

Newsletter: Value the struggle, time, peace, truth, and the sacrifice

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Moments in Time	2
The Sacrifice of Praise	3
Do You Believe?	3
In Search of Peace	4
Cast Your Care	5



Mission: To equip women to overcome life challenges and find God's purpose and fulfillment through prayer, teaching and mentoring relationships

Vision: Daughters of Hope is called to lead women towards spiritual, emotional and physical wholeness through the application of biblical principles to their lives.

November 3, 2018 – Don't Bury Your Talent

"Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will serve before kings; they will not serve before officials of low rank." (Proverbs 22:29).



Come join us in this thought provoking, motivating discussion and get some tips from current entrepreneurs for starting a business. They will also have their products on display.

Location & Time:
Bowie Gymnasium
4100 Northview Drive
Bowie, MD 20716
Saturday, November 3, 2018
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Please RSVP to:
daughtersohope@aol.com

Cord of Three Strands

I was blessed to witness the wedding of my granddaughter recently. My granddaughter incorporated in her wedding ceremony the cord of three strands to braid. In preparation of the cord of three strands for the ceremony, my husband decided to assemble a knot with the three strands. Now let me reiterate my wonderful husband was not asked to put a knot in the three cords. He did so with his free will and justified his actions with not understanding the purpose of the three cords. I recall sitting in the wedding ceremony next to my lovely husband watching my granddaughter and her soon to be husband struggle to untie the knot. The struggle was obvious as the

pastor went over to the couple, who were struggling to untie the knot, to encourage the couple. The couple finally was able to get the knot out, and they successfully braided the three cords.

Watching my granddaughter and now grandson struggle to untie the knot I thought of the struggles this couple will likely encounter. Seeing the couple struggle with the cord of three strands illustrated that when Jesus is at the center of and purposely entangled within their relationship, they will not be protected from all struggles but will be able to work through the struggles which God allows them to face.

Cord of Three Strands- continued

I revealed this revelation to the couple, and it was amusing to hear my grandson share how my granddaughter was fussing at him with the frustration of braiding the cord of three strands. Now if I prepared the cord of three strands, instead of my husband, I would have made it easy for the couple to braid by not putting a knot in the three strands. Subsequently, I would not have seen the illustration of Jesus being in the middle and the two of them working things out. I challenge people in relationships to not only look at love as a feeling, as feelings come and go but to look at love like Christ loved the church where you make a spiritual

decision to love your partner or friend through good times and through the struggles.

Ecclesiastes 4:12b (NKJV) states, "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

With Jesus in the center of every relationship, you will be able to prevail. Satan will not be able to destroy the relationship. You cannot do it alone; we need each other to prevail.

--Linda Gary, DOHM Founding President



Moments in Time

For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you" I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2

To realize the value of **ONE YEAR**, ask a student who failed a grade.

To realize the value of **ONE MONTH**, ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

To realize the value of **ONE WEEK**, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realize the value of **ONE HOUR**, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

To realize the value of **ONE MINUTE**, ask a person who missed the train.

To realize the value of **ONE SECOND**, ask a person who just avoided an accident.

To realize the value of **ONE MILLISECOND**, ask the person who won a silver medal in the Olympics.

Treasure every moment that the Lord gives you! And treasure it more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time.

And remember, time waits for no one.

Yesterday is history.

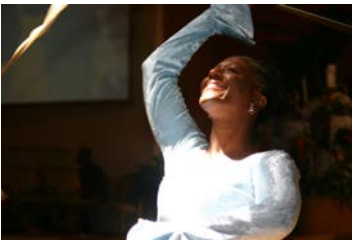
Tomorrow is a mystery.

Today is a gift. That's why it's called the present.

Author Unknown



--Tomiko Hankerson, DOHM Secretary



The Sacrifice of Praise

Hebrews 13:15 says, "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

There are times when we go through "bad" times (sickness, money problems, relationship issues, etc.); and, then there are times when we have "good" times. During the good times, we are so overjoyed with thankfulness and giving all praise unto God for all the blessings that He is bestowing upon us; this is an easy praise.

So, how do we respond to God when we are going through the "bad" times? Are we despondent, sad, giving up hope, lose all joy, even though we prayed and gave it all to God? And when God does not answer our prayers quickly, we continue to have no joy, because the "bad" times are so overwhelming.

However, as we are continually growing in our relationship with God, we should come to the reality, that comes what may – in good times and bad times – God is still worthy of all our praise and

worship. For in all of our circumstances, He is in the midst working it all out on our behalf, for our good (Romans 8:28), and while doing so, as we rest in Him and know that He has it all under control, we can still praise Him even in the midst of our circumstances.

That is our sacrifice of praise, that we can still praise Him even in the midst of our bad times; for even in these times, God is molding, shaping and getting us ready that, as we rest and depend on Him during our bad times, He will give us the strength, peace, and wisdom we need to bring us through victorious. We can then look back on these bad times and have an awesome testimony of God's faithfulness and in seeing the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) grow and work within us, that we too can "pass the fruit." So, praise God in the good times, praise God in the bad times; He is amazing and worthy of all our praise in what He will do in, through, and out of all our situations, and we can say Halleluiah anyhow!

--Linda Price, DOHM member

Do You Believe?

