

Women of Destiny

Women's Ministry

Cathedral of Praise Church

Editor's Notes

July 2011

Volume III 2011

I have grown watermelon several times over the years, but have never harvested one that tasted good. I can grow cantaloupe pretty well, (one year it was a weed in my front flowerbed,) but my watermelon always looked good, and tasted *terrible*.

This year I wandered across a short article about watermelon. Unbeknownst to me, watermelon needs a drier soil and lots of sun during ripening to "sweeten up." One rain storm or a couple of cloudy days can prevent the sugars from developing and leave you with beautiful, but tasteless, fruit. Ah ha! Here I was making sure it got plenty of water all season long with my watering timer and what it really needed was stress!

Sometimes I think we are a lot like garden plants, and God is the supreme gardener. He's much better than I am about knowing what His garden needs. He could give us a calm, easy life, well watered and well fertilized, but that wouldn't produce good fruit! God also has a wonderfully varied garden. If He treated all of us like watermelon, His garden would fail! Withholding

water from the tomatoes of this world would cause them to wither and die; they need cool night temperatures to set their fruit. Hot temperatures produce the spiciest peppers. He also knows what to plant together. He lovingly plants cilantro and parsley with the roses to help repel the aphids and make the roses' scent as sweet as it can be. He knows what needs deadheaded and pruned, and what prunes itself. Thankfully, he's never deterred from his gardening by triple digit heat!

The next time you look at a garden, think about what God's doing in your life. How has he pruned you? What stresses did you hate to endure, but have God planted with you to help you grow and mature. Take a little time to reflect on God's gardening skills, then thank Him for giving you exactly what you need!



In this issue:

- Recipe - Page 2
- Retreat Info. - Page 2
- Calendar - Page 3
- "The Gift" - Page 4

Writer's Nook

I recently had the privilege of reading [A Woman After God's Own Heart](#), By Elizabeth George. Some of you may be familiar with this book and may have even read it yourself. Its copyright is 1997, and although it has been around for some time, the advice it gives never grows old.

I am very passionate about being a wife and mother, that was my main goal in life. But I must admit the day in and day out routine of washing dishes, clothing and dinner left behind on my little children's faces sometimes made me wonder, am I really making a difference?

I do most of my reading at night after putting my children to bed, and as I got further into the book God began speaking to me. There were scripture references throughout the Bible that spoke about being a wife and a mother. That was music my soul! It made me realize those desires I had since I was a little child were not just because playing house is what little girls do, they were put in my heart as an assignment from God, and I am making a difference!

One of the verses that spoke to my heart was, "Admonish young women to love their husbands, and admonish young women to love their children" Titus 2:4

The word love has different meanings, one being *agapeo*, which is God's kind of love. This is the kind of love that loves unconditionally, regardless of our shortcomings. Of course we are supposed to love our husband and children like that as well, but when God instructs us to "love" our husbands and children in Titus 2:4, the word is *phileo*, meaning friendship love: An affectionate love that cherishes its object and enjoys being with them.

I cannot think of anyone I'd rather be with than my husband and children, but sometimes the fast pace of life and this summer heat gets to every one of us and things began to become

more mundane than joyful. This isn't the kind of life God wants us to have. God does not want His children's lives to be ordinary; He desires for us to have a life that is extraordinary!

All of us, whether we are single or married, with or without children, have the opportunity to love and serve and do it with a good heart. God's Word says Jesus, "did not come to be served, but to serve." (Matthew 20:28)

When you start serving others with a "want to spirit" instead of a "have to spirit", it opens a door within in your heart like no other! There are many different ways to be a blessing to others, and you will find many opportunities in your very own home.

After reading this book and finding scripture after scripture that encourages us daily to love others, build others up, reach out and enjoy them, my daily life has changed from routine to being on a mission! I not only seek God in the morning and get filled with His love, but I have the ability to pour that love out on others, especially my immediate family. The wonderful thing is they can pass it on to others themselves!

As women we all have a strong desire to love and be loved, and there is nothing more rewarding than waking up each day following the path of God's own heart, knowing that you are on the mission He had in mind just for you.

©2011 Kristi Sorrels

Fall Bible Study

This fall the Women's Bible Study will be doing Beth Moore's *Esther: It's Tough Being A Woman*. If you didn't get to complete the Bible study last time, dig out your workbook and join us! If you didn't get a chance to join us on the journey through the book of Esther two years ago, please dive in! The workbooks cost \$20 if paid by August 28th. This is an excellent, in-depth study of the book of Esther, and it definitely gets you thinking! So, grab a friend and join us Thursday evenings this fall!

