



# Dayspring Discipleship Institute

505 E. Boydston, Rockwall, Texas 75087

972-722-1905

[www.dayspringdiscipleship.org](http://www.dayspringdiscipleship.org)

“...the ministry of the Word” – Acts 6:4

Teaching – Equipping – Training – Ministering

Brenda Cox, Executive Director

October 2014 “...the Dayspring from on high has come to give light to those that sit in darkness...” – Luke 1:78-79 Newsletter

## *First and Second Nets*

Dearhearts,

On their journey west pioneers looked for landmarks to tell them where they were and confirm their timing. They had to reach Chimney Rock and Scott’s Bluff along the North Platt River by a certain date or they could not make it over the Rockies and on to the “promised land” of Oregon before winter. There are such markers in our eastward journey toward the Morning Star. One of these is the principle of First and Second Nets.

At the beginning of Christ’s earthly ministry He told the men on the Galilean Seashore who were cleaning their nets after a futile night of fishing to launch out into the deep and put their nets down a second time. When they did, the nets came back so full they broke. At the end of his earthly ministry we see the same scene on the same seashore and Christ instructs them to put their nets down a second time. This time when they brought their nets up they were bulging with enormous fish. *But their nets did not break*... a sacred omen of the “promise of power” yet to come through the Holy Spirit. This is a marker, a picture, of the journey for those who follow Christ.

At the beginning, His summons was “Follow me.” And they left their broken nets and followed. Passionately. Inconsistently. Wrestling with their own frailties, there were soaring moments of miracles followed by great failures: denial, bickering, jockeying for position at the throne. A ragged mix of bounty and broken nets.

At the end of His earthly ministry, His summons was “Go into all the world.” With nets bulging with the Holy Spirit, they were empowered to go. It was the Promise that empowered their nets, now bulging with souls and nations, to hold. No more pettiness or bickering, they gathered, now, in one heart and one accord. They went out in boldness to suffer and die.

To face the winds of persecution and preach to those winds of Christ.

The first nets is a call to miracle and heady adventure. A summons to possibilities beyond imagining. The second follows a desolate place... a time of death or despair. A time of the unimaginable. Their king had fallen. His government without end never even began. When Peter said he was going fishing, he was returning to broken nets abandoned so long ago on a golden shore... fit companions for broken dreams. The old must die before the new can birth.

The journey of the children of Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land is a picture of first and second nets. In the crossing of the Red Sea, they passed over in miracle. Amazing, heady stuff! And yet, they struggled and stumbled amid soaring moments of faith and commitment, then utter failure. Wandering for 40 years with broken nets once filled with miracles, this whole generation of strugglers had to die before the second nets of the Jordan at flood stage. This time, made new by death and birth, they had to put their feet into the floodwaters for them to part. This time, they went in to possess the land... a land still filled with giants, still flowing with milk and honey. Here, there was much more to do than follow pillars of cloud and fire. There were giants to slay, walled cities to take, and the land to clear. But this time... the nets of their humanity did not break.

Look for the first and second nets along your way. It will tell you where you are. It will let you know you have not lost your way. You are still headed for a land of promise.

I love you,

©2014 Dayspring Discipleship Institute

*This newsletter was to have carried a major emphasis on the Pine Ridge Mission Outreach. Our two teams recently returned from a very productive trip and with significant steps toward a dental clinic in Porcupine. We are eager to update you on the details. But events at home began to occur while we were in Pine Ridge that overshadow everything else and mean a radical change in the ministry.*

# The End of the Dayspring Community Prayer Garden

## Sale of the Dayspring Office and Grounds

At the end of July we received notice that our office complex was being sold to Children's Relief International, a Christian ministry that feeds hungry children in Africa and India, – with the stipulations and reassurances that no changes would occur to the prayer garden and Dayspring's stewardship of it.

While in Pine Ridge, we received the first of a confusing labyrinth of messages from the new owners in an email to Gay, "It must be clear to you by now that we have competing agendas for the prayer garden." Immediately upon my return on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup>, I inquired about the prayer garden. *I want everything to stay pretty much the same*, the owner assured me, *I don't have plans for any changes. My desire is that we have a convergence of ministries with the garden.* When Caroline expressed her confusion to him two days later over having been told not to do anything in the garden we had tended for 10 years, he looked at her with a smile and said, "Well you know what they say, 'all good things'..." The following Wednesday in setting a meeting time with his son who is property manager, I expressed a desire to hear about their vision and to share some of ours and see how they might work together. After a 15 second pause, he said "I don't quite know how to navigate that statement... We have a vision for the garden and are moving forward quickly with it, and it really doesn't matter what your vision is."

On the following Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> a written notice taped to my office door told me to be out of my downstairs office and parlor in six days. A large, upstairs office area was offered to us for temporary rent for slightly less than what we had been paying for the chapel, office and parlor combined. We have agreed upon a less expensive office on the second floor until we can find a permanent place for Dayspring's relocation.

In our meeting of Friday the 19<sup>th</sup>, we were told they did not want the prayer garden, desiring, instead, to have a more "family friendly, forward looking" site.

