

Newsletter: Keeping Christ in Sight, Give Thanks in All Things!



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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 toward spiritual, emotional, and physical wholeness through the application of biblical principles to their lives.

Greetings,

Come and join us in our upcoming virtual open forum, "Too Much Weight," where the Daughters of Hope Ministry members will share how we manage weights in our lives.

How are you managing the weights of life: raising children, being a caregiver, illness, relationships, finances, job, marital problems, COVID-19, etc.?

As we journey through life together, it is important to support one another, and this is what will take place in this open forum, which will also be an opportunity for you to share.

God has given us all the resources we need to handle every situation: Jesus, The Bible, The Holy Spirit, and wise counselors.

Do not fear the anxiety and stress that you encounter, for your trust in God will see you through the difficult times. "When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy." (Psalm 94:19 NIV).

Stand patiently in the face of adversity and you will reap benefits. "Stand firm, and you will win life." (Luke 21:19 NIV)

Give your full heart and trust to God, and He will lead you on the right path in any situation you come into. He will never lead you wrong. "Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:4-6 NIV).

-- Linda Gary, DOHM President

Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."





1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances. for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

These last few years have been challenging for many of us. The pandemic resulted in the loss of life, loss of employment, and difficulty in managing the crisis for themselves and their families. I know for myself that it has been a difficult season as I have dealt with sickness and death of family members.

It was during these times that I was blessed to have a great support network of family and friends who were there for me. But even with the support system, I would not have made it through had it not been for God. The Lord sustained my mind at a time when I was going down a dark path. I had to rely on the Father's love and saving grace during this season.

As I looked back over my life, I am reminded of all the Lord has done for me and through me. This is where I learned to develop a heart of thanksgiving in both good and tough times. The Lord promised that He would be with us always, even until the end of the earth. That is something to give thanks for. He continues to show His grace and mercy daily, and I am so thankful.

Are you thankful? Are you thankful for your present circumstances? Are you thankful for your salvation, your family, your friendships, and your job? Thankfulness is a key to your life. It is the key that turns your situation around because it changes you, your outlook, and your attitude. There is power in a thankful heart.

Here are 3 ways to practice an attitude of thankfulness in everyday life:

- **Thank and praise God for everything in your life.** Thank Him for even the difficulties. It is a sacrifice to do this, but He can turn troubles into triumph. "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise -- the fruit of lips that confess his name." (Hebrews 13:15).
- **Do not allow yourself to complain about anything.** During challenging times, be very careful to watch your tongue. Instead of complaining, think of ways you can verbally offer God the sacrifice of thanksgiving.
- **Do not compare yourself with others.** Do not wish that your life was different. God knows what is best. The Bible says having a thankful heart is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. When we begin to thank God for what we have rather than comparing ourselves with others, it opens the door to God's blessings.

-- Tomiko Hankerson, DOHM Administrator



There's
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR





Faith During Challenging Times

When the storms of life are raging all around us, we sometimes feel that God is not attentive to our pleas for help, and we angrily cry out, "Lord do You hear me, do You even care?" John 16:33 states, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." As Christians, we should expect continuing tension with an unbelieving world that is "out of sync" with Christ. At the same time, we can expect our relationship with Christ to produce peace and comfort because we are "in sync" with Him.

When caught in the storms of life, it is easy to think God is not with us and we are at the mercy of the winds of fate. A prime example of this is illustrated in Luke 8 which talks about when the disciples were very fearful of a powerful storm that looked like it was going to overtake their boat. Jesus was asleep at the time, and they woke Him up to let Him know that they were perishing. Luke 8:24b-25 says, "He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples." In fear and amazement, they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

We too have often found ourselves in situations where it seemed like there was no way out and there was nothing we could do to save ourselves. As we look at the disciples' situation, we might think, "didn't they realize they had Jesus in the boat with them?" They witnessed the greatest miracles of Jesus, yet they were consumed with fear. Jesus was physically with them, but they waited until the last minute to ask Him for help. As the story continues in Mark 4:39 states, "He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, Quiet, Be still! Then the wind died down and it was completely calm." A word from Jesus was all it took. The disciples' desperation ceased, leaving them in awe and amazement.

In the same way as the disciples, when faced with a situation we have no control over, our first instinct is to get angry, feel hurt, disappointed, and hopeless. So we do all that we can in our own strength, and then we turn to God. But, lingering in a state of hopelessness being so filled with our own fleshly thinking, when we do cry out to God, it is hard to put on our spiritual eyes to see Him in the midst working it all out on our behalf to give us what is needed to enter His rest.