So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image. 2 Corinthians 3:18

Women's Retreat!

We are unveiled before God and the world displaying the wonder of a loving God and being loved by Him. What is it that displays God's glory on our unveiled faces? Do you feel like a gloriously-created woman? Do we trust ourselves with others who also have the Glory of God inside them?

You are invited to join us as we take off the veil that keeps us from knowing who we really are in God's mirror.

At the retreat we will be enjoying the

company of our sisters as we stay Friday night at the Quality Inn, Eureka Springs. After a hot breakfast on Saturday, we will meet for a time of inspiration before heading to Simply Scrumptious Tea Room for lunch. Then our day will continue with the Living Bible Tour at the Great Passion Play. After which you will be free to visit Downtown Eureka Springs to shop or simply head home.

The last day to sign up is September 15th, so don't miss this time of FUN and FRIENDSHIP as we bask in the GLORY OF THE FATHER.

Dry Gulch Retreat

The Oklahoma District Women's Fall Retreat at Dry Gulch in Adair Oklahoma will be held September 9th and 10th this year. This is a state wide retreat and is an excellent opportunity to meet women from other churches, or meet up with a friend from another town! If you want to know what the state retreats are like, try catching Betty Calabrese. She's been to many over the years and she always seems quite refreshed when she returns!

This year's speaker is Judy Rachels. Vision's All Girl Band will be led by Bridgette Tomlin. Our own Pastor Danette Dillon will be a there as a member of the band! This year there will be a silent auction to raise money for the new campground that is soon to be completed near Sparks, Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Women's Ministries have pledged to equip the new kitchen at the camp and all the money raised by the silent auction items will go toward that new kitchen. If you are planning to attend consider bringing an item to donate, and don't forget a little extra money to bid!

The registration cost is \$80 if paid to the church by August 28th. The price goes up to \$90 after that. If you would like to attend this year's retreat please call or email Anne Dresel to receive the registration form. (918-245-3446, adresel@yahoo.com)

Cookbook

Easy Mud Pie

- 1 lb. bag of Oreos
- 1 half gallon container of ice cream (any flavor)
- 1 16oz. Can of Hershey's Syrup
- 12 oz. container of Cool Whip

Crush 2 rows of Oreos and spread in the bottom of a 9x13 pan. (I find they crush better and stick less if refrigerated first.)

Spread ice cream on top of cookies. (My favorite methods are slicing the ice cream or softening the ice cream before spreading.)

Pour syrup over ice cream.

Spread Cool Whip over syrup.

Crush the final row of Oreos and spread over the top.

Freeze until firm.



Opportunity Corner/Ministry Corner

Looking for a place to plug in at Cathedral of Praise? Trying to figure out where God would like you to use your talents? Why don't you try one of these opportunities? God doesn't always use the most talented, he uses the most willing!

CD Ministry Assistant

If you have an hour or two a week you can give, consider helping with our CD ministry! We need someone to help make sermon copies when they are ordered. If you can help out, please contact Ryan Webster, ryan@cpraise.org.

Kitchen Assistant

Our kitchen can be a very busy place on Sunday mornings, and sometimes things get left behind. Come, jump in and help us keep it a great place to be. Assistants volunteer for one month at a time and make sure the kitchen is cleaned up after Sunday services. For more information please email Sharon Battle at donbattle@hotmail.com.

*Volunteers with the Children's Ministry (5th grade and younger) must pass a background check and have attended Cathedral of Praise for at least 6 months.



Sand Springs, OK

Kelly Wilson

July 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Schedule of Events

- July 22nd, Agape Café, 6pm Study
- July 27th, Coffee Talk, 7pm
- July 29th, Parents Night Out, 6-9pm
- July 31st, One Service at 10:45 and Ground Breaking Ceremony
- August 1st-6th, Fine Arts Nationals
- August 3rd, Coffee Talk, 7pm
- August 10th, Coffee Talk, 7pm
- August 12th, Parents Night Out, 6-9pm
- August 17th, Coffee Talk, 7pm
- August 22nd, First Day of School, Sand Springs Public Schools
- August 24th, Children's Musical, 7pm
- September 1st, Women's Bible Study
- September 5th, Labor Day
- September 9th-10th, Oklahoma State Women's Retreat
- September 15th, Women's Bible Study
- September 22nd-24th, Men's Retreat
- September 29th, Women's Bible Study
- September 30th-October 1st, Women's Retreat "Unveiled Faces"
- October 10th, Columbus Day
- October 13th, Women's Bible Study
- October 15th, Church Picnic
- October 19th-21st, Sand Springs Schools Fall Break

Calendar Legend

	Cathedral of Praise Events
	Bible Study Nights
	Holidays
	Other Events

Pool Party!

