Podcasts are available as well.



OUR NEW LIFE BEYOND THE CROSS

By Chris Berster - www.Lifebeyondthecross.com



Jesus died on the cross and then rose from the dead intentionally. This was the very purpose for which Jesus came to earth as a human!

His mission was to become our sacrificial lamb – giving His life so we could receive a supernatural life here on earth and then eventually in heaven. This is the "Divine Exchange" - His life for ours. By His death and resurrection, Jesus enabled us to return to His Kingdom and experience God's supernatural design for our lives while still living here on earth

In the beginning God created humanity in His own image and likeness. He also created us for intimate fellowship with Himself. Adam and Eve lost that intended intimacy. Yet, God continued to love us, and seek that intimacy, but humanity again rejected Him in Exodus 20:19.

Exodus 20:19: *"Then they said to Moses, 'You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.'"*

As a result, the Levitical Priesthood became an intermediary between God and His people. As good as this was, it wasn't God's best. Remember God regularly walked in the garden with His creation. This is what God wanted. - a personal relationship with humanity.

Because this relationship was lost by free choice, it could only be restored by free choice.

When we accept Jesus' sacrifice of our own free will, God is so excited.

• He welcomes us back,
• He recreates our spirit,
• He transforms us into His own children, and
• He comes to dwell in us.
• We become God's tabernacles here on earth. Talk about intimacy!

Once this union and intimacy is restored, Jesus desires to see us enjoy His will and His Kingdom here on earth. This includes everything He suffered and died for. Now this is all ours. It's a fait accompli, a done deal. Unfortunately, many believers do not enjoy God's kingdom here on earth as He intends.

Matt 6:10 *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Since we are already healed, delivered, transformed, equipped, and empowered we don't need to beg God for these blessings. We need to receive them by faith.

Matthew 8:13: *Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour. NKJ*

Mark 11:24: *For this reason, I am telling you, whatever things you ask for in prayer [in accordance with God's will], believe [with confident trust] that you have received them, and they will be given to you. AMP*

With God, all His blessings are always over and above what we could ask or imagine. So as wonderful as all this is, it is only one aspect of our new life in God's Kingdom.

Another aspect of this blessing is that we are now seated with Christ in heavenly places, high above principalities and powers. (Eph. 1:21, 2:6). A key characteristic of this position is having absolute spiritual authority, and complete triumph over earthly and demonic forces. All these characteristics are now a natural part of our new "life beyond the cross."

What is this "life beyond the cross"? it is simply our new life as born-again believers here on earth, in God's kingdom.

With His death and resurrection, Jesus began the new covenant or the New Testament, made our salvation possible, and provided His kingdom for us here on earth.

We pray for this every time we pray: "Thy kingdom come; they will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

This is God's will and purpose for us, yet many of us don't enjoy this. Why is that? Perhaps we cannot believe God wants us to enjoy an intimate relationship with Him along with the untold blessings of His Kingdom.

The beliefs mentioned above require a revelation only God can give. None of this can be understood with our carnal minds. But, praise God, it's not up to us. As we study God's Word, and commune with Him, His revelations will flood and transform our souls and lives, so we can become as He is on this earth.

Jesus said that as newly recreated believers we are on this earth as He is.

1 John 4:17: *In this [union and fellowship with Him], love is completed and perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment [with assurance and boldness to face Him]; because as He is, so are we in this world. AMP*

This is because the same power that raised Christ from the dead now lives in us. In Ephesians 1:18-20, Paul prays the following for all believers.

Ephesians 1:18–20: *By having the eyes of your heart flooded with light, so that you can know and understand the hope to which He has called you, and and how rich is His glorious inheritance in the saints (His set-apart ones), and [so that you can know and understand] what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power in and for us who believe, as demonstrated in the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His [own] right hand in the heavenly [places]. AMP*

But that's not all, there's more! In Luke 9:1 & 2, Jesus gave all believers power and authority over demons, to cure all diseases, to preach the Kingdom of God, and to bring emotional healing as well.

We see the same in Mark 16:17-18,

Mark 16:17–18: *And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe:*
• in My name they will drive out demons;
• they will speak in new languages;
• they will pick up serpents; and
• [even] if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them;
• they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well.

This is talking about you and me as we experience our new lives beyond the cross, in God's kingdom.

All of God's promises and provisions are meant for believers in the here and now, not only the "sweet by and by."

