Newsletter: Commit Your Way to the Lord, He Shall Bring It to Pass!

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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.

Confession, Repentance, & Restoration

I committed a serious transgression. I was feeling like a worthless failure. How was I blindsided? I searched the scriptures to find comfort and guidance and found those about King David and Bathsheba. In the Book of Psalms, David shows his love of God's law and his desire to be obedient to them. He is called a man after God's own heart, yet he committed a series of sins, including his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba. He had been faithful and obedient in much more difficult circumstances. I could ask about him the same question I asked about myself: "How could he have done what he did knowing what he knew?"

The truth is, after being born again, we still struggle with sin since we are still in the flesh, but we should not live a life of habitual and unrepentant sin. We have an enemy who walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He is the accuser of the brethren and wants us to believe that because we are "supposed" to be Christians and Christians should not sin, our sin is evidence that we are not truly saved.

1 John 8-10 says, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar, and his word is not in us."

In **Psalm 51**, King David shows godly sorrow and a repentant heart. David admitted his sins, repented, asked for forgiveness, and God forgave him. When Christians sin, we will reap the painful consequences of our sin as David did, but we can be forgiven when we repent.

Psalm 37:23-24, "The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand."

I know God is faithful, and His Word is true.

-- Cornette Cole, DOHM Treasurer

CONFESSION — BEGINS WITH — REPENTANCE — AND ENDS IN —







Stirring Up the Gift: Unlocking Your Spiritual Potential



In the busyness of daily life, it is easy to overlook the unique spiritual gifts we each possess. Yet, these gifts are essential to our purpose and fulfillment. The Apostle Paul's exhortation to Timothy, "Stir up the gift of God which is in you" (**2 Timothy 1:6**), resonates as a timeless call to action for all believers.

The first step in stirring up your spiritual gift is recognition. Each of us is blessed with unique abilities, whether it is teaching, encouraging, serving, or leading. Reflect on your passions and strengths. What activities bring you joy and fulfillment?

Once you identify your gift, embrace it wholeheartedly. Paul's charge to Timothy was not just about recognition but about taking deliberate action. This means stepping out of your comfort zone and actively seeking opportunities to use your gift: join a ministry, volunteer in your community, or start a new initiative that aligns with your abilities. Embrace the journey of growth and be open to new experiences that challenge you and refine your gift.

Stirring up your gift requires consistent effort and discipline. Just as athletes train to enhance their skills, spiritual gifts need regular exercise to develop fully. Dedicate time to study and practice. If your gift is teaching, delve deeper into scripture and theological resources. If it is serving, find more ways to help others. Surround yourself with a community that supports and encourages your growth, providing constructive feedback and accountability.

Fear and doubt can often hinder us from fully utilizing our gifts. Timothy faced similar challenges, and Paul reminded him that "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (**2 Timothy 1:7**). Trust in God's power to work through you and give you the courage to step out and activate your purpose. Remember, your gift is not just for your benefit but for the edification of others and the glory of God.

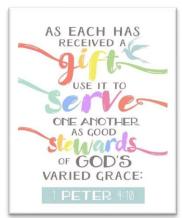
Stirring up the gift within you is a vigorous and ongoing process. It is about recognizing your unique abilities, embracing your call, nurturing your gift with discipline, overcoming fear, and celebrating your progress. As we actively engage in this journey, we will not only enrich our own lives but also make a profound impact on our communities and the world. So, take Paul's advice to heart: stir up the gift within you and unlock your spiritual potential!

If you have not identified your gift, here is a link to take an assessment to learn what unique gifts God has given you and how to use them for His kingdom. https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/.

-- Tomiko Hankerson, DOHM Vice President







Early in the Morning, I Will Rise

Many Bible characters are mentioned as rising early in the morning, including:

- Abraham rose early in the morning to saddle his donkey, take his son Isaac and two young men, and split wood for a burnt offering (Genesis 22:3-4). He also rose early in the morning, going to the place where he had stood before the LORD (Genesis 19:27).
- **Hezekiah** rose early in the morning to gather the rulers to worship, specifically to God, and to restore the people to God (2 Chronicles 29:20).
- Job rose early in the morning to offer burnt offerings on behalf of his children (Job 1:4-7).
- **Moses** rose early in the morning to build an altar under a hill (Exodus 24:4) and to receive the commandments a second time (Exodus 34:4).
- Jacob rose early in the morning to set up an altar (Genesis 28:18).
- Gideon roses early in the morning to prove God's will by putting out the fleece (Judges 6:38).
- **Jesus** rose early in the morning while it was still dark, leaving the house to go to a solitary place to pray (Mark 1:35).
- Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James), and Salome rose early in the morning to buy spices so that they might come and anoint Jesus. Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen (Mark 16:1-2).

