



“BE WATCHFUL . . BE READY!”

Greetings and Welcome to the First Newsletter of 2025!

Ladies, the time is now—2025 is a year of readiness and purpose! **Jesus needs you.** Will your lamp be full when He calls? Don't let your oil run out. We are here for a reason.

In Matthew 25:1-13, we are reminded of the parable of the ten virgins—five were wise, and five were foolish. This powerful story calls us to reflect on our own readiness. In 2025, let's commit to being wise and vigilant women, fully prepared to answer God's call.

Nothing—fear, age, race, status, or education—can stand in the way of God's will when we embrace His purpose for our lives. I believe this year, He is preparing to use us in mighty and transformative ways. The tools we need to accomplish His will have already been given to us; we must step forward with faith and confidence.

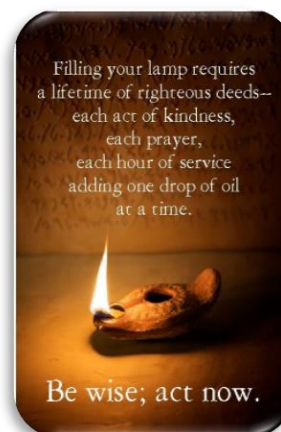
As Jesus said in Matthew 5:14-16 (The Message Bible):

"You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."

Let's shine brightly in 2025!

Mark your calendars for **May 17, 2025, at 11:00 AM.** The Daughters of Hope Ministry will host the "Don't Forget the Oil" Women's Tea, featuring Reverend Nikki Pearson. She will inspire us with practical wisdom on staying prepared and diligent in our faith walk. See the attached flyer for details. We can't wait to see you there!

Linda Gary, DOHM President



Inside This Issue

2. DOHM 2025 "Tea"
3. The Bridegroom's Call
4. Which Voice Will You Answer?
5. What Does Love Have To Do With It?
6. The Power of Love
7. You Must Be Born Again
8. "In The Spotlight"

Daughters of Hope Ministry 2025 "Tea"

Come join us for our upcoming 2025 Tea, "Don't Forget the Oil," scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2025 (11:00 am—2:00 pm), at the Comfort Inn & Suites Conference Center in Bowie, Maryland.

The theme of the Tea was inspired by the parable in Matthew 25:1-13, where Jesus likened the kingdom of heaven to ten virgins who took their lamps to meet the bridegroom; five were wise (prepared), and five were foolish (not prepared). This parable underscores the importance of preparation and spiritual readiness, reminding us to "keep our lamps burning" through faith and dedication. The oil symbolizes faith, spiritual integrity, and the qualities necessary to "keep our lamps burning" as we await Christ's return. The phrase, "Don't forget the Oil," is a reminder to maintain a steady, prepared, diligent, and faithful life.

We pray that as you participate, you will see how this parable speaks to your own life, encouraging you to nurture your spiritual "oil." This Tea will be an inspiring and meaningful time of fellowship, growth, and reflection.

Please see the flyer below for more information on how to register now (click on Registration tab or QR code). Also, when you register as a group of eight, a special discount will be applied to the standard rate. We look forward to your participation.

www.daughtersofhope.org

Daughters of Hope Ministry



Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Nikki Pearson



presents

Don't Forget the Oil

"Women's Tea"



"Stay Prepared & Diligent"

For more information and to register
please click the link or scan QR code below



[Registration](#)





Matthew 25: 1-13

Date: May 17, 2025
Time: 11am-1:30pm
Location: Comfort Inn & Suites
4500 Robert S. Crain Hwy
Bowie, MD 20722



Guest Psalmist: *Larry Vaughn*

The Bridegroom's Call

In the still of night, a whisper came,
The bridegroom calling, like a tender flame.
Ten maidens gathered, lamps in hand,
Awaiting the hour, the groom had planned.

Five held their oil, steadfast and wise,
Prepared for the wait beneath the skies.
The other five, their vessels bare,
Laughed in folly, unprepared.