If we believe God's Word is meant to be taken literally, then these few scriptures alone show us a different reality from what most believers see as God's will for them.

How are you experiencing God's kingdom in your present life?

Do you ever see yourself seated with Christ in heavenly places? How would doing so, change your life?

Ephesians 2:6: *And He raised us up together with Him [when we believed], and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, [because we are] in Christ Jesus. AMP*

Please notice the past tense for what Jesus did and the present tense for what we are now to enjoy.

Unfortunately, all too often salvation is just viewed as a ticket to heaven. But thank God, Jesus did not save us and then abandoned us to our own carnal mindset and the enemy's domain.

God also wants us to experience the supernatural transformation of our souls (our spirits are already recreated) by the renewing of our minds as God's reveals His Word to us. (Romans 8)

Prayerfully meditating on God's Word brings us His supernatural life changing REVELATIONS. These revelations are different from just learning something intellectually. Remember the Pharisees, and Sadducees knew the Word very well, yet they crucified Christ. How we respond to these revelations determines our transformation or the lack there of.

God's revelations bring heart knowledge, excitement, and potential for transformation. Let's look at an example of this in Matthew 16:15. Jesus asked his disciples: "Who do you say I am?'

Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus was pleased because Peter heard from the Holy Spirit. He received God's revelation.

Matthew 16:17–18: *Then Jesus answered him, "Blessed [happy, spiritually secure, favored by God] are you, Simon son of Jonah, because flesh and blood (mortal man) did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I say to you that you are [d]Peter, and on this [e]rock I will build My church; and the [f]gates of Hades (death) will not overpower it [by preventing the resurrection of the Christ]." AMP*

BY THE WAY:

An inaccurate understanding of the difference between the Greek for these two words, Peter and Rock, has caused enormous doctrinal error. The publishers of the Amplified Bible provided the following clarification.

Greek *Petros*, a small or detached stone.Greek *petra,* bedrock or a huge rock. Jesus uses a simple play on the Greek words *petros* and *petra* in this verse. Throughout the New Testament, Christ is clearly depicted as both the foundation *petra* and chief cornerstone of the church. Here He praises Peter for his accurate confession of faith in Him as Messiah. Peter explains the role of believers as "living stones" in the church which is built on Christ as the foundation and cornerstone (see 1 pet 2:5-6). copyright © 2015 by The Lockman Foundation, La Habra, CA 90631. All rights reserved.

1 Peter 2:5–6: *You [believers], like living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house for a holy and dedicated priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.*

In 1 Peter 4:10 we read that Jesus himself will transform, complete, and make us what we ought to be. This is accomplished by us receiving and acting upon God's revelations, and not by our own reasoning or efforts.

Therefore, it should be our goal, as we study His Word, to create our own love relationship with God who, most of all, wants a love relationship with you. He wants to reveal Himself, His love, His kingdom, and His plans to each of us specifically. Such revelations made the early church grow and prosper supernaturally. These revelations will do the same for us—not by power nor by might but by My Spirit, says the Lord. **Zechariah 4:6**

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Saturday, November 21st at 11:00 am

Listen & Watch Julia Rose

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What If Your Family Could Step Inside the Greatest Story Ever Told?

A Spectacular Live Bible Circus Show Is Coming to Sarasota–Bradenton This Holiday Season

BRADENTON, FL — What if you could do more than watch the greatest story ever told? What if you could step inside it, put on a costume, take on a role, and become part of the story yourself?

This holiday season, families throughout *Sarasota* and *Bradenton* are invited to experience **The Greatest Show of All — A Bible Circus Show**, coming *November 28, 2026, through January 10, 2027*.

An ***ActorsBible Live Family Experience***, this unique production takes audiences on an extraordinary journey through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. It begins with the excitement of a high-energy, circus-style production featuring spectacular theatre and aerial arts, then unfolds into the greatest love story ever told: a **King's search and rescue for a Bride for His Son**.

But this is more than a show to sit back and watch! Guided by the innovative ***ActorsBible App***, audience members are invited to choose biblical roles, put on costumes provided for the production, and become part of the action. Children and adults alike get to step into the story and experience the Bible firsthand.

Through 21 dramatic scenes, families journey from Creation to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of His return. Together, they discover how the Bible tells one great story of God's love and His plan to rescue and restore humanity.

