

TIMES OF REFRESHING NEWSLETTER

RESTORATION  MINISTRIES

January/February/March 2022

Refocus!

By

Wade Urban

2 Cor. 3:18 – *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

Holy Spirit has impressed me that refocus is key for the church to regain its purpose to become light in this world of gross darkness! The feature scripture above describes the transforming power of Holy Spirit when veils are removed from our eyes. Veils may consist of past abuse, legalistic upbringing, betrayal, failure, wrong identity, anything that distorts your view of who God is and who you are in Him. A veil of fear has caused many believers to cower in trepidation as the powers of darkness continue to perpetrate their plan to steal, kill, and destroy through the spirit of deprivation. This veil of fear has been an open door for the enemy to bring confusion, hopelessness, and distortion of spiritual vision. With lost vision, destruction and chaos result (Prov. 29:18). It is time to take our attention off problems and refocus on the only possible solution for the dilemma we face – Jesus Christ. Wherever your focus lies becomes magnified. Magnifying the “I AM” brings reality of Holy Spirit into your situation with His perfect love casting out all fear (1 Jn. 4:18), and its symptoms – worry, anxiety, and stress which destroy immune systems, cause heart issues, digestion problems, hypertension, fibromyalgia, and other problems. Love removes us from fear’s camp and places us in God’s faith (Gal. 5:6). This is our place of security, peace, rest, and victory in every situation!

David understood the importance of proper focus: Ps. 103:1-5 – “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me. Bless His holy name! Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies. Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” To “forget not” or “remember” means to bring a past experience with all its power and original impact into this present moment! David knew through experience God’s covenant love, so in times of trouble, he placed his focus on God, not his situation! This isn’t denying that problems exist but choosing to live in God’s love and believe His word rather than fear’s version of events. Two spiritual forces demand fulfillment exist on earth - fear and faith. Both operate similarly. The objects of both fear and faith are attracted to us much like a magnet. Job 3:25 declares, “For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, and what I dreaded has happened to me.” Fearing the worst for his family opened a door for the enemy to invade Job’s life.

Faith comes by hearing God’s voice (Rom. 10:17). Fear enters through hearing bad news the world broadcasts! Faith works by love (Gal. 5:6); fear works by deeds of darkness. Faith substantiates what hope sees (Heb. 11:1); fear manifests deprivation. It’s time to exit fear’s camp! The first step toward faith is to recognize your original identity in

Christ. Eph. 1:3-4 – “Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.” God chose and placed you in Christ before time began. You were found in Christ long before you were lost in Adam! The Triune God’s divine plan for mankind has always been Jesus; no other plan ever existed. God’s extravagant love was delivered to earth in the Incarnation when Creator God became one of His created beings with the mission of rescuing mankind from the lie that caused Adam’s fall and lost identity! The entire “Fall” was a falling away in our minds from our true identity as image and likeness bearers of “I AM”. We were created to be containers/expressers of the life of God; never to be independent from Him which the lie of the hissing serpent suggested.

After thirty years of being Mary and Joseph’s boy, running a carpentry shop, living as a typical Nazareth citizen, Jesus heard John’s voice as he baptized people for repentance. He closed the shop and went to the Jordan River to be baptized by His cousin. Holy Spirit came upon Him in fullness. Matt. 3:13-17 describes this event ending with Father declaring, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Have you ever realized that you were “in Christ” on that day – just as you were before Adam’s Fall? What Father said about Jesus is what He believes about you! This is who you really are in Christ – Father’s beloved! You were in Christ then, and you were in Him in His scourging where you received healing by stripes He bore (1 Pet. 2:24). You were in Him on the cross where He became your sin, making you the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21). You were in Him as He became the curse of the law, taking your judgment upon Himself (Gal. 3:13-14). You were in Christ as He shouted, “Tetelestai!” – “It is finished!” and gave up His spirit (Jn. 19:30). You were in Him when He died your death (Gal. 2:20).

You were also in Christ when He arose from the dead, ascended to Father, and are seated in Him in heavenly places living eternal life here and now (Eph. 2:4-6). You were in Christ through Holy Spirit’s triumphant entry into mankind, bringing the reality of heaven to earth with the very ability of Jesus Christ to do the same and greater works He promised (Jn. 14:12; 1 Cor. 12:4-11). You are in Christ being made the temple of God – His Holy of Holies where Holy Spirit dwells (1 Cor. 3:16) – you are God’s address! You are in Christ in partnership with God through Holy Spirit to release God’s covenant promises as a transfer agent of heaven to earth (2 Cor. 1:20); you are in Christ being seamlessly united in the Trinity right here and now (Jn. 14:20; Jn. 17:20-24). You have been made a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17), a species of being never before existing! This is who you really are – your original identity, the beloved of God! Now, knowing your real identity and being seated together with Christ in heavenly places, you are no longer subject to living from “see level,” believing everything you see in the temporary realm (2 Cor. 4:18). In Christ, you have His vision to see into the eternal realm, the realm of possibility where your vision becomes a target for faith to apprehend.