Through the hours the darkness grew,
The call at midnight startled the few.
"Awake! Arise! The bridegroom nears!
Trim your lamps, dismiss your fears."

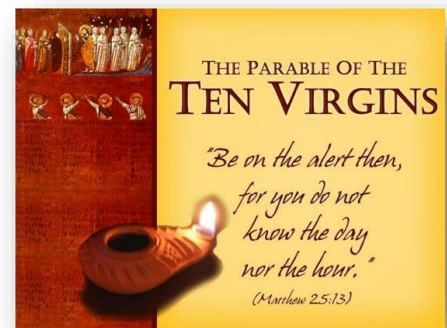
The wise stood ready, their flames alive,
Their light like stars, they seemed to thrive.
The foolish turned, desperate, unsure,
Pleading for oil from their sisters' store.

"Not so," said the wise, with steady tone,
"For your lack is a burden all your own.
Go now, buy what you lack and need,
Lest the feast begins while you yet plead."

They ran through shadows, an urgent plight,
But the feast door closed in the bridegroom's light.
Knocking in sorrow, they raised their cries,
But their tardy voices were met with sighs.

"I know you not," the bridegroom said,
For prepared hearts are the banquet's thread.
Keep watch, dear souls, be always awake,
For no one knows what hour He takes.

Thus the parable ends, a warning plain:
To stay ready, ever guarding the flame.
For the bridegroom comes, His timing His own,
And prepared, the faithful will enter His home.





Which Voice Will You Answer?

Proverbs 9 of the Bible talks of the voice of wisdom and the voice of foolishness. In this new year, we tend to make plans to do better or want a better year than the last one. Perhaps you had a good year in 2024 and want things to continue going well. Whatever your hope, path, and future, the voice you follow can affect it.

In Proverbs 9, the voice of wisdom makes preparations, sets the table, and is ready to receive whoever will. The voice of wisdom sends out agents to make sure the invitation is heard. The voice of wisdom offers something good for the soul, something meaningful for the inner man.

The voice of foolishness also offers an invitation, often something that will feed the flesh or make the self feel good, but only for a time. These two enticing voices appeal to our well-being, but a check in our spirit can let us know if the invitation is for the long or short term. One invitation leads to death: death of a vision, death of a planned future, or death of a dream. The other leads to something solid that will stand, an inheritance that sustains.

Both voices call out from high places in the city, prominent places in our lives, noticeable places, life decisions, and turning points. The audible or impression you hear could be through someone or something you read. Pay attention to how you are drawn to the voices. What do you want from your job? Sound instructions on how to do the job better, or not a lot of work or no hard work? Do you not want to hear why your husband does not agree with getting a new car or see yourself driving it, taking those road trips you have been dreaming of, and off you go buying it with "your own" money? When parenting, what's wise, giving your child more freedom and material things or giving them more life survival skills and character building? Which voice are you going to yield to?

In this scripture the voices are in the same surroundings, calling out, so you may hear both when deciding. How can you distinguish one from the other? Which invitation will you accept? True wisdom comes from God and not always man, though man may have abundant years. Spend time in the book of Proverbs of the Bible; a lot is said about the differences between foolishness and wisdom. God is not just waiting on you to come to Him for wisdom, but He is coming after you to offer it, choose well.

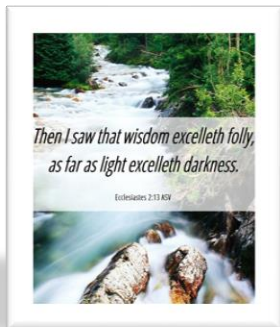
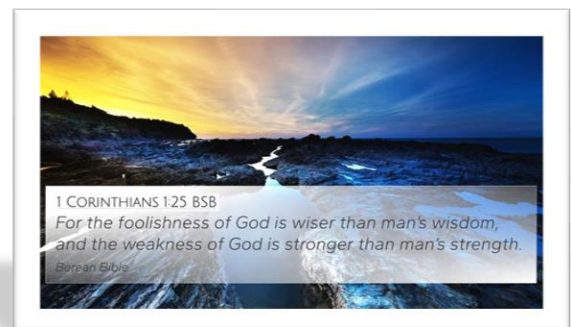
Foolish:

- Not recognizing the authority that comes from God.
- Do not acknowledge what the Lord has done for you.
- Violating God's command.

