

New Hope Church of God

Women of the Kingdom

Newsletter

It's On the Other Side of the Pain

It's impossible to live in this world and not go through struggles and trials. At some point, disappointments, heartaches, and devastation, will become experiences we'll become quite familiar with. After dealing with the unexpected and accepting the loss, eventually, we must think about beginning again. The process of starting over is never easy, especially when some type of trauma is involved. The trauma could be a death, an illness, a broken relationship, a pink slip, or some other major life disappointment. It seems so very hard to think about the future when the present seems like it's in shambles. I often think of the book of **Ruth** when I think about starting over. As you will find when you flip through

the pages of the first chapter of the book of Ruth, Ruth had just experienced tremendous loss. She had recently lost her husband, brother-in-law and father-in-law. And now the only ones left were herself, her mother-in-law and sister-in-law. I'm sure things looked bleak for them at that moment. In that day a woman's welfare depended almost entirely upon her husband's resources, and without one the future seemed dim.

It's apparent that **Naomi**, Ruth's mother-in-law, looked at their plight with hopelessness. In **Ruth 1:11-13** she said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still

hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons – would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has gone out against me!"

Even though some of us may have never walked in Naomi's sandals, we all can relate to the position she was in. How many times has life dealt you a blow that you just couldn't handle? Or something happened that you just weren't expecting? The temptation is so strong to give up and give in. The temptation is strong to even give up on God. But sister in Christ, even when you have cried many tears (as Naomi did) and even when everything inside of you begs to just give up, DON'T! Don't you realize that it's right at that point where God is saying, "Hold on; I'm getting ready to do something new."

Many times in this life, we are required to go through seasons of wilderness. Didn't you realize that you had to go through something to get to the next level in God? Didn't you realize that you had to go through to get to? We hate the difficult seasons, but those seasons are necessary in order to bring us to the Land of Promise. Before we step into our Land of Promise, we must go through our own personal wilderness. The wilderness is a land of barrenness and emptiness. It's a place where few things make sense. It's a place where you have more questions than answers. It's a place where you'll lose friends and gain enemies. It's a place where you can't rely on the things and people you thought you



Woman of the Kingdom Spotlight

God often uses painful circumstances to teach His children. Name a lesson you've learned during a challenging season in your life. What words of advice would you give women experiencing painful situations?

Name: Grace Currie
Birthday: August 21
Favorite Color: Blue

The lesson that I learned in my painful circumstances was to trust God.

My words of advice to women experiencing painful situations is: "Just know that whatever the situation, God knows and He cares."

God has a way of escape out of painful situations if we trust and believe in Him."

I encourage them to pray the promises He has for us in His Word (Romans 8:36-37).

It's On the Other Side of the Pain, *cont.*

would be able to rely on. It's a place where you'll have to depend on things you don't see and things you can't feel. The only thing you'll be able to rely on is the voice of God. The wilderness is a tough place. It's certainly not a fun place to be. But if you are there today, I have some good news for you.

Your Promised Land begins where your wilderness ends. Your wilderness ends at the point that God knows you're ready for what He has in store for you. So know that whatever you're going through, deliverance is on the other side of the pain. Your joy is on the other side of the pain. Your healing is on the other side of the pain. Your peace of mind is on the other side of the pain.

First Lady's Corner-Can't Imagine

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I Corinthians 2:9

As little girls, we have all imagined what our life would be like when we became adults. Now that we are adults, we sometimes wish we could go back to our little girl days (playing with dolls, hop scotch, jumping rope, having imaginary friends, etc). Our imagination appeared more exciting than what life really is right now in this 21st

The other side is coming. As Diana Ross would say, "I'm coming out!" That's right; you're coming out! It may not be today; it may not be tomorrow, but God has His Hand on the thermostat of your life and He's going to make sure you don't get burned up in the process. He's just making sure that the dross of your life is eliminated; and it's all to prepare you for your Promised Land.

So Woman of God, get ready. Get ready to start that new business. Get ready for that promotion. Get ready for that special man to walk into your life. Get ready to revive that broken marriage. Get ready for that child to get in line. Get ready to purchase that new home you've been praying about. Start planning the

century. Why is that the case?

Could it be that our future looked more promising and hopeful? Did we have a tough time growing up? Did we want to be grown before it was time and figured our decision would be far better than our parents?

No matter what our answer may be, God promises a better life beyond our imagination. He promises eternal life to all those who believe in His Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16, I John 2:14). He promises

day when you come out of the wilderness. Start believing God for new things.

When Naomi and Ruth came out of their "wilderness", God gave them an enormous blessing. After heartache and tears, God blessed Ruth with a wonderful husband; and Naomi got her joy back. After all the suffering and the grief, they both ended up experiencing happiness and blessings beyond their wildest dreams. God will do the same for you. You must believe that on the other side of the pain is a bright new beginning!

~Andrea R. Williams

an abundant life to those who are His sheep (John 10:10). He promises to never leave or forsake us (Heb 13:5). Lastly He promises that what He has prepared for us, because we love Him, is beyond our imagination (I Cor 2:9). There are more promises than I can list.

But I want to encourage you, Women of the Kingdom, whenever you feel like things are not going as planned or desired...Go Back to God's Book of Promises!

Love, *First Lady*

WOK Newsletter Needs You

Has God gifted you to write? Do you have a favorite family recipe you would like to share? Women of the Kingdom Newsletter is looking for writers to contribute articles, poems and recipes. Please contact Linda Sothern, lindasothern@yahoo.com for more information.

Upcoming Events

October

Saturday, October 1-LLD - Level 1/ Part 2 Final Seminar(10:30am-1:30pm)

Saturday, October 1-DELMARVA-DC Widow's Conference
Easton COG
1009 N. Washington St, Easton MD
(9:30am-2:30pm)

Saturday, October 8-LLD - Level 1/ Part 1 Second Seminar(10:30am-1:30pm)

Saturday, October 15-Women's Conference: Sister's Showing Our Scars(10am-3pm)
Odenton COG,
1460 Berger St, Odenton MD
Cost: \$20 (before Sept 30) ; \$25 (after Oct 1 and at the door)

Sunday, October 16 -New Hope's Friends & Family Day
Light Refreshments immediately after service(10:50am)

Saturday, October 22-WOK's Bible Study (10:30am-12:30pm)

Saturday, October 29-New Hope's Hallelujah Night in the gymnasium (5:00pm-8:00pm)