If you can see it, you can have it! Positioned in Christ, you begin to call those things which are not (yet manifested) as though they were (Rom. 4:17). This is Father’s language He used to create all that is from nothing (Heb. 11:3). Knowing your position and identity “in Christ” enables you to focus on God’s word and His intention to manifest His ability in and through your life. Veils become removed and you can see yourself mirrored in God’s plan that you become His glory – His convincing splendor in the midst of the world’s darkness. You have been made more than a conqueror in Christ. Now is your time to shine! Amen.

CHURCH BULLETIN: Meanness doesn’t happen overnight.

PRAISE PRAISE PRAISE REPORTS

HERE ARE PRAISE REPORTS FROM STREAMINGS:

Dave responded to a WOK about eye issues. He was healed.

Mary responded to a WOK. Her sister-in-law was going for a biopsy on her breast. They found 9 lumps but no cancer.

Tina asked for prayer during Noon Prayer. By the next day, she was much better.

We prayed for Brice, who was vacationing in Florida. His legs hurt so badly he thought he wouldn't be able to walk on the beach. A healing took place. He took a 3-4 mile walk and has been walking ever since.

Wade prayed for Richard during streaming. That's when he turned the corner on Covid.

OTHER TESTIMONIES

Leslie's church prayed for man going on a vent for Covid. Her husband prayed he'd be out within 24 hours. He was released that night. Another time through a dream, the Lord spared serious hurt for Leslie.

On Sunday, Lisa asked for prayer for her mother, suffering from sciatica. By Monday, she could bend over without pain for the first time in long time.

Anita asked for Holy Spirit's direction about a work decision. Not only did He reveal what she should do, but He gave wisdom about how to present it to employees, who were fine with it.



SHEPHERD'S STAFF

This submission came from *Maury Schwegman* from Florida. He found it online. It was a prayer from the Kansas Senate opening session.

"Heavenly Father, we come to today to ask
Your forgiveness and seek Your direction and guidance.

We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those

Who call evil good,' but that's exactly what we've done.

We've lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values.

We've exploited the poor and called it the LOTTERY.

We've killed our unborn and called it CHOICE.

We've shot abortionists and called it JUSTIFIABLE.

We've neglected to discipline our kids and called it BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM.

We've abused power and called it POLITICS.

We've coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it AMBITION.

We've polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

We've ridiculed time-honored values of our forefathers and called it ENLIGHTENMENT.

'Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free.'" AMEN!



The Lighter Side

"Why were you driving so fast?" a policeman asked a motorist.

"Well, my brakes are no good, and I wanted to get home before I had an accident!"

THE BUSINESS OF BUSYNESS

By

Connie Hunter-Urban

A while back I had a dream with a message I believe God wanted me to share. Throughout the dream I was busy but never finished

because I was doing jobs for others. I became tired and frustrated. Some with God-ordained ministries were giving up on God's plan for them because they also were exhausted and discouraged. "Things" had piled up and stolen the excitement that had been part of their calling. That wasn't the first or last time the Lord has given me a dream about busyness. Wade and I long to be about God's business. However, we've learned we can't do good things just because of others' needs or because we've always done it that way. We must prioritize. Like downsizing our homes, we should seek Kingdom jobs to pursue and which we should let go of.

Satan has many weapons to keep God's work from being accomplished. One of those is to make God's laborers so busy they become worn out (see Dan. 7:25 KJV). Your ministry is crucial to God's end-time army, so give up what you've taken on that doesn't enhance that ministry and wears you out in the process. Stay the course as you're led by God and not by good intentions. Determine what's God's will rather than spending your energy on what drains you or leads to burnout.

Do what God puts on your heart, and distance yourself from those who suck you dry. Recently our pastor said, "Don't be moved by needs, but be moved by God." We aren't others' source. God is. He can meet needs through us, but He also has many different ways to provide! Sometimes our hands that are trying to help, get in the way of God's hands. Also, many become dependent on others rather than going to God for themselves or trusting Him to make a way.