God has not jumped out of the boat of our lives but is ever present, ever powerful, and ever knowing, waiting for us to seek Him and enter into His rest. Faith seeks God in all things and at all times. We must go to Him in prayer, casting all our cares on Him, then we enter God's rest, trusting that He will handle it in His way and in His timing.

-- Linda Price-Smith, DOHM Newsletter Editor



Faith
Let go and let God

I WILL
walk BY
faith even
WHEN I CANNOT
see
2 CORINTHIANS 5:7

Take Your Spiritual Temperature

Have you ever arrived at a place that you have driven to frequently (like to work) but don't remember the details of the trip? It is like you used an automatic pilot to get there. Your mind was not really engaged.

Similarly, it is possible for Christians to be just going through the motions in our spiritual life but not realize the state we are in. We may be continually serving in our ministry, reading our Bible, and praying, but our zeal and love for God is not what it should be. Our service can become mechanical.

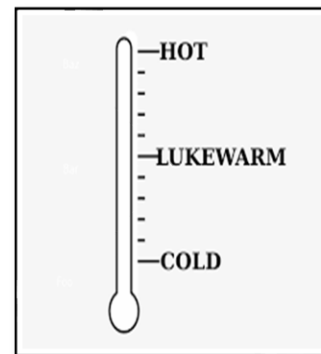
It may be that you have become discouraged while dealing with a long-time "thorn in the flesh" type issue. Maybe your thoughts and focus have been overwhelmed because you have been distracted by the cares of life. You may have just grown weary in "well doing" taking your eyes off God and focusing on your circumstances. You may be in the state described as allowing our love for God to grow cold, going through a dry season, or leaving our first love.

Journaling is a good way for us to keep track of our thoughts. Our thoughts reveal the condition of our heart. Reviewing what we have written is a good way to evaluate where we are spiritually.

If we find that we need to reignite the fire, we can begin to be restored by repenting and renewing our focus. Pray as in Psalm 51:12, "Restore to me the joy of your salvation." In Revelations, the Ephesians are told to return to their first love and to "remember therefore from where you have fallen and repent and do the deeds you did at first."

-- Cornette Cole, DOHM Treasurer

Create in me a clean
heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit
within me.
Psalm 51:10



Luke 22:31-32

“And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.”



Sifted

In our world, we face many challenges; when I consider this scripture and believe God knows everything and sees everything from the beginning to the end, I can imagine Peter's position.

The sifting of wheat in old times meant pounding repeatedly; the purpose was to separate the grain and get rid of the chaff. They separated the usable from the unusable. Sifting reveals and takes away the harshness. We can also say it shows what's really there, hidden beneath. Perhaps you have used a recipe, and the instructions required you to sift the ingredients; you can see what is left afterward.



The enemy of our souls hopes to break us, that we will walk away from our calling. But I say let us face the sifting and what the result is; it's a new strength. What may have slowed us down, caused a distraction, or even pulled us away from our destiny, can be discarded. Believe in the God-inspired truth that He will be with us until the end. We have an advocate in the Lord.

In this passage (Luke 22-31-32), the Lord warns Simon Peter that a trying time is coming, but He has already been prayed for. Nevertheless, he was not prayed for so he would not enter the trial, but that he may come through it. And once on the other side, be an encourager, a builder up of the brethren, a testimony.

We experience pressing times when we may feel we have been pounded, and our Lord sees this, and He can use this if we faint not if we don't let our faith fail. So keep the faith and let Him purify us. Knowing it will not be easy.

-- Constance Lowe, DOHM Technical Advisor





DOHM

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Virtual Open Forum: "Too Much Weight," – Saturday, December 3, 2022, 11:00 am-1:00 pm. **(Registration information will be provided soon)**
- Bring Up the Treasure That Is Within You – Entrepreneur Event (date to be determined)
- Daughters of Hope Women's Conference (date to be determined)

Do-It-Yourself At Home



Exploring new ways to treat and care for ourselves is becoming increasingly more important daily, especially since the pandemic. See the links below for simple steps and natural skin care recipes using natural ingredients for DIY facials and foot care at home.

<https://www.hellodollface.com/clean-beauty/diy-facial-natural-ingredients/>
<https://www.healthline.com/health/diy-foot-soak>

Meet the DOHM Vendors



Do you have a business and products and/or services you want to promote? This may be the opportunity you are looking for at one of our upcoming **DOHM** events. For information on previous conference vendors, please visit the DOHM website at <https://daughtersofhope.org/conference-vendors/>.



Daughters of Hope Ministry is a 501(c)(3) organization. Tax-deductible contributions are welcome to help host events that will build up the spirit, soul, and body. Donations can be made via PayPal, credit cards, and checks. Year-end tax statements will be provided.

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