

Dayspring Discipleship Institute

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

Teaching – Equipping – Training – Ministering

Brenda Cox, Executive Director

September 2016 “...the Dayspring from on high has come to give light to those that sit in darkness...” –Luke 1:78-79 Newsletter

Dearhearts,

Humility is an illusive spirit. Yet it is the mark of Christ on the human heart. It is not something we're naturally fond of. By nature we sign up for the other team...self. Though we may pray for it at times the route to humility is not one we are eager to travel because it is costly. Humility is always personal, not corporate. And it is formed in the press of relationships.

Yet humility is the key to the Kingdom. It is that which allows others to see God in us rather than a gussied up version of ourselves. Humility is the instrument through which grace and mercy flow. As John Huss approached the flames of his martyrdom, his words lifted heavenward. “Lord Jesus, it is for you that I patiently endure this cruel death. I pray thee have mercy on my enemies.” Humility is an instrument of spiritual grandeur.

Pride can disguise itself as humility and appear as an angel of light. It can defend the Bible. But it is humility that bears witness to it. Those are two completely different things. John Calvin defended the Gospel. As guardian of a promontory doctrine of the Reformation, he and others convicted a man of heresy whose theology did not align with Calvinism. Calvin voted for the more humane way of execution – beheading - rather than being burned at the stake. Calvin lost. And so did Michael Servetus as he called out Jesus' name over and over from the flames.

From outside the flames, Calvin defended the purity of the Gospel. From within the flames Huss (and Servetus) bore witness to it.

When we rivet our gaze on theological purity we are no longer looking at Christ. When we let a view or a cause bend us to its agenda, our gaze has drifted to something else. We will likely be clueless because pride masquerades as devotion to the Lord when, in reality, we are devoted to our own idea of righteousness. Christian history is replete with this. And so is my life. My righteous rants are justified. I rationalize. I don't know what spirit I am of. This is

the blindness Satan so deftly inflicts on us. There have been times when I skillfully made a point to win the argument and almost as quickly have felt sick because I knew someone else took the blow for my “rightness.” Took a hit humility would never have inflicted. Kindness and forgiveness, both, slide through the chute of humility into the relationship pool to disinfect the water. And perfume it. It is not something we aspire to have, this humility, until we see it in another's life and are drawn to something we don't understand...a pool whose water tastes so sweet.

As His followers, we are pilgrims. And as spiritual pilgrims it is humility that seeks to adorn our hearts where we care more about others than we care about ourselves. Where we love others more than we love ourselves, listen more than we speak, and in the listening and the caring, affirm others and bring them to life because we have heard them and seen their hearts.

Humility knows I am not my own and yields into the King within...*dies* so that Christ can rise up in me from the tomb of self.

In washing the disciples' feet Christ modeled this. Of course the disciples didn't get it at first but eventually humility began to take over their lives. And in that emptying out they began to be filled with a power they had never known before. Not of earth but of heaven, it was a power that changed the world. It is the same power that indwells us by faith and seeks to overflow from us and flood the world with who He is. We Can only flood the world with who He is if the dam of self breaks.

Perhaps we are to seek to walk not so much in righteousness as in humility. Because then God can do something with us.

I love you,



A September Evening with Ancient Pilgrims

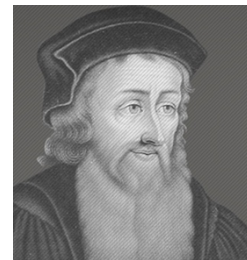
Tuesday September 27 - 7:00

He was born to peasant parents in what is now the Czech Republic. As a child, he dreamed of becoming a priest, primarily as a way to have food and shelter. It was when he discovered a Bible, in an era when Bibles were handwritten and scarce, that his world changed. And through him... a greater world would one day change.

Almost a century later a young priest, rummaging through the stacks of a library, discovered a volume of **John Huss'** sermons. "I was overwhelmed with astonishment," Martin Luther later wrote. "I could not understand for what cause they had

"Lord Jesus, it is for thee that I patiently endure this cruel death. I pray thee to have mercy on my enemies."

burnt so great a man, who explained the Scriptures with so much gravity and skill."