Wise:

- Discerns a situation and seeks to understand
- Reverence for God
- Wisdom gets more wisdom

Connie Lowe, DOHM Technical Advisor



What Does Love Have To Do With It?

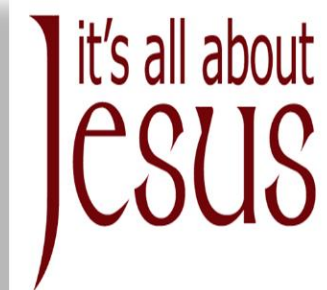
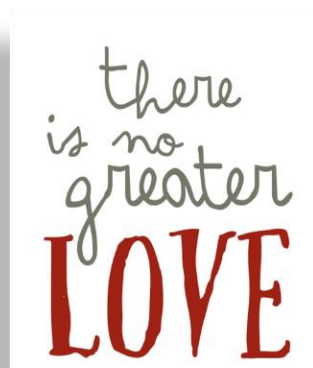
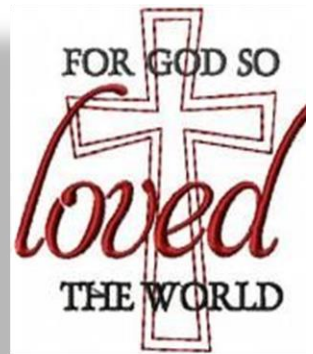
In a world filled with questions about love, one that we at times ask ourselves is, *"What does love have to do with it?"* For those who are seeking meaning and purpose in their lives and relationships, this question finds its most thoughtful answer in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. His story reveals that love is not just a momentary emotion or a romantic passion, but "love" is the very essence of life and faith in Jesus Christ.

- ♥ **Love Is Why He Came** – The Bible declares in John 3:16, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* At the heart of Jesus' mission was love, and this verse reveals the foundation of Jesus' ministry, that is love. He did not come to condemn the world but to seek and save it. He entered into the messiness of humanity, walking alongside the broken, the outcast, and the weary. His love was not passive, but was active. It reached out to touch the untouchable, to heal the sick, to forgive the sinner, and to restore hope to the hopeless.
- ♥ **Love Is Why He Stayed** – In John 15:13, Jesus said, *"Greater love has no one than this: than to lay down one's life for his friends."* Throughout His life, Jesus faced rejection, misunderstanding, and suffering. Yet He remained steadfast, driven by a love that transcended human comprehension. When others fled, Jesus stayed. When His disciples faltered, Jesus forgave. When the weight of the cross became unbearable, Jesus carried it anyway. His love was not just spoken but demonstrated through sacrifice. On the cross, Jesus bore the weight of humanity's sin, offering Himself as the ultimate act of love.
- ♥ **Love Is Why He Conquered** – Romans 8:38-39 reminds us, *"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* The story does not end at the cross. Love carried Jesus into the grave, but it also brought Him out of it. The resurrection is the ultimate proof that love is more powerful than death, sin, and despair. Through His resurrection, Jesus offers a love that cannot be defeated, a love that is eternal and unchanging.
- ♥ **Love Is Why We Live** – 1 John 4:19 says, *"We love Him because He first loved us."* Jesus did not just come to show love; He came to transform us through it. His love is an invitation to a new way of living. As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect His love in our relationships, our communities, and our daily actions. This love compels us to forgive as we have been forgiven, to serve as Jesus served, and to sacrifice for others as He sacrificed for us.

So, *What Does Love Have To Do With It?* In the context of Jesus, love has *everything* to do with it. It is the reason for His coming, the motivation behind His actions, and the foundation of His teachings. Love is not an afterthought or a secondary theme, it is the essence of who Jesus is and what He offers to us.

