



Dayspring Discipleship Institute

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

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Teaching – Equipping – Training – Ministering

Brenda Cox, Executive Director

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

Newsletter

Dearhearts,

It is in the presence of God that His people find their strength and their peace in this journey here. The trouble with prosperity is that it camouflages the realities of this harsh place with a rosy haze that minimizes the need for vibrant faith. Generic faith finds its place quite comfortably in Laodicea; such faith does not sustain in the winters of our soul or in the calamities of loss. In its wealth, Laodicea was needless and worshipped a Job's friends god who proved righteousness with wealth. Yet Christ's words tell of another world - one of tribulation - in which faith does not suspend the harsh realities but equips us to overcome them in Him. Christian history – the history of the faithful – tells this story.

In the second century, as Polycarp burned at the stake, he was engulfed in the presence of the Lord and died with a smile on his face. The Marquis of Argyle of Scotland, wrapped in the presence of God, went to his death "in the most perfect peace."

Jeanne Guyon came from wealth, had an oppressive marriage, was eventually separated from her children and was imprisoned in the Bastille for 9 years because of her teachings on prayer. Yet it was in her tribulation that she came to know God in profound ways. Her writings continue to part the folds of God's mysteries as few have done. Susannah Wesley buried 11 of 19 children and was left alone for many months to provide for her children while her minister-husband was in debtor's prison. Their house burned 3 times and her husband abandoned her and the children for several months over a political disagreement. In it all, Susannah spent 2 hours daily seeking the Lord. There she found comfort and strength to endure the flames that scorched her world. It was here, too, that her children saw the unrelenting faithfulness of their mother and of the God she loved. Two of her children, John and Charles, established a church based upon the spiritual Methods they witnessed in their mother. It was this Method-ist church that spearheaded the great spiritual awakening that was to sustain Europe for almost two centuries.

In the midst of struggle we come to know Him. In your most arduous paths, seek Him. He hears the cry of an anguished heart. He hears the voice of longing...the voice that knows its need for God. Though He seemed out

of reach when Peter cried for help as He sank in the waves, Christ instantly was there to lift him up. In the midst of impossible fires, stand in faith, and like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, you will see a familiar figure with you in the flames preserving you and leading you out.

I love you, *Brenda*

Excerpted from *Monday Focus* of the *Daily Focus* page on the website

He is the "high tower" into which we run when waters rush over us. He is our refuge in times of panic. It is not in the good and prosperous times that we come to know who this God really is, but in perilous and uncertain days. Only here when earth's securities fail do we find the rock that will not shift. We all need such a place to stand. It is only the God of Christ who holds out for us this hope.

The celebration in this uncertain year is that we may know Him more truly. He came, not for those who know where they are, but for those who are confused or wandering. He came for those of us who walk with a limp or with the shiver of fear. He came for those who know their need of Him...for those who know their limitations...their aloneness.

For those of us who fear what this year may hold, we can either find refuge in fear or in faith. It is in faith, alone, that we are led to a God who is a lion in a field of enemies. When your marriage seems hopeless, run to the one whose hand is not so short that it cannot sustain or restore. When your financial portfolio is crumbling, rush to the one whose treasury does not hinge on earthly things...

So how do we run to Him? Our heart first must yield to His ways. Only as we see our need for Him will we do this; till then, we will resist because we somehow think we know best. There is celebration to be found in hard or uncertain times; the celebration of discovering our own littleness and His greatness...the celebration of discovering humility. Only in humble submission to Him will we ever know peace...

2009 could be a very bad year...or it could be a year of discovery.

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Website: New Pages Added

SAFE – a Resource for Those Dealing With Childhood Sexual Abuse or Abandonment

A new section of pages is coming on line the first of this month designed to help people better understand the consequences of sexual abuse or abandonment in childhood and to better navigate its effects in their life.

SafeNotes provides information on abuse and abandonment: what it is, what it does to a person's core and how it affects behaviors and attitudes.

SafeScript looks at God's principles for healing and how they can be implemented in a person's life.

SafeStories will carry accounts of some who have experienced healing.

SafeTalk will carry Brenda's responses to questions that have come in to the safetalk email link safetalk@dayspringdiscipleship.org. This email address is also available for those needing a safe place to ask questions but who desire only a personal response without being placed on line.

Because of the complexity of these issues, information will be added weekly to SafeNotes and SafeScript, and as emails come in they will be posted on the **SafeTalk Q & A**.

SAFE stands for Sexual Abuse Freedom Encounter, a seminar conducted by Brenda for survivors of childhood sexual abuse and abandonment. Without a safe place to sort through what has happened in a person's life, one cannot experience the freedom available through the healing principles of Christ. Our hope is that these pages will offer such safety for the healing journey to begin...or to continue.

"for brethren, you have been called unto liberty...Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free." Galatians 5:1,13

If you know of someone who might benefit from these pages, please let them know of our site.

Dayspring Newsletters from 2007 to present can be found on line. If you have friends or family you think would be interested in reading parts of our newsletters, consider referring them to the Newsletter tab on our website.

Newsletters are usually posted after the middle of each month.

Visit **BioPortraits** for biographies of **15 great men and women of faith.**

Quiet Talks Study Continues at Cowboy Church

Gay Bostick continues to lead the study on S.D. Gordon's dynamic book on prayer on Monday evenings. It remains open for anyone wishing to attend. Those who have attended previous studies of this book have universally experienced a life-changing impact on their prayer life. If you are interested, contact our office at 972-722-1905.

Brenda to Teach Emmaus at Pureheart Fellowship in Rowlett

Beginning Sunday evening, February 15, Brenda will teach Volume I of her Road to Emmaus Bible Study series. The Class will meet from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. and is open to anyone. Cost for the study that ends in May is \$15.00. If you are not a member of Pureheart but would like to attend, please contact the Dayspring office at 972-722-1905.

"The first time I met Brenda was back in 2004 at my first ever women's retreat (Kissing the Joy as it Flies). The study was one of the most enjoyable experiences I have ever had. Her teaching was amazing. This was the first time that I felt that God was really present in my life!

*"Since that time, I have attended several of Brenda's studies and have come away from each of the classes with an awesome feeling. The number one study that has helped me was **"The Road to Emmaus,"** which is a study of the journey into discipleship. I have learned so much from that study and I still want to learn more. God is using her teaching in a way that it has stayed with me and it is still continuing to influence me."*

-- Pat Cavanagh

Thank you to those whose faithful giving has allowed the ministry of Dayspring to continue. For those who walk by faith, both individuals and ministries, we need one another. God's provision comes through His servants. We thank you for being faithful to His promptings as you have given to this work.

Dayspring Discipleship Institute is a 501(c)3 non-profit religious organization to which your gifts are tax deductible.