You are all invited to our second annual pool party on Saturday, August 6th! Once again Robin Downe will be opening up her home and pool for us to hang out and enjoy ourselves from 11am to 2pm. This is a casual event and no men or children are allowed. If you don't want to swim, feel free to hang out poolside. Robin will be supplying the main course, all you need to bring is your personal beverage and a side dish or desert to share. Please sign up at the Information Center if you plan to attend. Robin's address is available on the sign-up sheet. For more information please contact Anne Dresel at (918) 245-3446.

Want to receive this newsletter in the mail? Did we miss you on the email list? We'll be glad to add you to future mailings! Drop off your name and address at the information center, or send your email address to wod@cpraise.org.

The Gift

A gentle knock woke me from a peaceful slumber.
"Who is it?" I muttered.
"Kayson," The voice replied.
I jumped up and tried to scurry around freshening up. I didn't want to look like I just got out of bed.
"I just wanted to check on you to see how you are doing," he said through the door.
"Just a minute," I mumbled as I was slapping toothpaste around in my mouth.
"I can come back if you are busy..." he said as I opened the door.
"Hey."
"How are you?" He asked.
"Better, I think." I noticed he was carrying a tray full of food.
"Breakfast?" He asked holding up the tray.
I pushed the door open the rest of the way and he walked in and sat down on my bed.
"Come and eat with me," he motioned.
I curled up on my pillows and began exploring the wonderful smelling foods on the tray. From Mangos to eggs, cheese and tortillas; my stomach began to growl. Kayson poured a big glass of juice and handed it to me.
"You need to drink lots. I think this heat is getting to you."
I smiled a sheepish grin and drank the cold juice.
"So," Kayson continued. "About the lady that fell down, do you know what it is to be slain in the spirit?"
"No."
"Well, let me try and explain. Sometimes when a person prays to God, God's power comes on them very strong. When that person submits to His power, it's so great that they cannot stand. They fall down, but are not hurt."
"Oh," I said taking a bite of the juicy mango. "So, the lady was not hurt last night."
"No, of course not; she was very touched by God when you laid your hands on her."
"Good," I said with relief.
"If you would like, since you are new at all this, I could come over and teach you about the Bible every day."
I smiled, "I'd like that very much. Lesson 1 down; being slain in the spirit is okay." We laughed.
After we finished feasting on a very delicious breakfast we headed for the bank. I was now ready to open an account and put the past behind me. It was time to start living again; as long as God would allow it. I was still feeling a little tired and weak. I've never known heat to mess up my body, but I had never really spent a lot of time in the south either.
The bank experience was uneventful. Walking out afterward, I felt a burden being lifted from my shoulders. I took a deep breath and thought, *on with the rest of my life.*
As we headed down the street my eye caught the crippled man up ahead of us. I stopped and put my hand on Kayson's arm.
"I have to do something for that man," I said pointing.
Kayson looked a little puzzled. "What do you mean?"
"I don't know, but I've just wanted to help him somehow ever since I first saw him."
I was almost dragging Kayson along as I darted for the man. I didn't want him to disappear this time. He was outside a shop and the owner of the shop was trying to shoo him away.
"Wait," I yelled. The shop owner threw his hand up in disgust and went back to his shop keeping.
The man looked surprised and then held up a rusty old soup can for money. I began to dig out my cash I had just gotten when I felt this need to pray for him. I stopped and knelt down beside him on the hot cement.
"I know you don't understand what I'm saying but I want to pray for you."
Kayson began interpreting. The man looked back and forth from me to Kayson. He looked disappointed and put his can between his legs. I reached out and put my hand on the man's shoulder. I started to say, "Lord, I don't know really how to pray."
The man let out a loud shrill! It startled me for a moment; then I noticed his legs. They were straightening out, growing and gaining strength. The man looked at us in astonishment and fear. Our eyes were big with amazement too and we helped him stand up.
Kayson finished the prayer for me, "Bring a complete healing to this man in the name of Jesus."
Now Kayson interpreted for the man to me, "I have been prayed for many times in my life and never have been able to walk. Who are you and who is your God? He must be the real God and I want to know Him."
.....to be continued.

©2011 Kelly Wilson

(Parts 1-7 are available in the previous newsletters beginning in January 2010. Those newsletters are available online at cpraise.org -[Adults-Women's Ministries-Newsletters](http://cpraise.org/Adults-Women's-Ministries-Newsletters). Please contact Anne Dresel at (918) 245-3446 if you would like a printed copy of back issues.)