Born on a sheep farm 200 miles from London, **John Wycliffe** would grow up to contend with the Church over many things, including the belief that every Christian should have access to Scripture. As he began translating the Bible into English the church bitterly opposed him (right); to which Wycliffe replied "**Englishmen learn Christ's law best in English. Moses heard God's law in his own tongue; so did Christ's apostles.**"

Wycliffe greatly influenced John Huss and the forces of Reformation.

*Please Join **Becky Elliston, Pat Townsend and Brenda** for an Evening of Refreshments and Insight as we look at two of the Great Explorers of our Faith and the Movement they inspired.*

Measuring the Ministry

Always, we are surprised by God. A year and a half ago when we found ourselves upended, my thought was "This is not what I had in mind." My next thought was "Is God shutting us down?" Though it has been a murky path since, it appears that God's work through us remains in ways that are both old and new.

- The anticipated PTSD veteran work did not materialize as hoped but it continues with others who have experienced trauma as does equine and art therapy primarily with girls ages 10-12.
- The Library is more strongly established as an educational resource through tours and classes.
- Emmaus Bible Studies, Equipping Courses and Book Clubs are in full gear.
- Helping those in crisis is increasing due to your increased donations to our crisis fund.

"By this translation, the Scriptures have become vulgar, and they are more available to lay, and even to women who can read, than they were to learned scholars, who have a high intelligence. So the pearl of the gospel is scattered and trodden underfoot by swine." Church Response

- Pine Ridge Mission Outreach is clarifying.

It has occurred to me that I need to let you know how the Legacy Library is sustained financially. No regular donations made to Dayspring go to the library.

What began as gift... Continues as gift.

Legacy Then and Now

Doug and Ruth Kaufmann's donation of a 1660 King James Bible seemed to be God's nudging to move on something I had felt drawn to for years but never had permission from the Lord to act on. But the problem of funding remained. Until I realized a memorial fund for my mother had surprisingly not been used, and it almost perfectly matched to cost of books I had felt needed to be the first to go in the library if God led.

The one requirement was that no ministry funds be used for the books and little if any for necessary library furnishings. Our ministry budget has always been so small it was clear to me that no ministry funds should divert to the purchase of books unless there was a designated donation (of which there has been one.) **Legacy** is sustained through funding from one person.

Person of Impact Fall Start-Up
Saturday October 8

9:00 -12:00 / 8:30 breakfast items

(date is Tentative – check with office to confirm)

“Where there is no Vision... my People Perish”

These words of Solomon had to do with the critical role the prophets' visions played as compass and sail to Israel. When the voices of the prophets fell silent, His people languished.

When His people today have no vision of where we are headed and how our lives need to look...no vision of our purpose...our walk languishes. When we have no vision of enthroned glory our worship becomes rote, our lives become routine, and our witness to the reality of God and the truth of who He is grows stale.

Much of what God has seemed to call Dayspring to is to look for His torch and carry it...

“This One thing I do... I Press on Toward the Mark of the High Calling of Christ”

The ministries of Dayspring are purposed toward the vision of Christ... of how He has looked in the lives of those who have gone before...and how He is to look in our lives today.

It is only your faithful support that has sustained this ministry and me personally for 19 years. A faith walk is a partnership between God and His people, and I am ever grateful for your generous and caring hearts and for the partnership you have forged with God to accomplish His purposes.

Following Him in **His** Spirit, and not our own, is one of our great challenges. It is the words of Paul that summons us to that Spirit.

This one thing we do... Keeping our focus on Him and His will...and His ways of doing and seeing.

Pressing on... Remaining faithful to the vision of Christ and vigilant to pursuing His purposes.

The High Calling of Christ... Being committed to the vision of a holy walk and not just a sacred destination.

The Touch Ministry... In-Touch with Others

Touching Others...

*“I was hungry, and you gave me meat,
I was thirsty, and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger, and you took me in;
Naked, and you clothed me;
I was sick and you visited me,
I was in prison and you came unto me”*

...Touching Christ

It is in our **Touch Ministry** that we seek to minister to the hurting Christ; to those crises and emergencies in people's lives. **Bobbie Gillette** is ministry contact person and **Kevin Jacks** ministers personally to those needs and disperses funds you have donated for that purpose.

The **In Touch** outreach seeks to minister to the lonely or grieving Christ; to be in touch with those who need to be in touch with others: those alone or isolated through grief or illness or who are home-bound or in nursing homes. **Elizabeth Moses'** initiative has



allowed us to re-engage our In-Touch nursing home ministry along with Kevin who visits several men there.

