The Pillar DVPCA WOMEN IN THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Standing firm in the strength of His might



Hinged Bible Study: Ephesians

Week 4 Ephesians 2:11-22

REMEMBER! REMEMBER! REMEMBER!

As we begin 2021, this chapter couldn't be more timely...Here are just a few highlights from this month's study:

Remembering and reflecting are important, remembering what we used to be and reflecting on the change in our condition and status. **ART**: we were **A**lienated, we have been **R**econciled, and we are being **T**ransformed.

Time is filled with swift transition. Naught on earth, unmoved, can stand. Build your hopes on things eternal. Hold to God's unchanging hand.

Dear Father, I am weak, but You are mighty. I want and need to learn to be guided by Your strong hand. Teach me to trust You when things all around me are changing, when I am uncertain, and my strength gives way. Remind me that Your plans are always accomplished and that Your Spirit abides with me.



Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Kiersten Hutchinson-TEAM, Zimbabwe

George & Martha Mixon- SERGE, Kenya

> West Africa Partnership

Frank & Cindy
"S"- WARM



A HUGE thank you to all the sister groups that have helped take care of those in bereavement over this past year. It is truly encouraging to see the Body of Christ tenderly caring for one another.

*What a blessing to have Martha Biggar and Elizabeth Whitman organizing the freezer meal ministry. If you'd like to participate in this, please contact one of them.

Be in prayer for the women's ministry board meeting: Jan.16th

Leadership Retreat: April 2021... take 3 :)

Testimony Corner: Monica Kelley

There's a song our family loves called "Fairest of All" (Psalm 45) by Shane and Shane. My son William and I have made many trips to doctors' offices over the years, but on a recent trip, the words to this song hit me differently:

You ransomed your Bride on the day that you died, ascended to Heaven in glory.

She stands clothed in white with her voice lifted high singing, 'Come and return in your Glory!'

You know how it is, you have this conversation with the Holy Spirit..."That's it, Lord!! That's the ache in the pit of my stomach! I'm longing for you to come back!"

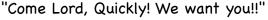
I'm very thankful for my life, don't get me wrong. We, as a family, have had some very joyful moments and events. But this past year has been a sorrowful one too. Everyone has felt it in some way. So many deaths within our congregation; friends and family outside the church that we know have suffered physically, emotionally, spiritually...A friend of mine recently used the word "mourn" in reference to receiving news that her mom has cancer. Mourning takes on many forms and for many reasons...Mourning over change in situations, a death of a loved one, or any kind of loss...

If I stay in that type of thinking, I sink lower and lower. I have to have the daily reminders that I am ransomed; hence why we listen to good music! I have been given a new name. My Bridegroom hasn't forgotten me, He's just preparing a place for me—for US!

I think that just as Peter likes to hear me say that I need and want him, especially after almost 18 years of marriage, our Heavenly Groom, loves to hear His Bride sing and cry out to Him, "We Love You! We want you! Come to us!"

I chose these 2 pictures because both show exactly what my stammering words are trying to convey. One is William when he's about 2 yrs. old. He's just shouting because he's so happy to be outside! The other is of my oldest niece, Morgan, before her wedding day.

So, if you need permission, here it is: Go outside and just lift your hands and cry out to Jesus!



(And here's some more encouraging lyrics:)
Joy still comes in the morning
Hope still walks with the hurting
If you're still alive & breathing
Praise the Lord!
Don't stop dancing & dreaming
There's still Good News worth repeating
So lift your head and keep singing
Praise the Lord!

