

*A Woman's Place Ministries
P O Box 936
Winnsboro, SC 29180
Director@awpministries.org*

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Ministry Update

God did an awesome work in Delaware last week! We thank and praise the Lord for all the healings and deliverances. I wanted to thank all my prayer partners again for your prayer covering. I could not minister the way I do, without your prayers. I can't do any of it without God, and God moves in response to prayer. Remember me also, this coming weekend. I will be in the Detroit area and yearning for another awesome move of God.

As God continues to bless A Woman's Place Ministry, He has allowed us to acquire our own domain name for the WWW. Our new URL is www.awpministries.org. Please make note and bookmark the new web address.

Why Won't People Heal and Stay Healed?

This month I would like to share some thoughts with you about why some people don't seem to heal and stay healed. I've seen it over and over. They will declare an emotional healing or deliverance and then after a few days, they are back into the same thing. Actually, at the time they were declaring it, I could not sense their joy or the exultation that usually accompanies a healing. There just seemed to be something lacking.

The following is an excerpt from my upcoming book, APOSTOLIC COUNSELING.

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Romans 5:3-5

One of the basic problems I run into again and again in dealing with people, is that most of us feel we should not have to suffer. The world has been successful in drilling this into so many of us, "If it feels good, do it," and "You deserve...such and such." And we buy it, hook, line, and sinker. If it doesn't feel good, we rationalize, it must not be the will of God. If we suffer, we must be out of His will. Ever heard that? But that's not what the Bible says.

If we can just learn to take joy in fulfilling our life's purpose of becoming like Jesus! Romans 8:29 tells us that is our purpose in life-to be conformed to the image of Jesus. And Paul goes on to tell us, We are to glory in tribulations.

Victim Mentality

I think one of the most difficult things for a wounded person to overcome is the propensity for self-pity. The victim mentality is so ingrained in them that it has become a way of life, a true mindset, or stronghold. I like to define stronghold as a cluster, or nest, of thoughts, beliefs, and emotions that we have gathered together over time. Much like a mama bird builds her nest, the wounded can build nests in their minds. These can grow to be quite

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large. If you've ever taken the time to study a bird's nest, you've observed how tightly woven together it is. You can see that it was almost sewn together, meticulously, to assure the protection of the baby birds. So likewise does a stronghold serve to protect the "self" of the wounded. Strongholds are constructed to protect beliefs about ourselves that, on some deep level, we know to be erroneous. To justify hanging onto these beliefs, we build that stronghold around it to protect it.

This is why we see that, to get out of this mold, a person has to begin to look outside of self and begin to truly do for others-not necessarily in the giving of "things"-but in the giving of self.

When bad things happen to good people is a time for true spiritual warfare-and that, in this case, is simply cooperating with Romans 8:28-all things work together for our good if we love Him. We get tripped up, though, because we fail to apply the rest of that verse. We expect things to work together for the good of what we desire, what we purpose. But He tells us that it is according to His purpose. HIS purpose, not ours.

Lack of Desire

To glory in tribulation means to exult in it, and this we can do once we have an understanding of just how beneficial it is to us. There are saints who will never progress beyond self. They have no motivation to be like Jesus, only to have Jesus serve them, minister to them, take care of their needs, get them to heaven. If a person does not care to fulfill God's purpose of becoming like Him, there is little we can do except to pray that God will place that desire in them.

These things go against all that the world teaches. For example, we learn humility in our wilderness experiences and the world teaches us to look out for Number One. We suffer, the pressures put onto us force our true character to the surface. Ever heard this: "I didn't know I had it in me!" (Ever said it?)

This is why there's really no such thing as a "victim." By learning to view everything that happens to us as an opportunity to grow-to become more like Him-we can come out of the victim mentality. As Jesus hung on the cross, it would be tempting to say He was a victim-but was He? What the devil caused to be done to Him, was the absolute will of God. What the devil did to Job, was also the will of God. God was the Director behind the scenes in each scenario. When we are sold out to God-when we have surrendered souls-we, too, can say that God is our Director! No matter what happens!

And so we begin to see that "counseling" is really only a form of in-depth discipleship. There is an education process that is very real. As the Holy Spirit ministers healing to a broken, bleeding spirit, we begin to minister knowledge and understanding of the ways of God. As the wound inside begins to heal, acceptance with gladness and joy does its own work to soothe and mend the scarring.

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That's all we have time or space for this month. I will try to cover a few more reasons in future newsletters, if you are interested. Let me know if you would like to hear more along these lines.

God bless you,
Your friend,
Lynda Allison Doty

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