You're not on this journey by yourself. Elijah thought only he was serving and working for God; he was off by 7,000. Those whom God has ordained to be part of your ministry will find you. In the meantime, keep doing what God assigned to you, not just what seems good or kind. That becomes busyness. That's what Elijah did when he went to the Mountain of God. Though that sounds like a good thing, God hadn't told him to go. He ended up exhausted and discouraged. If he had waited for God's direction during that time when he struck out on his own, he could've rested and been rejuvenated for his next divine assignment.

At the beginning of 2021, the Lord told me to go higher. In the ensuing months, though I've had many *higher* experiences, I've advanced very little this year. I regret that. Busyness, even for ministry, has impeded my progress. I'm determined that in 2022 my focus, not an afterthought, will be about *higher*. Recently God told me He's getting ready to send us on a journey into a new season. I don't yet know where, when, how, what, but I do know that my own busyness needs to cease as I focus more on the business of God's will.



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request, we believe in a miracle-working God. Write us. Our prayer warriors and readers are your friends and family who will pray diligently for you.

Pray for:

PHYSICAL: ACCIDENTS: Beverly (elderly, fell, speedy recovery), Deb (sprained shoulder), Jenny (fell from bed, hurts many places), John (fell & broke both legs), Liz (fell over dog & hurt back); **ADDICTIONS:** Billy's son, Shastiney (drugs, mean & disrespectful), Misty (nicotine), Virginia (cigarettes); **ALZHEIMER'S:** Rex, Loretta; **AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES:** Chron's (Noah – 12, Abby – 10), Lupus (Tom), RA, MS, Grave's (Rhonda), Alzheimer's, Hodgkin's, Parkinson's, Leukemia, Hashimoto (Melana), Primary Biliary Cirrhosis (Tina); **CANCER:** Barbara (breast), Bev (total healing & restoration), Bill, Brenda (return in whole body), Chris, Crisilla, Christiana (ovarian), Dave (throat), Dave (also pray for wife), Denny (skin & leukemia; lymphoma; clarity of mind), Doug, Edith (kidney), Gary (mouth),

Gwynne (2 types), Helen, Janet (had breast, now tumors on spine/spinal column & brain), Jessica (pregnant), John, Joy (last stages), Karia (inoperable brain tumor, allergic to chemo), Kim (& diverticulitis), LD (kidney), Linda, Logan (rare form), Marla, Martha (rectal), Megan (breast, aggressive, new baby), Melinda (metastatic breast), Melissa (47, Stage 4, lymph nodes, kidneys, stomach, 8 tumors on spine. Pray for children's peace), Mildred (83, colon, needs surgery), Monica (rectal), Phil (dying), Richard & wife (kidneys), Rusty, Sil, Steve (throat), Susan (female organs), Tim (2nd round of chemo), Tom (prostate), Tracy, Trevor (not responding to chemo); **COVID: Numbers to go down, Virus be eradicated, Healthcare providers, Employees not to have mandatory vaccinations, Kim (brain fog brought on by Covid), Steve (on vent 30+ days), Frank (critical), Zachary, Mike, Vicky, Rodney (lingering effects), Gaynell (loss of breath), Gloria, Nursing Home residents & Staff, Sharleen (home but still on oxygen), Roger, Bruce, Mary (elderly), Mary's Family, Skylar (mother of 3, in ICU w/ Covid & pneumonia, developed hole in lung), Faye (elderly, 2nd time), Tosha (very sick @ home), Alex (complications), All Employees @ Local Restaurant, Kyle, Diane (in ICU), Julie (hospitalized, suffered heart attack while on vent, critical), Doug & Cindy, Jane (health & safety); **DIABETES: Andy (diabetic, on list for transplant, home dialysis not working, needs to go for dialysis 3 times a week, trouble finding place due to Covid), Bill, Brenda, Brice, Chad (blindness), Charles, Colby (child), Curt, David, Derek, Diane, Everett, Georgia, Gina, Gwen, Hailee, Jamie, Jean, Jeff, Jenna, Jennifer, Jim, Jo, John, Julie, Karla, Larry, Libby, Mark, Mary, Mike, Norm, Rachel, Rick, Rosie, Sil, Sophia (juvenile), Vickie, Virgie; EYES: Hannah, Romy (and arm), Richard, Lois (also head); HEALING: Steven (massive weight loss, no appetite), Bob (hip injury), Stanley (blood issue), Amy (health issues), Terry, Bill (knee pain, skin issue, bumps on feet, wrist, lower back), Rhonda (arthritis in shoulders & fingers), Buffie (strength & guidance), Holly (recovering from stroke), Rachel (massive weight loss, can't eat without nausea), Xandra (headaches), Jim (blood clot, veins in legs too small), Marsha (mobility), Dolores (83, hard time getting around, much pain w/ sciatic nerve, struggles & pain), Woman (very sick), Michelle (blockage has kept nutrition from going to body, weighs 67 pounds), Jessica (chills, dialysis patient), Mick (45% of body burnt, lost 4 fingers, O/D by hospital), Connor (great-grandson, high fever, shaking, hallucinations), Kay (bad report from doctor), Kayla (lost baby, tightness in chest, coughing, leg cramps), Kathy (drained & exhausted), Mark (bowel obstruction, lungs, intestines), Diana (stomach burning, taking antibiotic for UTI), Gladys (CT scan showed colon mass), Vilma (elderly, seems confused), Connie (coughing, headache, sore throat, mucus; pray for husband w/ weakened immune system) Diane (ongoing infections), Charlie (stroke, weakened left side, also has lung cancer & some in his bones), Sharon (flu bug), Mr. Stanton (tooth pain), Lois' family & friends (seriously ill), Al (eyes, sinus, throat, finger joints), Romy (neck & arm); **HEART: Man (had bad heart attack, home now, 3 other blockages but has 8 stents, can't get any more stents, may need open heart surgery, extreme pain in right eye), Richard (70-90% clogged, stent will clog again, next step is bypass, having more tests run), Tonya (brain aneurysm last year, now having seizures & heart giving out), Virginia (had massive heart attack, also nicotine addiction); LUNGS: Barb (lung cancer), Bob (pneumonia & bronchitis); **PREGNANCIES: CONCEIVE: Julie, Chelsea, Amanda, Nikol, Tiffany, Kaylee, Rachel, Michelle, Jen, Brittany,********

