



A WORD IN SEASON by Stephanie Romero

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. (Matthew 9:12)

It would be pretty silly to make an appointment with your family doctor, only to show up in his office and when he asks, "What seems to be the problem?" you reply, "Nothing."

But in this verse Jesus isn't really talking about going to the doctor when you have a chronic cough. Before this, Jesus had been at Matthew's house having dinner. Matthew didn't have the best reputation around. He was a tax collector, a thief in the eyes of many. But not only that, many other sinners came and joined Jesus for dinner.

This didn't look so good to the religious leaders of the time, the Pharisees. They wanted to know how it was someone so divine could sit with the undesirables of this world.

This reminds me of church. The church is for broken people, of which we all are. It doesn't matter what your background is or if you got saved last week or 50 years ago, we aren't whole yet. And we won't be until we make it to heaven.

Yet even though the church is for broken people, we are often too ashamed or afraid to admit that we are. We would rather have the appearance of having it all together, as if we have already been made whole.

This leaves little room to be healed, if we are already declaring we are. Just as someone with cancer wouldn't deny life-saving radiation, so we shouldn't deny the Life Saver. But we do that when we pretend that everything is perfect.

It takes vulnerability and the chance that someone will come against us when we are honest. But Jesus doesn't care about the masks we wear. He longs to make a difference and He uses the church to do this.

If you can't be broken in the church, what chance do you have out there in the world?



Eileen Piasecki



Eileen and her husband Gabe will be married 50 years in February 2012. They have six children: Angela (Jim), Andrew (Laura), Jon (Jean), Gabrielle (Brian), Mark and Elizabeth (Michael) and 20 grandchildren ranging from the ages of 8 to 24. They have lived in their Franklin home 45 years. Eileen has been a member of Oak Creek Assembly of God since 1980. She marvels at what God has done in the past 30 years and looks forward to being a part of the future.

Gabe & Eileen like traveling with the Prime Timers now that she is retired. She enjoys gardening, reading, sewing, knitting and crocheting. Eileen loves serving on the Sunday School Committee, the Missions Committee and Women's Ministry team as the treasurer. She enjoys getting to know people at church on a more personal basis. She also enjoys the special programs that our church sponsors. Eileen works alongside Mary Turner and Patty Hren on spotlights for special programs and takes part of a Home Life Group.

Eileen's vision for Women's Ministry is helping to facilitate people with vision. She is a service oriented person, who claims that she doesn't possess a creative personality. "Tell me your ideas and I'll help make them manageable." Eileen would like to see everyone involved in some aspect of the church life whether great or small. "The feeling of being part of loving people into the Kingdom of God is very fulfilling".

Eileen's favorite scripture is: Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God." It reminds her that God is in control and she can rest in Him.

Tuesday Girls Day Out



Blogosphere

Heart of a Mother's Prayers is a weekly devotional that encourages, challenges and inspires moms of all ages. It is designed to help mothers learn more and more how to rely upon prayer, no matter what season they are in with their children.

<http://heartofamothersprayers.wordpress.com/>

Moms in Touch (MIT) starts on Tuesday, September 6 and runs every 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Multi-purpose Room.

We will be studying from the book: "The Ministry of Motherhood: Following Christ's Example in Reaching the Hearts of Our Children".

Heart 2 Heart (H2H) starts on Tuesday, September 13th. H2H meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month in the Multi Purpose room from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

We will be studying "Breaking Free" by Beth Moore.

Childcare provided for
Moms in Touch and Heart 2 Heart

When You Look In The Mirror

By Diane Hansen



When you look in the mirror
Just what do you see
Each blemish and wrinkle
Or unfading beauty

The world loves illusions
Perfection their goal
While God longs to free you
Unchaining your soul

So why do you labor
Believing their lies
For beauty is fleeting
And perfection, disguise

Man looks to appearance
For value and worth
With masks of deception
Instead of the truth

God came to bring beauty
His nature is grace
His eyes are acceptance
When He looks at your face

So judge not the outward
Or how things appear
For the heart is what matters
When you look in the mirror

TESTIMONY CORNER

Purpose of a Praying and Staying Wife

I'm looking forward to the holidays and preparing for them with great anticipation this year. Last year our holidays were different. On July 1, 2010, Bill was diagnosed with mantle cell lymphoma, so we were in the midst of our cancer journey during the holidays. Bill was hospitalized at Froedtert for most of December.

Bill and I have been together for 43 years, with 38 of those years as husband and wife. This cancer journey has been the greatest challenge of our marriage. I was in shock, disbelief and denial; just as I was at the times of Bill's job losses and the death of our son. I pleaded, "No, God!" Once again, I had no control over the situation.

I don't want this testimony to give the false pretense that I'm a strong person. I was paralyzed by fear. But I remembered that God said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I prayed for my husband and asked family and friends for prayer. I appreciated and felt the prayers of others.

Our attitude was the only thing we had control over. We tried to stay positive. We felt led by God when we made decisions. God had a plan and a purpose for this trial and He gave us direction. We prayed, pleaded and praised. God gave us peace, patience and the strength to persevere. We couldn't have done this without God's help.

Last year we had to skip our usual Christmas activities. But we learned how to get along without many things, including health, wealth and sleep (when I stayed overnight at the hospital). My "normal" life disappeared. However I did get the best gift that year, Bill came home for Christmas.

Today, Bill's cancer is in remission thanks to God's grace and healing power. The future may be uncertain but we have peace knowing that our eternal future is secure in Jesus Christ.

In Psalm 90:12 it says, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Time is precious. Our days are numbered. God wants us to make the most of them. Partnership is a privilege in marriage, but not more than the privilege God gives us through our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Make your Christmas special. Pray for your husband and stay close to Jesus.