I am writing this at the end of a long weekend in which almost 30 men and women including an 8 year old girl moved most of the counseling office, and all of the library and parlor to storage and moved the business office across the building to a larger room that will also serve for counseling. Today, all items related to the prayer garden have been removed and stored, mostly, on Jack and Gay Bostick's property. I am overwhelmed with gratitude by the sacrifice of so many to accomplish such a daunting task in so short a time and for those who had come earlier to lovingly pack the collection of rare Christian books.

## So What Does This Mean for Us?

It means —

- the only part of the Dayspring ministry that is not in the ditch is the prayer ministry which is actually being fed and energized by this and the Pine Ridge Outreach, though our follow-up focus there has been affected.
- the Lord willing, we *will* recover but it will take time and we will need help.
- as long as we remain in the temporary space upstairs, we will have access to the chapel, but once we leave, chapel use for what we have always done (studies, Saturday Meditations and in-house prayer retreats) is over.
- our Thursday evening fall semester study on *The Revolutionaries* is cancelled. As things are, it is impossible to prepare or plan or know where to have it.
- *The Saving Leonardo Discussion* is suspended for now as well.
- *The Antiquities Library* is packed away and display cases stored until we can find a permanent solution for our offices.
- Events and teachings related to the library are sidelined until further notice.
- *The Parlor Book Club* will meet in homes.
- *Tuesday Noon Roundtable* will meet in the upstairs office.
- *Sunday Morning Revelation Study* continues in chapel until God moves us to another office site.

*It Means* we are open to creating another prayer garden in Rockwall, but it will not happen without miracles. The Lord will have to provide:

- Property we can own and -
- a Village

There is no way 6-7 women can again create a garden and maintain it as has been the case for a decade. It has to be a community that decides it wants a prayer garden and is willing to commit resources and invest time and effort for its creation and continuance.

Should a village rise up, we will be happy to invest our time and effort and knowledge to coordinate the effort and to provide the usable items from the original garden.

## *The Only Thing that Keeps Me from Quitting a prayer for the garden begun 8 months ago*

At 67, I am clearly at a time – and with all that has happened I am clearly at a place - where retirement is appealing. Interest in most of what I and the ministry have offered (with the exception of counseling and, for the most part, Sunday mornings) has been declining for at least 3 years and I have frequently wondered why I continue to try to lead a shrinking ministry that seems to have little corporate impact for His realm.

And, yet, the Lord has not released me to be free to spend more time with my children and grandchildren, to just drive across this land to landmarks I haven't seen yet...to travel the way I love to. I am ready to quit. But I can't...not yet.

*Eight months ago* I began praying specifically for the prayer garden. A prayer for the ministry was begun at the same time, but they were separate prayers. I asked the Lord to pour out an added measure of blessing upon the garden. Blessing of fruitfulness and just physical beauty. Blessing of peace and healing. And the strongest prayer was that the sense of His presence would press in so heavily upon those who enter that they would be gripped by God and drawn to Him. I prayed as well that the Lord would bring the garden into "second nets." My prayer was for second nets for the ministry as well.

At the time I offered these "second nets" prayers I was not thinking of what that probably meant. As this "second nets" principle is traced through scripture, one finds that there is almost always a "death" of some sort that precedes it...a brick wall...a defeating situation.

Whatever errors there may have been in my 8 month prayer, we are assured in Romans that the Holy Spirit corrects and guides and adjusts our prayers.

What this means is, I have to allow God time to speak a final word. We must wait to see what God does or doesn't do. Is this the death before new life? Before resurrection? Or is it just death? We must give God time to show His hand.

In the meantime...we pray.

## *A Guestchamber*

With five days to move three downstairs office areas and one upstairs area I tried to find ways to make the large upstairs space work for our needs but regardless of how we measured and configured, it worked poorly at best and was not worth \$1400 a month. After seven of us fanned out over Rockwall looking unsuccessfully for space, I went before the Lord. *I know Jesus had a direct line with you. He knew where the donkey was...He knew*

*where the upper room was for Passover. If we're to find a place, you are going to have to bring it...and quickly! Where is our upper room? Show us our upper room.* On the third plea, a whisper of a sentence in my spirit said, "You have your upper room." Startled, I actually pointed upward and said, "Upstairs?"

I then turned to Luke 22 to read the account of Christ sending his disciples to a man "who will show you a guestchamber." When they met the man, he took them to a large upper room. I then went to Acts 1 where the disciples, Mary the mother of Jesus, and the women who had ministered to Jesus were all gathered together in one accord, fasting and praying in an upper room (likely the same one of Passover). Christ's instructions to them had been: *Don't leave Jerusalem until the promise comes.*

All this suddenly became, not "Logos" Word – universal communication from God to His church, but "Rhema" Word – a personal communication. A smaller, space upstairs was made available that actually did work for our needs. It is a guestchamber...a temporary provision. It is, literally and spiritually, our upper room in which we are to gather and pray. We are not to leave Jerusalem – a place of death but also of resurrection – until the promise comes, though there is not a clue what that promise is or what it means. But we have our commission. We are to pray.