Through the **Crisis Fund ...**
You have in August:

- Provided groceries for a disabled woman whose pantry was empty
- Kept the electricity on for a mother of 4 children
- Helped with school clothes for 3 of her children
- Helped with school clothes for two children of the Lakota mother who became a Christian in the wake of our retreat there in June.
- You also help us pay the art therapist in her important work with trauma recovery.

The Vision

The Christ of the prison and of the impoverished awaits our touch. By faith He incarnates the believer. But it is through love that He incarnates the lost. Through His penetrating love He indwells the lives of those we walk among. If we have a faith – and a love – that sees *this* Christ, then all the world is transfigured.

We see Christ in everyone, and suddenly, the world about us is sacred. And we walk transfixed by the holy in the common loaf of humanity.

Pressing on...

“Go... Teach... Make Disciples”

There is not just physical hunger...there is a hunger of the heart. A hunger for something more. The greater Dayspring outreach is here as we offer Bible studies on the deeper walk of the Christian experience (Incarnate Life, The Dark Glory of God, Mysteries of the Kingdom...) and studies of personal growth and application of God's truth to our daily lives (In The Shadow of the Cross, The Fullness of Christ...).

There are prisons of every sort; some are prisons of the soul that have been locked down from childhood pain, from losses of every sort...from trauma. Not only do our studies look at God's liberating principles (“Free Indeed”) but our ***Person of Impact Equipping Course*** opens the doors of understanding into our bondage and in helping others unlock their own prison doors.

*I have come to
heal the
brokenhearted
To set at liberty
the bruised
To Deliver those
who are in
Captivity*

Our Book Clubs Bring Discussions of a Deeper Life

Four selections are
Ministry Cornerstone

Books that inspire a vision of what Christ can be in our lives, shake the shackles from our disbelief and dare us to reach for possibilities with Him beyond what we could ask or think: ***The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life*** by Hannah Smith is one of those and is quoted to the right. ***Pat Townsend*** leads a discussion of this rich and classic book in the library in the

All the dealings of God with the soul of the believer are in order to bring it into oneness with Himself...This Divine Union was His purpose...for His people since before the foundation of the world. It was the mystery hid from ages and generations. It was accomplished in the death of Christ... and it is realized as an actual experience by many of His children. But not by all. It is true of all...but the eyes of many are too dim and the hearts of many too unbelieving for them to grasp it.

Legacy Book Club at 9:30

Tuesday Mornings September 13 - Oct. 4

Christian's Secret of a Happy Life

Please let us Know if you would like to Join Pat in the Dayspring Library for faith changing possibilities.

The High Calling of Christ...

Those who have gone before Point the Way

People who dared to believe the prayer of Christ, in John 17 of oneness with Him, frame with their daring lives the vision of what can be, of where we might all go...the prize of the high calling of Christ. It was these who dared to press on; who dared to leave behind their failures and fears and pursue Christ alone.

The Antiquities Library is about the Vision. It holds the stories and wisdom of those who took Christ up on His promise of healing and liberation and of lives overflowing with His presence. In the pages of ancient books is scripted the possibilities of the soul...of God empowering our lives and of His ways of power.

Our Legacy offerings will introduce you to some of these pilgrims of the soul and, where possible, their remarkable books, some of which are over 500 years old. Let their ancient voices speak to you of our Christ calling us to the high places with Him.

Tours and Specialized Classes

Christian Education. Home and Private Schools can schedule ***Specialized Classes*** tailored for background information for those who teach or for one-time, monthly or a series of classes for students on Christian History or Biography.

Private or small group regular tours or Customized teaching visits from half hour to 1 - 2 hours. Longer visits include bringing some books out for a closer look.

Please honor us with a Visit and let those who are in ***Christian Education*** know of us.

As you consider the ministries of Dayspring

We ask you to be prayerful about how the Lord might, if at all, prompt your support. Since our move last year, our monthly expenses have increased while the overall level of donations to the general fund has dipped, leaving a gap that is taking a toll as we move into fall.



Happily, donations to designated funds for specific needs such as Crisis or Pine Ridge have increased, but of course, these cannot be used as can the general fund to cover operating expenses. Thank you for all that you mean to us and to the Lord's purposes here on earth.