Tiffany, Brooke, Mercedes; HEALTHY PREGNANCY: Alexus, Jessica, Brooke, Kacy, Maddie, Ivy; SURGERIES: Richard (spine surgery upcoming), Becky (residual effects after surgery), Scott (had surgery, couldn't reconnect bowel, kink in small bowel, sent home w/ colostomy bag, unexplained bleeding), Aletha (recovery from cochlear implants), Diana (spinal probs.), Donna (had knee surgery, needs to sell her home & buy single-story, needs back surgery), Deb (MRI shows rotator cuff needs surgery, lots of pain, can't have surgery until fully recovered from Covid, overwhelmed, also dealing with issues surrounding husband's death), Jennifer (recovery from heart surgery, blood clots in arms), Kim (upcoming heart surgery)

SPIRITUAL: CHURCHES THAT HAVE GONE TO HELP WITH KENTUCKY CLEANUP; DIRECTION: Marsha (for what He wants for her), Vincent (for God's purpose for him), Sonia (leading & guidance for move back to Connersville, answers), Pastor Ron (needs God's leading); REFRESHING: Jackie (walk in calling); ATTACKS: Bill; DIRECTION: Vincent (God's purpose); Beatriz (speaking after 1st of year, pray for God's grace); BE FILLED WITH HOLY SPIRIT: A Husband; REVIVAL FIRE; SALVATION (or turn back to God): FAMILIES & EXTENDED FAMILIES, Adam, Aiden, Alex, Alisha, Alan, Alice, Allen, Amy, Andrew, Ann, Anna's Family, Anne, Anthony, Arpi, Aubrey, Becky, Becky's Neighbors, Beth's Family, Betsy, Bill, Bob, Bobbie, Bobby, Bradley, Brent, Brian, Brice, Brynn, Buddy, Caralee's Family, Casey, Cello, Chad, Charity, Charles, Chelsea, Chris, Claudio, Clint, Cody, Cory, Dakota, Dale, Daniel, Danny, Darlene, Daughter, David, Dawn, Dennis, Dom, Doug, Dylan, Earl, Edson, Ellie, Erica, Ernest, Eugene, Everett, Gabriella, Gibson, Grace, Hannah, Hayden, Heather, Hunter, Jack, Jackie's grandchildren, Jaelen, Jamie, James, Jane's lost loved ones, Jared, Jasen, Jeremy, Jerod, Jerry, Jessica, Jim, Joan, Joe, John, Jordan, Joshua, Joy, Joyce, Judy's Family, Kate, Kathy's Family, Keith, Kiana, Kimberly, Kyle, Lacey, Laura, Lauren, Lee, Leticia, Linda, Lipford, Loretta, Loris' Lost Family Members, Luke, Lynn, Madilyn, Marcia, Marie, Mark, Marlin, Marquita, Martha, Mary, Mary's Grandchildren, Matt, Matthew, Melody, Micah, Michael, Michelle, Mindy, Morgan, Naomi, Norman, Normand, Paige, Patrick, Paul, Phillip, Rachel, Ray, Rebecca, Renee, Rich, Richard, Rochelle, Roger, Roy, Sandra, Scott, Shane, Sherrie, Skylar, Steven, Sue, TJ, Terrie, Thurman & Family, Thurman & Family, Tiffany, Tom, Tony, Tonya, Tracey, Trent, Verne, Vickey's Family, Vickie, Viorica, Walt, Wayne, William, Xavier, Zoey; TEENS: Spirits of suicide, addictions, homosexuality, Crawfordsville (planning youth conference)