It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in humans. (Psalm 118:8)

In the wake of different legislations under consideration, and if passed could disrupt your life and the lives of your loved ones, there comes a point when one must ask the question, "Whose report will I believe?" We the people of God must know that His word is true, unfailing and everlasting. (Psalm 46)

On the left are just a few scripture reminders to read, pray and meditate on.

--Min. Geri Stancil, DOHM Vice President

Isaiah 54: 14, 17
 II Corinthians 10:4, 5:21
 Ephesians 1:3, 3: 16-17
 Ephesians 6
 Psalm 91
 Matthew 5:44
 Psalm 112:1-3
 John 10:10
 Galatians 3:13
 Luke 10:19
 Job 22:28
 Psalm 23

In Search of Peace

I dealt with extreme depression for many years. When I became a new Christian, I was elated when I learned of the many promises of God, especially the promise of His peace. I now recall being so annoyed because I was just as depressed after as I had been before my first fast - - a full-week of only drinking water. Afterward, I questioned my lack of deliverance. I had done what the scripture said. I recall feeling as if God was saying "what if I never (deliver you)? Will you still worship me? Will you still want to serve me?" I realized God wanted me to examine the motive of my heart. I was relating to Him as if he was a Spiritual Santa Clause. I didn't know Him.

My life continued to become more difficult. I had always been an excellent student, but I found myself failing a class. I inquired again. The scripture "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you" came to mind. Seek the kingdom? I thought to myself. I've joined the church, I got baptized, and I listen to Christian teaching and music on the radio... Somewhere I heard "seek Him like you'd seek hidden treasure..." It was yet another call to go deeper. Looking back, I realize that my so-called faith in Him was only my acknowledgment or belief in His existence. James says "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." I still didn't know Him.

I didn't think things could get worse, but they did. My marriage was difficult. Each time I went to God with a complaint about my husband, He'd bring attention to something about me that He wanted to discuss. Then came scriptures like - Esteem others as more than yourself ...,

forgive as Christ has forgiven you. My relationship with God was forming. He was renewing my mind with His thoughts and helping me realize it's not about me. He was teaching me to "take my yoke upon you and learn of me" saying "Follow me. Let me show you how to respond in this situation."

Depressed people usually have a low view of themselves and their ability to change their circumstances - they feel hopeless. The concept of spiritual birth and becoming a new creature in Christ is foundational. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new" This promise gives hope to the hopeless. Colossians 3 says "take off" certain negative behaviors and "put on" Christ-like ones. I wanted to "put on the new man, who is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him" I struggled until I associated the "taking off" and "putting on" actions with clothes. First comes a decision and then an action. How do we change clothes? Decide first the clothes need to be changed. Then take the dirty ones off and put the clean ones on. Unwilling to "take off" old habits? If I got stuck while attempting to change into a dress, I'd ask for assistance. I recall crying out to God saying I want to do as you've asked, but I can't control my emotions (anger, bitterness, etc.). I need your help ..., and He helped me!



In Search of Peace - continued

As I've grown in the knowledge of who God is, He's changed my character. As I change my perspective, things around me change. It's been over twenty-five years now since that first fast, and I'm still on my journey seeking more of Him and His peace. I happily confess - - - I've been delivered, I'm no longer depressed! I still need much more growth, but as Paul says

in Philippians 3 "not as though I have already attained . . . I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.". As I do, I experience a greater measure of the peace that passes human understanding!

--Cornette Cole, DOHM Member

What is that you are carrying, "Cast Your Care"

By keeping or holding on to our cares are we saying what Christ did was not adequate, He needs to get back up on that cross and sacrifice himself again because what He did was not enough, it did not cover this (whatever this is). The enemy, Satan can use worry against you, is in fact, seeking a way to destroy you with it. We need to practice staying vigilant, focused and aware others have been through or experienced our same discomforts. This should encourage you to stand firm knowing you alone have not endured what may be now causing you to "fret." Your issue is not new to God.

Care can also mean controlling, the need to control, personally handle a situation. While God's word encourages control, it refers to self-control, not circumstance or situational control. We cannot control people or society that doesn't know or respect God, nor how they want to change our world, and our culture. This level of care (anxiety, worry) becomes burdensome, weighty, not easily solved by you alone. The Lord cares for us, but we need to be willing to go to Him, allow Him into the situation and accept His leading. The Lord may not take the care from us entirely but will hold us up, sustain, support us in it, so we don't feel like running off to a corner and screaming or walk around in despair.

The word "cast" can mean throw (something) forcefully in a specified direction: Synonyms: toss, fling, pitch, hurl, bowl, dash, lob, launch, flip, let fly, direct, discharge, project, propel, send, chuck, heave, sling

An acrostic:

Consider God
Allow Him in
Surrender the outcome
Trust he has the best plan and answer which may involve you or not

Casting your care involves trust and prayer. Going to God in prayer is the practical step, it means you are turning to Him, good first step, now believe He hears and will get involved. Let God work for you because your strength and energy are finite, but God's not. He can work while you rest. So now you don't have to go around burden down, toss it, fling it, let it fly and say bye, bye. God can handle it.

--Min. Connie Lowe, DOHM Treasurer



Daughters of Hope

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