"The Bible is the greatest story ever told, but we believe it was never meant to be just a story we read or hear about," says Ben Myers, creator of ActorsBible and director of the production. *"We want families to experience it together, step into the story, and discover that God has given each of us a part to play."*

Set beneath a magnificent Big Top circus tent, the production combines the excitement of live entertainment with the life-changing message of the Gospel.

The fun continues at the **Bible Carnival**, a hands-on family attraction where children can try simple circus arts, enjoy animal encounters, and explore a Biblical Marketplace filled with the sights, sounds, and atmosphere of Bible times. Churches, families, and community groups are encouraged to attend together and invite friends and neighbors. It's a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with the community in a fresh, exciting, and memorable way.

EVENT INFORMATION

THE GREATEST SHOW OF ALL

A Bible Circus Show | An ActorsBible Live Family Experience

Dates: November 28, 2026 – January 10, 2027

Location: 6502 14th Street West
Bradenton, FL 34207

Showtimes: 1:00 PM & 6:00 PM

Bible Carnival: 3:00–6:00 PM

SPECIAL FAMILY OFFER: Every adult ticket purchased qualifies for one FREE child ticket (ages 12 and younger).

Tickets and information:
www.TheGreatestShowOfAll.com

Step Into the Bible. Play a Role. Experience the Greatest Story Ever Told.



ABOUT ACTORSBIBLE

ActorsBible is an innovative family discipleship platform that helps families experience the Bible together through dramatic scripts, role-playing, visual storytelling, and guided Scripture engagement. Its mission is to help parents bring God's Word to life in their homes and equip the next generation to know and follow Him.

A Journey of Faith: Finding Jesus, Finding Home

From religious tradition to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ

Trudi Theis

A Personal Testimony of Salvation and God's Faithfulness
Romans 10:9–10 (KJV)
"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Growing up, I attended the Lutheran Church with my family in Hamilton, OH. There were six kids in my family. I was the oldest of two brothers and three sisters. As a teenager, I went through two years of confirmation classes where I memorized scripture and learned about the Bible. There was never any mention, however, of being born again or having a relationship with Jesus.

After college, I rented an apart-ment with three other women and began teaching at an elementary school. Lo and behold, I married our next-door neighbor, JohnTheis. We soon settled down in Centerville, OH, and attended his family's Methodist Church.

During that time, several of the wom en in the church invited me to go with them to the local Women's Aglow. That's where I accepted Jesus as my Savior.

At one of the monthly Aglow meetings, everyone said the sinner's prayer together, and I joined them. At the nudging of a backslidden friend, I went forward to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, too. Shortly after that, I began praying in a new heavenly language.

Moving forward in my faith, I raised my two boys in the ways of the Lord. At the time, my husband was interested in other things. He didn't really want to be a part of church, and he didn't want to be married either. We separated for several months. When we finally got back together, we moved our family to Sarasota, FL, to pursue a business endeavor. For a while, we all attended St. Boniface Episcopal Church, but soon after, John dropped out.

I began working at Sarasota Christian School, teaching 4th grade. Before long, the kids and I started attending Grace Fellowship, a church that met right in the school. After a couple years, the church acquired property downtown and moved. At the new location, I became more involved in their music program, playing the piano and eventually leading worship.

Several years later, that church closed, and I found myself looking for a new church. One Sunday, I attended a church meeting where the pastor was preaching a message on tithing to your home church.

I asked the Lord where my home church was, and He replied, "You are home!"

Soon after, that church merged with another church. Together, they became known as Restoration Fellowship, the place where I attend to this very day!

Fast forward to today. I'm widowed. Not long ago, my son Ryan went to be with the Lord. My other son Ethan and his wife Stacy live nearby with their three wonderful children: Sam, Emma, and Abby.

For the last 10 years, I've been a Mary Kay consultant. I also enjoy machine embroidery work, as well as being active in many ministries: Feeding for Christ, Sarasota Aglow, nursing home ministry and visitation, Revive, and Bonfire Ministries. It's an honor to be a part of The Bonfire, where the teaching is amazing, and the community atmosphere is so supportive. God is good!

One of the many personal accounts featured in Firebrands One, written by Gail A. Sullivan.
He's Alive News extends its sincere appreciation to Gail A. Sullivan and The Bonfire in Sarasota, Florida, for allowing us to share this testimony.
To find the books, visit www.lulu.com and search for the Firebrands series by Gail A. Sullivan.
This testimony was taken from The Firebrands Series - Real Life Sories that will Ignite the Fire of God in Your Heart, by Gail A. Sullivan.