For those who follow Jesus, His love is life changing that challenges us to live differently, to love boldly, and to trust deeply. It reminds us that even in our darkest moments, we are deeply and eternally loved. As you reflect on this question, *"What does love have to do with it?"*, may you find the answer in the person of Jesus Christ, who has everything to do with love, and whose love changes everything.

Linda Price-Smith, DOHM Newsletter Editor



The Power Of Love

What is the power of love?

In this article, this question will be answered through scripture, drawing insights from the Bible rather than a secular perspective. Through Scripture, we will uncover the essence, source, and the impact of love.

First, let's examine the concept of power. Power is the energy of God Himself that dwells in us through the Holy Spirit. It is supernatural and divine and can be demonstrated in tangible ways. It is a free gift from GOD.

- Acts 1:8: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you."
- 1 Corinthians 2:4, "My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of the power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."
- 2 Timothy 1:7, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Let's explore the concept of LOVE

- 1 John 4:16, "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and who abides in love abides in God and God in him."
- John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son. That whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."
- 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7, "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 at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

Can you imagine how transformed this world would be if we harnessed power and love as God intended, reflecting His grace and compassion in all our actions? I believe we would experience a taste of heaven here on earth, living in harmony and peace as God intended.

Gretchen Huntley, DOHM Member

GOD IS LOVE



You Must Be Born Again!

Most people wish to spend eternity in heaven after they die. Just about everyone is familiar with John 3:16 which says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." When I was young, I thought a person who believed in Jesus by committing their life to Him would spend eternity in heaven and that coming forward in response to a pastor's altar call signified the commitment. The person would then receive the "Right Hand of Fellowship", his name would be written in the Lamb's Book of Life, and he would go to heaven when he died.

Since then, I have learned that there is much more to eternal salvation. The backstory is that when Adam and Eve sinned, the consequence of their sin was spiritual death and eternal separation from God. Everyone born since then inherit a sin nature and have a natural inclination to sin from birth. We are born spiritually dead, we commit and are guilty of our own sins, and are destined to spend eternity separated from God because of it. God is holy and Heaven, His dwelling place, is holy (Psalm 68:5). Because of our sinful nature, we are not capable of meeting the righteous requirements to be in His presence. The Good News is that God provided a plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. Jesus lived a sinless life and when He died on the cross, His death paid the price for the sin of all mankind. Jesus's death is substituted as payment for the sins of those who trust in Him as Savior.

When Nicodemus came to Jesus by night to inquire about the kingdom of heaven, Jesus told him that no one can enter the kingdom unless he is born again. The birth He was referring to is a spiritual birth, where one is born of the Holy Spirit. At conversion, those who trust in Jesus as Savior become new creations in Christ and receive a new divine nature. Ephesians 1:13-14 (TLB) says, "And because of what Christ did, all you others too, who heard the Good News about how to be saved, and trusted Christ, were marked as belonging to Christ by the Holy Spirit, who long ago had been promised to all of us Christians. His presence within us is God's guarantee that he really will give us all that he promised; and the Spirit's seal upon us means that God has already purchased us and that He guarantees to bring us to himself. This is just one more reason for us to praise our glorious God."

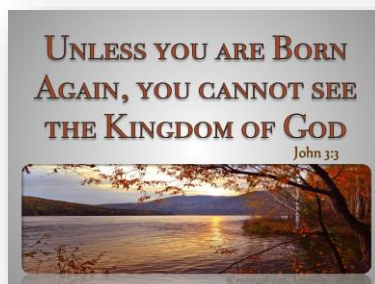
Spiritual birth is described on the website of www.gotquestions.org as follows:

When we place our faith in the risen Christ, a divine transaction takes place (2 Corinthians 5:21). God removes from us the sin, guilt, and condemnation we deserved because of our rebellion against Him. He throws our sin as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103:12). At the moment of repentance and faith, the Holy Spirit breathes new life into us, and our bodies become His temple (1 Corinthians 3:16). Our spirits can now commune with God's Spirit as He assures us that we belong to Him (Romans 8:16).