We have been experiencing extremely hot days in the metropolitan area. The following are some important activities to rise early in the morning to do when it is very hot outside. Many people in the Bible also rose early in the morning to accomplish these things.



- **Cook** early in the morning before the sun heats up everything.
- Wash clothes early in the morning; temperatures are cooler, and energy demand is low.
 - **Exercise** early in the morning to avoid the sun and heat.
 - Productivity, per The Wall Street Journal, 4:00 am is the most productive hour, citing powerhouses of industry who swear by getting up early to avoid distractions.
 - **Spiritual time** early in the morning is good for spending time in the presence of the Lord, reading His word, praying, praising Him for His goodness, and just being still and quiet in His presence.

Proverbs 8:17 (KJV) says, "I love them that love me; and those who seek me early shall find me." Also, "the early bird catches the worm" is nature's observation of the provision received because the action was carried out before the usual or expected time. There are many scriptures in the Bible about rising early in the morning. Here are a few:

- Psalms 119:147
- Psalm 5:3
- Genesis 19:27
- Joshua 3:1
- Joshua 6:15
- Judges 6:38

By rising early, we can embrace both the spiritual and practical benefits, aligning our lives with the wisdom and practices found in the Bible.

-- Linda Gary, DOHM President







Are You Overcome or An Overcomer?

Sometimes, we are so overcome that it feels like our hearts just cannot take any more. But no matter what is thrown at us—hurt, anxiety, fear, confusion, or temptation—we have a choice on how to respond. We can concede defeat or live in the victory of God's promise that we are Overcomers.

Being Overcome – This is a sign that Satan is on the attack, keeping us away from God's strength, going after our honesty, heart, and righteous life, filling us with anxiety and doubt, confusing our minds, tempting us to sin, and turning us away from praying. We then tend to only look at how big our problems are and not how big our God is to bring us out.

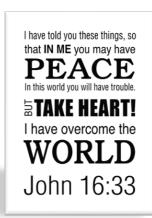
Being an Overcomer – When you are going through, as you depend on the faithfulness of God, He will replace your weakness with His strength, lies with His truths, evil with His good, anxiety with His peace, fear with His faithfulness, confusion with His wisdom, and temptation with His word as you bring all your burdens to Him in prayer and obedience.

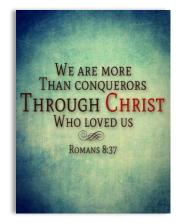
Meditate on these scriptures when you feel overcome:

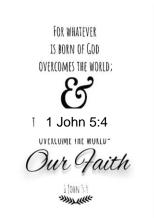
- **2 Corinthians 12:9** "And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."
- **Proverbs 12:25** "Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad."
- **James 1:2-3** "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."
- **James 1:5** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."
- **Proverbs 4:7** "Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding."
- **1 Corinthians 10:13** "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."
- Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

As we navigate the twists and turns of life's journey, let us embrace the call to be Overcomers in God. Let us draw strength from His promises, courage from His presence, and hope from His unfailing love. For in Him, we are more than conquerors, empowered to rise above every obstacle and walk in the victory that Jesus has already accomplished for us.

May we never lose sight of the transformative power of faith, which enables us to overcome the world. May our lives be a testimony to the goodness, faithfulness, and grace of our Heavenly Father, who empowers us to be Overcomers in every season of life. This is our God-given destiny that enables us to be an Overcomer!







-- Linda Price-Smith, DOHM Newsletter Editor

Follow the Light

The journey we are on is not always clear. Starting an assignment may not always have our complete understanding. Most of us want to know the purpose of what we are doing, the benefits, and the expected outcome. God calls us to faith and trust so often that it should be no surprise when we do not understand our current surroundings. The good thing about this is we can talk with Him about it and sometimes receive a little more light or a place of peace regardless of what we see.

When God entrusts you with something, it should not be taken lightly. It is not something to be shelved and forgotten but to be nurtured and given a place to grow. For if it grows, it could lead you to the destiny the Lord has planned for you, even if you cannot see it yet. Remember, what is ignored can be forgotten. The initial zeal you felt when you received that 'God idea' can fade.

