

Newsletter: God's Word; A Lamp To My Feet, A Light To My Path

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

“Reminder – Save The Date”

We are living in a critical time where God is opening the hearts and minds of women to the possibility of their power to influence the world; shaping and developing their character to empower them to become living legends.

Legendary women are not just those in the history book, leading in business or politics. They are everyday women who choose to say yes to God. That one simple act can create a legendary legacy that lives on from generation to generation and forever changes the course of humankind as we know it.

Come join the DOHM at the 2024 Women's Retreat – “**Legendary Woman**,” where we will explore and present on several legendary women (biblical and today) who left and are leaving a legacy walking in the path where God has called them.

It is our prayer that as you participate, you too will discover your inner strengths, gifts, and the purpose for which you have been created by God to leave a legacy, being a “**Legendary Woman**.”

Register today at www.daughtersofhope.org.



Be Anxious for Nothing



In this fast-paced world we live in today, it is difficult to cope with everything that is going on around us. Technology is rapidly changing as we are trying our best to keep up. Our culture relishes the desire of instant gratification, and on the other hand, is anxious about the unknown. Our focus is everywhere but on God.

How can we hear from God with a distracted focus. We don't need to be afraid, worried, alarmed or frightened about the world as it is changing around us. God promises us that everything is going to work together for the good for those who love Him. While we may forget this and spiral into anxiety at times and feel like we can't keep up with the changes, we are going to have these moments in our lives, we don't have to get lost in them.



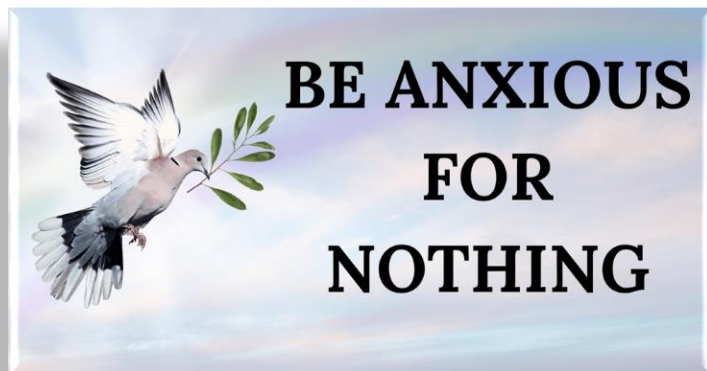
Remember putting your trust in God takes prayer and practice. In his book "Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World," Max Lucado writes: "The presence of anxiety is unavoidable, but the prison of anxiety is optional. It's the life of perpetual anxiety that Paul wants to address. Don't let anything in life leave you perpetually in angst." Thankfully, God's Word gives specific instructions for handling anxiety. Philippians 4:6-7 tells us we can become less anxious through: prayer, petition, expressing gratitude and trusting God.

Keep in mind, God is telling us in Philippians 4:6-7 (AMP) Do not be anxious *or* worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].



TPT translation said it like this: Don't be pulled in different directions or worried about a thing. Be saturated in prayer throughout each day, offering your faith-filled requests before God with overflowing gratitude. Tell him every detail of your life, then God's wonderful peace that transcends human understanding, will guard your heart and mind through Jesus Christ.

-- Linda Gary, DOHM President



Well Able



Numbers 13:25-29 paints a bleak picture. In this scripture, the people were asked to examine the land and see for themselves land that flowed with milk and honey. They all could agree the land flourished. However, in verses 28-29, they also observed the land's occupants. They saw how they appeared, more mighty than them, so they gave the first report as good news, and most ended it with bad news, saying we can't have what we have seen.

In the part of verse 32, "The land through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great size..." They saw several groups of people settled in the land. The enemy was already settled.

We look about us now and see the enemy has settled in our schools; the enemy has settled in our community with the regular violence; the enemy has settled in some of our homes, rebellious children, taken some captive. The enemy has settled in some areas of the local and federal government.



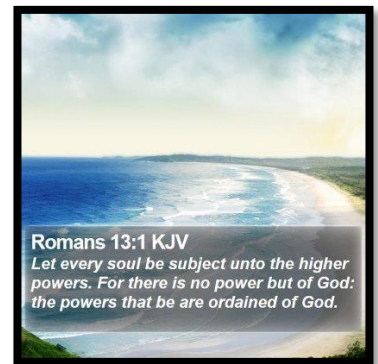
Are we to sit and watch like we are watching a play? Are we to sit and watch, shaking our heads in disbelief? Are we to close our eyes and say I don't want to see what I am seeing. Is this a parade that will pass by, and soon it will be over because what is before us is too large?

We may be just one soldier on the battlefield, but that very spot we hold is a valuable position. If you are to pray, then pray; if you are to give, then give; if you are to volunteer, then volunteer; if you are to lead, then lead; if you are to follow, then follow. If you abandon what the Lord is asking of you, then that space will go unprotected and may even revert to the enemy.

Be like Caleb, with an overcoming attitude, verse 30, "We should, by all means, go up and take possession of it, for we will surely overcome it."

When God directs you to do something, believe you are "well able" to do it, for God is with you. Push aside the doubts and move forward. I praise God for this reminder that we have authority and can take territory.

-- Constance Lowe, DOHM Technical Advisor



Let's Stop Falling for the Okie-Doke



There is nothing new under the sun, including Satan's character and his modus operandi. We are told that he is crafty, a deceiver, and the father of lies. He wants to disrupt our relationship with God and ruin our testimony. He uses the same tactics with us today as He used to tempt Eve in the Garden. In the book of James, we are told that a man is tempted by his own evil desires and is lured away and enticed. When Eve "saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it." When we are disobedient, we, as she did, choose to yield to our desires rather than obey God's command.