It is not those who are "good" that enter heaven, but those who have been redeemed. Ephesians 2:8-9 (TLB) says, "Because of his kindness, you have been saved through trusting Christ. And even trusting is not of yourselves; it too is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good we have done, so none of us can take any credit for it."

The only path to heaven is through faith in Jesus Christ. He is the door.

Cornette Cole, DOHM Treasurer



Romans Road (NLT)

The Problem: For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard (**Romans 3:23**).

The Consequences: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord (**Romans 6:23**).

The Solution: But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners (**Romans 5:8**).

The Declaration: If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved (**Romans 10:9-10**).

The Assurance: For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (**Romans 10:13**).

The Result: So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus (**Romans 8:1**).



Your Personal Bookmark:
Pathway to Salvation



Daughters of Hope Ministry – Event Vendor



"Your body has the incredible, God-given ability to heal itself. However, you are the only person who can unlock that healing. My job is to be a guide." Dr. Marcia Levi

Optimal Care Chiropractic is a natural health office delivering chiropractic, physical therapy, nutrition, and education services in Laurel, MD. While traditional Western medicine takes an outside-in approach to health, chiropractic care works by removing nervous system interference, which allows the body to heal naturally. Many people think that a chiropractic adjustment just helps with back or neck pain. They do not realize that, after an adjustment, many other things can improve in your body. Patients who have used our services have seen their blood pressure or their menstrual cycle improve as a result of removing interference in the nervous system.

At conception, the nervous system - the body's command center - is formed. The nervous system is the spinal cord, brain, and an intricate network of nerves that reach and affect every part of the body. The core of the nervous system is the spinal cord, which receives and transmits information in the body, and it is vital that you have a healthy nervous system throughout your lifetime. Any interference in your nervous system can create not only symptoms such as pain, but also can compromise your overall health.

During appointments at Optimal Care, critical aspects of function is emphasized. While the goal is to get out of pain, the ultimate objective is to get to the root cause of the pain so that patients can function better. For example, maybe you sleep on your stomach, or you walk with shoulders in a forward position. By getting information about daily habits, guidance can be provided about how to move properly in order to function better.

At Optimal Care, we want to help you elevate your health so you can live your best life, and would welcome the opportunity to care for you and your family! Click on the images/links below to find out more about services offered to help enhance your health. We also have a sister business, [Optimal Oasis](#), a boutique wellness center, that is located next door.



Dr. Marcia B. Levi
Optimal Care Chiropractic
(301) 362-5868
<https://www.optimalcarechiro.com/>



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

**MORE
DETAILS**
Coming Soon!

Upcoming EVENTS

- ✚ DOHM Tea, "Don't Forget The Oil" (Saturday, May 17, 2025) – Register now at <https://daughtersofhope.org/daughters-of-hope-tea-event-2025/>
- ✚ DOHM Women's Retreat, "For Such A Time As This" (March 5-7, 2026)
- ✚ Entrepreneur Event, "Bring Up the Treasure That Is Within You" (Date TBD)
- ✚ Open Forum – (Title and Date to be determined)



The DOHM continues to pray 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 an individual specific request that you would like us to pray over, we invite you to submit it on our website at www.daughtersofhope.org or by email at daughtersohope@aol.com. 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 in confidentiality and treated with respect.

The DOHM is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your tax-deductible contributions are welcomed to support the DOHM's mission and vision in **Helping Oppressed People Everywhere**, to build up the spirit, soul, and body. Thanks to those who continue to donate, your generosity is very much appreciated. Donations can be made via PayPal, credit cards, and checks that can be mailed to the Daughters of Hope Ministry, P.O. Box 583, Glenn Dale, MD 20769. Year-end tax statements will be provided.



CONTACT US

Daughters of Hope Ministry

P.O. Box 583, Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769

443-422-DOHM (3646)

www.daughtersofhope.org

daughtersohope@aol.com

Twitter: @dohmG62

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.

Scripture:

- Zechariah 2:10 – "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming, and I will dwell in your midst", says the Lord."
- Galatians 6:1 – "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