Sandy Callies

If you have a testimony to share about something God has done in your life, please email it to Stephanie Romero at hizchozen@sbcglobal.net

LIFE Groups

Women of Faith

Ladies seeking God's heart through Bible Study and prayer. We are presently doing a study guide series called A Grand New Day. We conclude with praying for each other's needs. Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 A.M. from September through June.

Contact Diane Hansen at 414-427-8821
dianehansen13@sbcglobal.net
Liz Pirola at 414-425-3368
lpirola@wi.rr.com

Balance Beams

This is an accountability group, teaching balance in your life, the home, your health & spiritual walk with God. We meet once a month usually on Saturday mornings from 9:00 – 11:00 A.M. For the summer schedule, we do more outdoor activities. Our dates/times and locations will vary. Call if you need more information or updates.

Contact Linda Scalish 414-423-4300 or 414-423-1469
lascalish@sbcglobal.net
Julie Ledbetter 414-529-1275
julanesl@yahoo.com



Bible Study

Meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. for an in-depth Bible Study. This group is currently studying the book "Experiencing God". Please call for more information.

Contact Mary Kasper at 414-304-0230
jesus112@juno.com

Bible Study

Meets every 3rd Thursday at 6:30 P.M. Call for more information.
Contact Heather McKinstry at 414-423-5096
hethlmckinstry@yahoo.com

Wives of the Word

This group is led by Janet Rhiner and Diane Brooks. Please refer to bulletin for meeting information.



Las Amigas

Join other Spanish-speaking women that enjoy the diversity of our different cultures and countries involved. We are focusing on topics related to family matters and share our intimate needs in prayer. We always end with sharing different plates and recipes.

Contact Betty Ortiz - 414-671-4697
jaime.betty@hotmail.com
Emit Rivera - 414-731-8046
emit_rivera@yahoo.com

Book Study

This group will be studying from a variety of books to help ladies in their walk with God. Meets the second Wednesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Contact Willetta Shanklin - 414-761-1747

H2H - Heart to Heart

Join us for a time of fellowship and a teaching H2H meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month (September – May) from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room. Childcare is available.

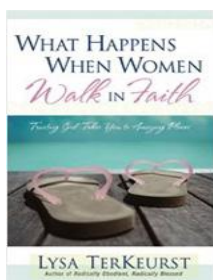
Moms in Touch

Join us as we pray for our children and families. Meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of each month from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. (September – May) in the Multipurpose Room. Childcare is available.

Contact: Christine Jacobs at
414-766-9479



Book Review



Join us as we journey through "What Happens When Women Walk in Faith" by Lysa TerKeurst. You can participate in this new online book review by visiting www.oakcreekag.org (under Women's Ministry)





Have you ever been witness to a "prayer request" gone awry? You don't even see it coming, you're just catching up with your friend, or maybe you're gathered with others for a Bible study or home group when you realize someone is sharing a prayer request (maybe it's you!) that goes a little too far. It just starts to get whiny, complain-ey and you're thinking to yourself "How did we get here? **This** is a prayer request?"

I cannot tell you how many times in my own walk with the Lord I have been guilty of this. I start out with good intentions, I really want to avoid gossiping about a situation that's been on my mind so instead I decide to "innocently" vent to a girlfriend, asking her to pray with me. Quickly my request of her to "pray for me, I'm struggling to have a calm spirit with my husband" turns into my offering up to her all the reasons why I should have every right to lose my temper with my husband! This is not only bad for me, but now I'm encouraging her to get right in there with me! As we toss around all the bad things about my husband--instead of praying for God to change **me**--we end up trying to be his Holy Spirit, finding all the things wrong with **him** and presenting them to God!

Linda Dillow broaches this very topic in her book *"What's it Like to be Married to Me?"*. And I assure you, this is something that all women do, not just married women. In 1 Corinthians 10 Paul reminds the people of the past sins of the Israelites, sins to bear

in mind to **not** repeat; things like idolatry, sexual immorality and (gulp!) grumbling! In verse 12 Paul writes "So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!"

Why is this such a big deal? Life is going to continue to have troubles and challenging situations and people. Our grumbling, or "innocently" misusing prayer time as venting time is going to seriously impact what we gain in understanding and strength through those trials of life. Well then, what can we do? David lays it out for us in Psalm 142. "I cry aloud to the LORD; I lift up my voice to the LORD for mercy. I pour out before Him my complaint; before Him I tell my trouble."

But why? Why does God need to know? Doesn't He already know?? Well, yes He does. But that's not the point. The point is to get the whining and complaints off of you and put that on His strong shoulders. This doesn't mean that you can't ever share with someone what is troubling you. There's a difference between earnestly asking another believer for prayer, and dumping a truck of your complaints on others.

If you realize you're struggling with a whining, grumbling spirit then it's a great idea to pick a mentor to confide in, tell them you need to grow in this area and ask them for wisdom and accountability. Considering how deep of a pitfall this problem is for women, I commend you for seeking growth past it!



Real WOMEN
Real LIFE



Our goal at Women's Ministries is to encourage you and to impact your life so you can impact the lives of others. We are excited about women and Women's Ministries. God wants to bless you and empower you, and Women's Ministries is committed to you and your life in Christ. We are confident that women of all ages will find their unique place of service!

Mission Statement

Women's Ministries is impacting this generation by ministering to women. We are passionate for the lost and seek to minister to women of all ages according to their need. Women's Ministries offers opportunities for every woman to find fellowship and her unique place of service.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Pastoral Advisor: Pastor Laurie Ganiere
Director of Women's Ministries: Joy Herbst
Advisor: Sherry Brooks



If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, send a newsletter request to [Stephanie Romero at hizchozen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Stephanie.Romero@hizchozen@sbcglobal.net)