



Dayspring Discipleship Institute

"...the ministry of the Word" - Acts 6:4

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Teaching – Equipping – Training – Ministering

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April 2009

"...the Dayspring from on high has come to give light to those that sit in darkness..." --Luke 1:78-79

Newsletter

“Remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

The silhouette of pain is etched against a graying sky. I stand at the summit of the world as two men talk, hanging in the shadows of death. One is dying because of his guilt; the other because of the world's guilt.

“Remember me when you come into your kingdom,” the guilty one said to the Guiltless.

“What kingdom are you going to?” I wondered.

He looked at me and said, “The one that I created.”

I gasped in disbelief at His bloodied mass. “You a king? How? I’ve only seen you in pauper’s rags!”

“I chose the rags...for you.”

“I don’t understand...”

“Draw close. What name is written on this cross.” I recoiled in horror as I saw not His name but my own written there. Had some incredible mistake been made? Were they looking for me? A surge of fear swept through me, leaving me limp. “Don’t be afraid, I have taken your place,” said He.

The rains beat upon my face and blood flowed down His body and onto my hands as He looked down upon me; No longer was He interceding for the masses. He was praying for me: “Father, forgive her for she knows not what she does.” And in that moment of Holy Communion, His broken body and shed blood, I saw what I had not known before. It was my sin that compelled Purity and Majesty to hang bleeding from a tree. It was I—not the Jews or Romans—that hammered nails into His flesh.

“Remember me, Lord,” I cried with the thief, “I have robbed you of your majesty.”

“You cannot take from me what I have laid down for you.” Pain seared His anguished face. “I must go now to a forsaken place...my Father who sent me must now forsake me.”

His Light began to flicker and darkness began to fall; I cried out for Him not to go. “If I do not go there, you must. This is your cross you know,” was His reply.

“But I can’t!”

“That is why you must let me go. For I will rise again.”

Tears mixed with the rain that streaked my face. “How can I ever repay you?”

He smiled at me with a love that stirred the very embers of my soul. “Take up your cross and follow me.”

“I don’t understand...” I fingered the gold piece around my neck. “Is this the cross?”

“The cross I offer you is not of gold but of wood, splinters, and crucifixion; that your old life might die and the fullness of my kingdom come into you.”

“But how can I survive crucifixion?”

“If you would live, you must die. Because I have borne your death-tree, the cross you are to bear has been transformed into a tree of life. I am the death-sacrifice; you...a living sacrifice...if you choose.”

“Remember me when you come into your kingdom...”

“My kingdom is within you now. Remember me in the world.”

And He who was Life grew limp; and He who was Light grew dark as He began to enter a place I would never have to know. “Don’t go!” I cried, but he heeded not my words, “I love you.”

He opened His eyes for one last time. “If you love me, obey me, and I will come again unto you, and you and I will be one.”

Then the earth trembled and the heavens cried. And with an unfamiliar weight upon my shoulders, I made my way through the darkened day to a Garden Place to wait for the Easter Son to rise.

-- Brenda

Easter Week Schedule

Chapel open daily, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Noon Devotionals, Monday – Thursday

Thursday Evening Vespers, 7 p.m.

Dark Friday Observances, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service, April 12 – 6:45 a.m.

Chapel Hours Easter Week

The Dayspring Community Prayer Chapel will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. the week leading to Easter for individual reflection and communion. For your convenience Easter Week Books will be in the chapel highlighting daily events in the life of Christ beginning with Palm Sunday. They also include a detailed time-line for the events of Passover Friday.

Noon Devotionals

Monday – Thursday April 6-9

Scriptural focus on events in Christ's life on the corresponding day leading to Passover will be observed in the chapel daily from 12 to 1 p.m. Scriptural reflections will occur in the first half hour followed by personal meditation and communion. Those who attend are free to leave at any time following the scriptural focus.

Communion will be available for personal observance in the chapel with the exception of the noon day devotional hour.

In Remembrance...

*Please Consider Setting Aside
Dark Friday
as a Day of Personal
Remembrance, Reflection and Response.*

*We invite you to come to the Chapel Observances
for the day or as you can
and to use the Prayer Garden for your personal time
of meditation and reflection.*

Chapel is Open from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

*A Scriptural narrative of events and times
of this Passover Day will be provided as an aid
for personal reflection and meditation.*

*Observance is essentially individual and personal,
with intermittent times of guided focus.*

Guided Focus

9:00

the time of Crucifixion

12:00 – 3:00

*darkness falls upon the earth
chapel is darkened in silent vigil*

3:00

the last words of Christ

*Personal communion – the Lord's supper – is
encouraged throughout the day on an individual basis.*

Tell your friends and family of this day of
Remembrance at the Chapel and Prayer Garden.

Thursday Evening Vespers

Passover Observance – Lord's Supper

7:00 – 8:30 p.m., April 9

A table set with the basic instruments of the Passover observance will provide the centerpiece of the evening as Brenda leads in the tradition of Passover and its significance in the last supper of Christ with his disciples as well as in our new covenant communion. The evening will conclude with observance of the Lord's Supper.

Easter Sunrise Service

will begin at 6:45 a.m. at Riley's Berm in the Prayer Garden

Conversations on Mysteries from a Sacred Hand

*A King hidden in a manger...
a Conqueror concealed on a donkey...*

*The majesty of God often comes wrapped in subtle
garb...in brown paper packaging...in the everyday
things we hardly notice...in simple words scripted on
parchment or etched into stone.*

*Miracles carried in reed baskets, hidden in the
crumbs of fish and bread.*

*The world is literally strewn with staggering
mysteries...*

...mysteries from a Divine hand.