Satan tried similar tactics when he tempted Jesus in the wilderness. However, Jesus did not yield. He responded with God's command relating to whatever temptation He faced. The Matthew 4 passage is introduced noting that Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit." Knowledge of God's word alone is not enough to avoid being outwitted. We need self-control, a fruit of the Spirit. When we submit ourselves to God, we are able to resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7). When we walk by the Spirit, we will not gratify the desires of the flesh (Galatians 5:16). Walking by the Spirit means following the Spirit's lead and allowing Him to influence our lives step by step and day by day. A Christian being led by the Spirit is like a driver being led by his car's navigation system. The driver follows the system's instructions step by step. If he veers off course, the system will quickly reroute and direct him back on the right path.

We are warned in 1 Corinthians 10:12 "wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." We are never beyond being tested, so we should not become complacent. Passing a test once doesn't exempt you from having to repeat it. We are in a war, and we are also part of an army. We do not have to go through life and its challenges alone.



Having like-minded Christian relationships, where we bear one another's burdens and pray with each other, strengthens us. A stand-alone Christian could grow weary or become easily distracted by the enemy. We must not allow each other to grow weary in well doing. Enduring long term painful circumstances without support could become overwhelming, even causing anger and bitterness. Close Godly fellowships could help us avoid drifting away from what we believe. Above all, we must remain anchored to Christ. Neglecting to keep our focus on God and His word is a dangerous place to be.

We must be sober and vigilant! Not being a fighting unit of one and maintaining a submitted relationship with God will equip us. So that when a test comes, we won't fall for the okie-doke. We will be able to stand as Jesus did.

-- Cornette Cole, DOHM Treasurer



Be Encouraged

We often say, it is not what happens to us that matters, but what we make out of what happens. There is hope as we are ever aware of how God comforts us and shows His mercy and compassion towards us as we continually trust in Him. Meditate on the following:

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 – *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”*

As we seek God during our challenging times, He will comfort us in giving us His strength, His encouragement and His hope to deal with our hardships. When you are feeling overwhelmed, allow God to comfort you, and remember that every trial you endure will help you comfort other people who are going through the same thing. God will comfort all that are faithful, not only that they are comforted, but that they might become comforters to others.

Lamentations 3:22 – *“Through the LORD’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not.”*

God's compassion never fails. Compassion is love in action. God willingly responds with help when we ask. Perhaps there is some sin in your life that you thought God would not forgive. God's compassion is greater than any sin, and He promises forgiveness, as we come to Him in prayer and supplication. As you do this, He will move you from despair to hope. This is the faith that makes it possible to say in the midst of all the grief and ruin, "now I have hope."

Proverbs 3:5-6 – *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.”*

Continue to walk in the obedience of the Lord that He directs your path in the way that you should go. As you learn to lean on and trust in God, He will activate His promises in that He will never leave nor forsake you, He will provide you a way of escape, He will comfort you in all your ways, and He will supply all your needs. To depend on one's own understanding of truth and life means to disregard God's will. God knows what is best for us. He is a better judge of what we want than we are. We must trust Him completely in every choice we make. Bring your decisions and petitions to God in prayer, use the Bible as your guide, and then follow God's leading.

Trust in the Lord and be encouraged. As you do so, God's strength, power, and peace will reign and rule with you during challenging times. He will comfort you, give you His compassion, and direct your path giving you the victory! In Jesus' name – Amen!

-- Linda Price-Smith, DOHM Newsletter Editor



Remember Who You Are

I am a Marvel comics fan and the scene in Black Panther where the mother of Black Panther yells out to her son during his tribal fight to "Remember Who You Are" is one of the things I remembered from this movie. This is a statement that we all need to take heart and keep in our hearts and minds.

We are children of the Most High, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In life there will be seasons of joy, sorrow, happiness, pain, and difficulties. It is in these times that the Lord shows Himself strong and mighty. He is building our character through each trial that we face. Instead of looking at your difficult situations as punishment, think of it as your pruning ground. A place where God is clipping off the dead things to help you continue to grow more like Him. He desires to give His children the desires of their heart as it lines up with His will.

When we face the challenges of life we ought to "Remember Who We Are". We are made in the image of God for a purpose. (*"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."* Genesis 1:27)

We are stronger than we know when we relinquish control to our Heavenly Father. Stressing over our lives is a sign that we have lost faith and trust in God. We should remember that our lives are not our own, we were bought for a price. (*For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.* 1Cor. 6:20). It was the blood of Jesus that saves us from our sin and gives us the opportunity to live an abundant and eternal life with God.

Do we think the Black Panther wanted to be in battles to take his rightful place on the throne? No, I don't think so. Sometimes we must fight beyond our situations and remember that our Father never leaves us nor forsake us.

We have strength because He gives us strength, we have power because He gives us power, we have hope because He gives us hope, we are greater when we **REMEMBER WHO WE ARE.**

-- Tomiko Hankerson, DOHM Vice President & Administrator



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2024 Daughters of Hope Women's Retreat – "Legendary Woman" / March 7-9, 2024. Register at www.daughtersofhope.org.
- Bring Up the Treasure That Is Within You – Entrepreneur Event (*date to be determined*)
- Open Forum (*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.

Meet the DOHM Vendors



For more information on previous conference vendors, please visit the DOHM website at <https://daughtersofhope.org/conference-vendors/>



The Daughters of Hope Ministry is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your 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. Checks can be mailed to the Daughters of Hope Ministry, P.O. Box 583, Glenn Dale, MD 20769. Year-end tax statements will be provided.

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