

Stonething for Everyone

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"The Lord God has given Me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary.

He awakens Me morning by morning,

He awakens My ear to hear as the learned.

the Lord God has opened My ear;

and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away."

Isaiah 50:4-5

Years ago, the Lord began stirring my heart to pray towards doing Word in Season events. All I knew at the time was that I was to wait on the Lord to speak a theme or word, then I'd search the Scriptures for His message, and I'd share that word with a group of women.

A ton of time passed before this calling came to fruition.

I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected.

Then the Lord answered me and said: "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Habakkuk 2:1-3

Note: More often than not, it is God's design for us to wait for a vision to be fulfilled. I have learned from experience, from trial and error, that it can take years, sometimes decades, for God's plans to take shape and come to pass.

Those hours of waiting are not wasted; in fact, they often behold not only sweet times of intimacy with Jesus but also critical times of correction.

(May we not despise that correction from the Lord.)

So, years later, in March 2020, the time had come for the first Word In Season event to take place. Although it was done virtually due to covid-19, it was a beautiful and powerful experience, focusing on the word *well*. (Watch here)

The second Word In Season surfaced in the form of a women's brunch. Our church hosted it last June, with the word *food* as the theme. (<u>Listen here</u>) Many unchurched women attended, and there was an abundance of fruit from the gathering, including several new discipleship groups that formed.

By the end of last summer, God prompted me to pray about doing another brunch. Before I knew it, He'd spoken the word *stones*. From the moment He revealed that theme, His confirmations were out of this world:

At a store, I found notepads with Scripture on them-- only a dollar apiece. I had no idea what I'd use them for, but I took all I could find-- 50. (Keep reading to see how this was relevant...)

After seeing in my mind a jar of rocks, I heard a woman (who was unaware of any of this) tell a story about someone using a jar of rocks.

As we cleared out closets for a church-wide rummage sale,
God provided centerpieces for the brunch:
exactly 9 fall-colored candles for 9 circular tables we'd have to borrow.
Guess what matched them perfectly? The notepads.

After our first planning meeting, a woman chuckled about "stone soup."

My heart lept, and I knew then and there that God wanted the team of hostesses to literally make stone soup, serving a powerful illustration for the keynote message that, at that time, had yet to be written.

As if that's not enough, the Holy Spirit moved a stranger on the beach in Lake Michigan to give me two heart-shaped stones--and she had no idea about the brunch or the theme.

She also didn't know (and I didn't yet either) that one of the many verses the Lord would include in the keynote message would be Ezekiel 36:26,

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh."

The confirmations continued: the words stone or rock showed up everywhere, and God used others who would unknowingly say or do something that I had recently thought or experienced. (If the Lord has spoken to you to do something specific, stay in His Word, keep praying, and look for His confirmations. Jeremiah 33:3, John 10:27, John 15, John 16:13)

I could list at least five more incredible incidents affirming that this was of the Lord, but it would take five more paragraphs. So, I'll stop here to make the point:

I believe the presentation about Stones from this recent Word In Season event beholds SOMething for everyone.

Why? Not only because of all the validations but also-- and chiefly-- because this message is the result of *hours upon hours* of studying over 450 verses in the Bible that speak about rocks or stones.

Did you catch that? *Over 450 verses.*The entire message is one huge, glorious, Scriptural, stone thing.

When I studied all those verses, I was moved to tears, undone.

It left me humbled,

filled with a fresh depth of gratitude, and radically impressed once again by the power of God's Word and its personal impact.

I cannot urge you enough: please listen to this message from the Bible about stones. It changed my life, and I pray it does yours as well.

While I only had time at the brunch to present three of the more than ten ways God uses the words stone or rock in Scripture, they are the three points the Holy Spirit led me to share in this season.

They are timely. They are for us.

The link is below.

Listen, then forward it to everyone whom the Lord puts on your heart.

It may be the very **stonething someone** you know needs to hear today.

Listen to "A Word in Season: Stones"

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