I share this to encourage you and myself; God is always communicating, sometimes at what may seem like odd times. His enlightenment can come through His word, or when you are not focused on anything in particular, but also when you are intentionally seeking Him. Take what you believe truly came from Him and walk with it.

Picture this:

Imagine this: if what you believe you should do is just a small light, like a candle that has been lit. Walk slowly and keep moving, even if you need to protect the candle with your hand to keep it from going out. Follow the path until you have more light and more understanding. Sometimes, you need to move slowly and not be concerned about the timeline. Perhaps you are not late but moving at the right pace. Trust in God's timing and keep moving forward.



Do you have a dream or hope placed inside you by God? Ask yourself what you should do with it. The first steps can be small, but God does not show you more until you get moving. If the redirection is necessary, He will give it. Trust the path lit by the Lord.

In the Book of Job, he questioned God, and God answered him to let him know that all knowledge does not come from man.

• Job 38:4 (NAS) – "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you have understanding."

Where does light come from, and where does it go? Only God knows.

• Job 38:24 (NAS) – "Where is the way that the light is divided, And the east wind scattered on the earth?"

Our real source of light.

• John 8:12 (NAS) – "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

-- Connie Lowe, DOHM Technical Advisor



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How To Live A Love Filled Life

What is love?

Once you decide to follow Jesus, you learn that God Himself is *love* (1 John 4:8). How do we see God's love? In 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, we learn that *love* is patient and kind; *love* does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude; it does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth; *love* bears all things and endures all things. When we operate in God's love, these same character traits should be evident in our actions and conversations. This is the love of God that we need to exercise daily in order to live a "Love Filled Life."

What does it mean to be filled? When we follow Jesus, we are empowered to live the life God intended for us by submitting to His presence, power, plan, and purpose. He sent His Holy Spirit to dwell within us, ensuring that we are full and complete in Him. The Book of Acts provides many examples of the Holy Spirit filling the early church and the followers of Jesus Christ, demonstrating His power and guidance in their lives. These accounts highlight the transformative impact of the Holy Spirit on believers (Acts 2:4, 13:52, Exodus 31:3). We must be filled with the Holy Spirit and allow Him to guide us each day in order to live a "Love Filled Life."

What is life?

We learned that God is the creator of Life and made man in His image. God formed man out of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). We also learned that the days in our physical life are numbered (Psalm 90:10).

This awareness encourages us to live with intention and purpose guided by the Holy Spirit, making the most of our time here on earth. That leads us into eternal life. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). In other words, in order to live a "Love Filled Life," we need to be guided by the Holy Spirit while we live our lives on this earth. This ensures us that we are on the path to eternal life.

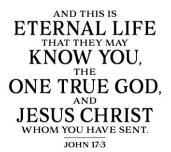
If you are not living a "Love Filled Life," you can start today and live your best life. By embracing the Biblical principles of God's love, being filled with the Holy Spirit, and eternal life, you can transform your actions and relationships, that will align your life with the purpose and joy that God intends for you.

-- Gretchen Huntley, DOHM Member













Daughters of Hope Ministry - Event Vendor

Psalms 119:156 AMP Great are Your tender mercies and steadfast love, O LORD; Revive me and give me life according to Your ordinances.

156 Apparel specializes in customized t-shirts and apparel designs. We never comprise on quality, after all every customer is important and has put their faith in us to supply them with top grade merchandise. Our company works hard to deliver products and services that are one of a kind and affordable

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for everyone.

Email <u>156apparelllc@gmail.com</u>

Website www.156apparel.com

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



- Optimal Care Chiropractic Blood Drive on "August 12, 2024" Use this link to sign up and donate: <u>https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=LaurelPost60</u>
- 2025 DOHM Tea "Don't Forget The Oil"
- Entrepreneur Event "Bring Up the Treasure That Is Within You"
- Open Forum (Title to be determined)
- 2026 DOHM Women's Retreat "For Such A Time As This"



Do-It-Yourself At Home

Exploring new ways to treat and care for ourselves is becoming increasingly more important daily. 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



The DOHM continually prays for all of you. We stand together, offering support and strength through prayer, and we believe in the power of collective prayer to uplift and comfort one another. However, if you have a specific request you would like us to pray over, we invite you to submit it on our website at <u>www.daugthersofhope.org</u> or by email at <u>daugthersohope@aol.com</u>. Whether it is a personal struggle or a loved one in need, your prayer requests are welcomed and valued. Rest assured that your requests will be held confidential and treated with respect.

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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