EMOTIONAL/MENTAL: DEPRESSION: Amy, Doris (feels of unworthy, Rachel (anxiety & panic attacks), James (divorced, began drinking), Kurt (looking back instead of ahead), Rachel, Sue (discouraged from lingering effects of Covid); EMOTIONS: Karenlynn (also physical healing, from past divorce, financial needs, strength to do job, favor, find husband); GRIEF: Kerseys, Perkins, Waddells, Peters, Beth, David (lost wife, bad living situation), Seeleys, Swaynes, Icemans (Jason & sons over loss of wife/mother, only 38), Murrays, Newtons, Radins, Maupins, Harris-Hunts, Clarks, Lambs, Thronsets, Amanda, Dolls, Gibbons, Wespisers, Lewises, Bernzotts, Urbans, Jones, Pitts, Barretts, Baldwins; RUNAWAY: Alex; STRESS: Jana, Jason (direction, pressure from family & job needs); SUICIDE ATTEMPTS: Becca

LIFE: CLASSES: Romy (gone back to school, needs prayer about math & language, be able to pay bills and get food, truck not working); **JOBS:** Bruce (not working regularly), Larry (transition in job), Stephen (job hunting), Rachel (favor on new job), Jen (deals to go through); **LEGAL:** Hannah, Joshua, Naomi (court dates for inheritance from dad, cousin is trying to get from them); **RELATIONSHIPS:** Jason & Tabetha (disowned grandmother 5 yrs. ago, need miracle), A Man (wisdom about what he should do in family situation), Rick (separated, needs peace), A Couple (get along during holidays); **TORNADO DESTRUCTION; GOING THROUGH BAD TIME:** Sheri; **LOST & HURTING COMMUNITIES**

Announcements

RESTORATION  MINISTRIES

OUR UPDATED CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

Connie's latest book—*Enemies of Destiny*—has been released & is available for purchase. Our other books—*God's Plan for Our Success*, *Nehemiah's Way*, *The Elijah Anointing*, *Your Holy Spirit Arsenal*, & *Be Healed!*—are available on book sites, our website, or by sending \$15. (includes shipping in U.S.) to our PO Box. Study guides are available. Connie's children's books, *Butchie's New Home*, *Butchie Comes Home*, & *Izzy: Outside Our Reach* are also for sale.

~~SPEAKINGS/BOOK SIGNINGS~~

- If you want us to speak/minister to your group, contact us. Besides preaching in churches & conferences, we do one-day workshops. *We'd love to be with you!*

~~~~~RESTORATION MINISTRIES' upcoming events~~~~~

- STREAMING – In January, we'll resume Wade's Training for Reigning Series, "In Christ" @ HPWC Resource Center, 1210 Illinois Ave., Connersville @ 6 p.m. That will continue through January until we begin a new study in February.

- DISCIPLESHIP CLASS – On February 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 @ HPWC Resource Center or on Facebook Live, we will combine Training for Reigning with a new round of Discipleship Class—Holy Spirit. This will be a unique teaching about experiencing the gifts. Even if you participated last winter, there's so much to learn about how to use your own gifts. Our co-authored book, *Your Holy Spirit Arsenal*, will be the textbook. Books will be provided. Let Connie know if you want to be part of that class.

If you've been wanting a church to attend, Higher Praise Worship Center, 812 Ziegler Rd. w/ Pastors Richie & Stacey Ware, is a wonderful church. Sunday morning services (10:30) have amazing worship, powerful teaching, children's church, and ministry for salvation and healing. In addition, there are other growth opportunities. Adult Sunday School starts at 9:00. There's also Tuesday morning ladies' Bible study and Thursday night Bible study. Youth Group is on Saturday nights. If you want to belong to a church family that cares, this is a good one to be part of.

F.Y.I.

WE'RE HOPING TO SEND MORE NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL IN 2022 IF WE MAY CHANGE YOURS, PLEASE LET US KNOW. THANKS!

If you need prayer or know anyone to add to or delete from our mailing list, send names & addresses to:

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***We are touched & greatly appreciate your support of our ministry. GOD BLESS YOU!***