## *Upper Room Prayer Watch*

On Sunday evening the 28<sup>th</sup>, I decided not to wait and sent out a handful of texts to say I was going to the upper room to pray Monday evening. Hoping maybe 1 or 2 would show on such short notice, seven came to pray for God's will and purposes to be done. Five came the next night for prayer for Pine Ridge. The Lord is calling those of us involved with the ministry to gather together in one heart and pray...seeking Him.

My invitation is for any of you to come who will on **Monday nights at 7:00 for seeking God's will and purposes and/or on Thursday nights for Pine Ridge.** Though the numbers in the first upper room grew to 120, I'm not expecting ours will grow much, but I deeply desire your presence should you choose.

---

***For those who have given memorial funds for use in the prayer garden that have not yet been used...we will be returning your money. For those who have placed memorial stones there, you may either pick them up from us or we will keep them for a possible future garden...whichever you prefer.***

## *How are We to Respond?*

A rip has come in the spiritual fabric and whether that tear gets larger or whether it mends depends on us. Whether God is honored or Satan wins is determined not by others but by us. This has to do with the balance in the spiritual realm that is required if God's purposes are to be accomplished and His kingdom is to be established in any given situation. It has to do with "the center of gravity" that last month's Dearhearts was about.

September's newsletter was written the middle of August because of my trip to Pine Ridge by way of Colorado to visit my son and grandson the end of August. This was before we understood the consequence of the sale of the property. But the principle of "balance" in the spiritual realm is why Christ instructs us to love and forgive, to bless and grace. It has to do with balance and it has to do with "binding and loosing."

***Binding and Loosing.*** Our responses determine if God's power to heal and redeem and restore will be unleashed or locked down; if Satan's wiles are encouraged and fueled or bound. *We* are the critical factor in which side wins the battle. Critical to which kingdom prevails in a given sphere or circumstance.

### ***Our Responses Must be Those of "Loosing."***

In Matthew 5:38-48 Christ gives an array of responses that restore balance in the spiritual realm and iron the wrinkles out of the spiritual fabric. That loose power in heaven to move into circumstances and defeat the powers of darkness. ***So...***

***We are praying for them*** (Matt. 5: 44). We are praying for Alan and Jason. We are praying for their ministry. There are many wonderful people in this ministry who carry the light of Christ and who show the love of Christ in their lives both here and in Africa and India. Their ministry is doing many wonderful things.

***We are seeking to Bless*** (Matt. 5: 44). We pray God's blessing upon their ministry and we are praying that God will bless the leadership in new ways with the stirring of His Spirit and will bring them into a deeper knowledge of truth.

***We Forgive.*** Forgiveness is one of the great "loosing" responses. Looking at our own inability to fix or heal or redeem is the reason why we don't forgive. Looking at God's ability to heal and redeem and resurrect from the dead is the reason why we can. It was Christ's forgiveness from the cross that loosed the power of God to save and to make all things new.

***We pray God will guide us in our responses and attitudes...*** will check us when we are off and give us a spirit of humility. We pray He will show us when to

respond with firmness and when to respond with deference and will in all things give us the spirit of Christ.

***We Grieve.*** That means this will be sloppy at times. But we will get there, and we will loose and not bind.

## *The Binding and Loosing Principle*

We are asked to give unnatural responses to injustice and unfairness because we have a force on our side waiting to be unleashed through our responses. Waiting to fight on our behalf to do what we cannot. To fight on behalf of a Righteous Kingdom, to establish **His** authority where Satan seeks to rule.

*Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.* Matthew 16:19

Binding and loosing is the single most powerful principle of God that I know of in human relationships. I have seen it restore impossible marriages and liberate imprisoned hearts. I have seen it release emotions locked down by anger and resentment and bitterness.

Whenever I am in a situation here on earth in which I am responding with fear, worry, jealousy, anger, bitterness or any number of non-faith responses, ***by those responses*** I am drawing the circumstance to myself and the limit of my own abilities to do anything about it. It is as though these very responses are the cords that bind the circumstance to me and tie me up in it. As long as these responses are active, I am snared in the event. It is ever present with me as are the people responsible for it. The very people I may want to have nothing to do with are living in me...haunting the rafters of my soul...indeed, controlling my life. I am bound up. Even worse...so is God. Dismayingly, He submits Himself to our free will. As long as we are calling the shots in a certain sphere, He is not. What we bind up here on earth with our anger or resentment or fear, we bind in heaven God's power to flow in any significant way. **BUT IF...By FAITH...**we yield the event, the person, the circumstance...to God and offer it with loosening grip and open hand to Him to do with as He will, then it looses God's power in heaven to flow like a mighty, unhindered torrent into a situation to set it free. It is the difference between partial flow of God's power and the full flow of His power.

---

**Note that Dayspring will be using a  
NEW MAILING ADDRESS**

**PO Box 552  
Fate, TX 75132**