



Dayspring Discipleship Institute

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

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Teaching – Equipping – Training – Ministering

Brenda Cox, Executive Director

October 2009

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

Newsletter

Though I walk through the valley...

Dearhearts,

A note from a friend upon my mother's death carried these words from Psalm 116: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." The suffering and death of His children does not go unnoticed...or uncherished. It is a fragrance only heaven can give to the heart. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." In February, my Mother told me and my daughter and two of Mom's friends, that she did not think she was going to live much longer. In May, Mother died of an aneurysm. In the presence of her final enemy, she had been prepared.

Life does not pass from earth without His preparation. My grandfather lay in a coma for three days. Just before he died he sat up in bed and said, "Why there's Josie..." and proceeded to name several loved ones who had already died. He then laid back and died with a smile on his face. A table had been set before him.

My aunt Helen was a crotchety, Maud-like character who never had much regard for Christians. My daughter and I had prayed for her for years. The last time I approached her about where she was with Jesus, she pretty much bit my head off with words that her relationship with God – if she had one – was between her and Him and she didn't need my Baptist prayers. So the following Thanksgiving, when Tiffani indicated she was going to ask her about her relationship with Christ when she came to eat with us from her assisted living center, I warned her of possible blood-letting. To my discomfort, Tiffani was undeterred. During the Cowboy's game, her query came tumbling out and I braced for the blast. "I don't know much about God," she responded, "in fact, He kind of scares me. But His Son, Jesus...I love Jesus. He just sits on a crooked tree and listens to me. Jesus...I love." Somehow...just between her and God...a table had been set, and aunt Helen was prepared when she left earth two years later.

Carroll Bond was a brilliant young businessman in our Sunday School class who, in his late twenties, built the Lincoln Towers on west LBJ. At 32 he was diagnosed with leukemia. We prayed persistently for his healing. As we prayed...he called in the pastor. "Bruce, you're going to have a lot of mopping up to do with these folks who believe the Lord is going to heal me...we need to talk

about my funeral." Three days later he died. A sacred rod and staff had comforted him.

Nancy was a member of my Sunday School class at Wilshire many years ago. Laughter always attended my times with her, and lunch with her that previous Tuesday was no exception. Just past midnight on Sunday morning as I worked on my Sunday School lesson, I was drawn to pray for my class. As I came to Nancy, I began to sob...deep, inexplicable sobbing. "Lord, wrap Nancy in the arms of your Holy Spirit and hold her closer to you than she has ever been." Certain that something must be wrong, I looked at the clock. It was 1:07. She was not in class that morning. At 5:00 I got a phone call from a mutual friend and class member. Nancy's estranged husband had come home that afternoon with a gun and chased her out onto Lover's Lane where he shot and killed her. I agonized. *Why had I not prayed for her protection?* Then came a distant reminder. *You prayed the prayer I gave you.* Sometimes we don't understand the events that are in place on this planet that, for whatever reason, are set. The river is moving and has come to our door. Yet He did not leave Nancy alone; somewhere in that prayer was a path of presence and eternity. God does not call forth random prayers. He does not extract tears from the soul without purpose.

As I think on those gripped in Herculean battles of life and death...battles with cancer and Alzheimer's, with heart disease and inexplicable tragedies, a loving God tucked in the folds of suffering need not be lost there. In this blighted orb He still is a tender Savior who weeps over the pain of his friends and who carries our tears in the flask of His heart...who sets a table for us as we Passover into Him.

I love you,

Brenda

"Blessed be God...the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our tribulation."

II Corinthians 1: 3-4

"Put thou my tears into your bottle; are they not recorded in your book?"

Psalm 56: 8

*An Evening of Conversation
on the
Mystery of Creation*

**Thursday, October 8 at 7:30
Dayspring Chapel – 511 E. Boydston**

Join Brenda for an evening that explores the changes that came to creation as a result of the fall. On the canvas of creation is painted a portrait of God. Though the spiritual realm slipped behind a physical veil with the fall of man, God chose the medium of creation itself to reveal Himself to us. Power point presentations will intersperse Brenda's talk on the Creator as revealed in His creation.

Adhering to the traditional format, there will be a 15-minute break at 8:30 for refreshments followed by a period of questions and discussion.

To help us prepare for refreshments please RSVP if you plan to attend.

**Popular “Conversations” Series
Schedules Revamped**

Due to the complexities of nighttime schedules and the strong responses to both our “Conversations” series, one on Prayer and the other on the Mysteries of God, we have decided to alternate them monthly beginning in January. Each “Conversation” will occur every other month, but together will combine to provide monthly events.

“Mysteries” Conversations.

- *The Mystery of Time* -- Thursday, November 12
- *The Human Mystery* – Thursday, January 21
- *The Mystery of Longing* -- Tuesday, March 9
- *The Divine Mystery* -- Tuesday, May 4

Conversations on Prayer.

- Tuesday, December 8
- Thursday, February 11
- Tuesday, April 6

**We Thank You for Your Continued Financial Support in this time of Economic Uncertainty.
May the Lord Bless You for Your Faithfulness.**

Classics Book Club Enjoys Strong Turnout

The return of our Classics Book Club after a 5 year hiatus has found over twenty people ready to delve into Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Cost of Discipleship*, with 16 in attendance for the first discussion at Dave and D'Ann Bohrnstedt's home. It was an evening marked by fellowship, great refreshments and probing discussion of the work of one of the 20th century's towering spiritual figures.

The club will meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings with the next gathering slated for October 6 at 7:00 p.m.

**Reserve Your Place at the Table
Dinner Book Club
7:00 p.m. Friday, November 13**

James Duncan's *Relax and Let God*

Books must be ordered so let us know soon of your plans to attend.

Brenda's Teachings Available On Website

The past three **Conversations on Prayer** plus the Sunday Morning Chapel study on **the Beatitudes** are now up on the Dayspring web site. Others that are to shortly come on-line are:

- The **Book of John** Chapel Study
- **Conversations** on the Mystery of Earth and the Mystery of the Universe
- **Incarnate Life** Bible Study
- Excerpts from Brenda's Retreats/Seminars and other teachings

If, as you listen to these, you think of others living here or elsewhere who might benefit, would you let them know of our site and of these teachings?

...Through the Dayspring Web Ministry...

Our desire is that believers who might not otherwise know of us or be touched by our ministry might be encouraged and strengthened and drawn into a deeper walk with Christ; might be reached with the life-changing possibilities of who He wants to be in their lives.