*Tucked away in the creative Word of God...
tucked away in Heaven's ways here...
are morsels of mystery...*

...allusions to an unfathomable God

Mysteries from a Sacred Hand *Evenings of Conversation with Brenda*

*Because the hyperbole of this age seems to be dulling our soul, I want to experiment with a new format designed to put us in touch with the grandeur of God and challenge the small boxes we sometimes carry Him in. I hope to make this a monthly series, but we will begin with two. **The response to these first two will determine if we continue a monthly series in the fall.** Below is more information about the first two evenings of conversation and what will follow in the fall if the response is strong enough to encourage a fall program.*

-- Brenda

Conversation #1: *The Mystery of Earth* **7:30 p.m. Monday, April 20, Dayspring Chapel**

Brenda will talk for an hour on **our ancient earth, earth before time...before Eden...earth in Eden.** There will be a break for refreshments and to allow those to leave who cannot stay for a follow-up period of discussion and questions on the thoughts presented in the first hour.

Conversation #2: *The Mystery of the Universe* **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, Dayspring Chapel**

Brenda's thoughts will take us to **the enormous universe, the universe before time...the universe as God's throne.** The evening will include a fascinating power point presentation. The same format as above will apply to this and all future conversations.

(Register for these Conversations by phone – 972-722-1905)

There will be no charge for this series. A basket will be available for a love offering.

Future conversations in this series will include:

The Mystery of Creation, The Mystery of Time, The Human Mystery, The Divine Mystery

Roundtable Off to Good Start

The "Kaleo" Roundtable experienced a good start on March 24 with a refreshing mix of age, spiritual energy and personal circumstance.

Ten to twelve women ranging in age from their 30's to 60's will be meeting twice monthly at noon on Tuesday to seek a more "called-out" life in Christ. The Roundtable offers a place for honestly grappling with the personal obstacles for discipleship as well as those inherent in American Christianity for going deeper in Christ.

In using life as workshop the Lord hammers out His work in us. The Roundtable offers a casual setting for working through the issues of life and in lifting those circumstances as an offering to God. It is here in this yielded crucible that the chemistry between God and His people becomes transformational.

Through a combination of Scriptural study, the biographies and writings of great women of faith, and individual circumstances, Brenda leads the group in personal application and in a spiritual development that seeks to call each woman out into a unique and impacting presence in her world.

Prayer Garden News

Much Needed Help. How grateful we are for the extra help with the prayer garden. Our broken hibiscus garden fountain pump is up and running thanks to Kim Stefani. Others have donated financially to help with many of the pressing needs of the garden. It is incredibly encouraging to see such response. It is also amazing how incredibly helpful it is for someone to come in and take care of “small things.” They really aren’t small at all, and we thank you.



Saturday Workdays. April is our “coming out” month. With the exception of Easter weekend, every Saturday morning in April will have someone working in the garden. Please contact us if you can help.

Expenses for Azalea Beds

For our two azalea areas to thrive we need to raise the beds with 2 or 3 layers of stone. Due to the cost of the least expensive stone, we will do one site at a time as the Lord prompts donations. The range of cost below depends on the number of layers needed.

Garden of Unborn: \$400 - \$600

Tabernacle Alcoves: \$600 - \$800

Prayer Ministry Update

Small Group Requests Prayer Training. Christy Jones’ Emmaus study group has requested training in how to enter into the deeper, relational praying of the prayer of communion. Brenda will meet with them on Tuesday morning after Easter (April 13) to teach and lead in this form of prayer. **For anyone who is interested in attending at this or at another time please let us know.**

The Prayer of Communion

This form of prayer is an instrument for experiencing the presence of God in profound ways. It moves the follower of Christ into an intimacy with Him that infuses one with peace and an overwhelming sense of love and worship. It is this praying that allows one to better know God and recognize His voice. This kind of prayer is the basis for all other effective praying

Deepening Our Spiritual Life

Brenda will be teaching small and medium sized groups on this form of contemplative, “relational” praying. **If you have interest please contact us.** From May through July opportunities will be provided to participate in a four-hour period of personal solitude in seeking God’s presence through prayer. The first of these prayer times is slated for May 22-23. Look for details of this and future times in the May newsletter.

WHEN GOD SHOWS UP

At the brink of suicide, my brother called me. I had never heard him so depressed. His gun was on the table, ready for use. My thoughts reverted back to years ago when our uncle committed suicide the same way, and I was afraid.

I kept praying for him, attempting to share the hope of Christ with him.

I enlisted the prayer team to pray as well. They prayed for the Lord’s intervention to preserve him and to provide those who could help him and to use this to draw my brother into a relationship with the Lord.

Normally a happy man, the “life of the party,” my brother was hardly recognizable to me at this point. He had also fallen back into alcoholism. Within a few days, thankfully, he was in a safe place, a treatment center. But the care there was not as he had hoped. He returned in a month, slightly improved on an antidepressant, but still commenting he felt as bad as when he left for the treatment center, particularly because of painful

deteriorating relationships with his daughters. The prayer team continued to pray, adding prayers for his relationship with his daughters.

The Lord used means I’d never expected. Upon his return, my brother stayed for several days with a cousin, a recovered alcoholic, who encouraged him to pray. (I didn’t even think our cousin was a Christian.) The rest was God’s miraculous work. Over the next few weeks I heard statements from my brother like, “I don’t know how or what God’s doing, but it’s just one miracle after another.” “My faith is like a personal relationship now, instead of religion.” “I feel His Presence and power.” “I get up every day and ask God what He wants me to do and then do it.” As I heard joy in his voice, he told of restored relationships with his daughters.

Only God could have done all this. I’m amazed at the ways in which our prayers have been answered.

Grateful