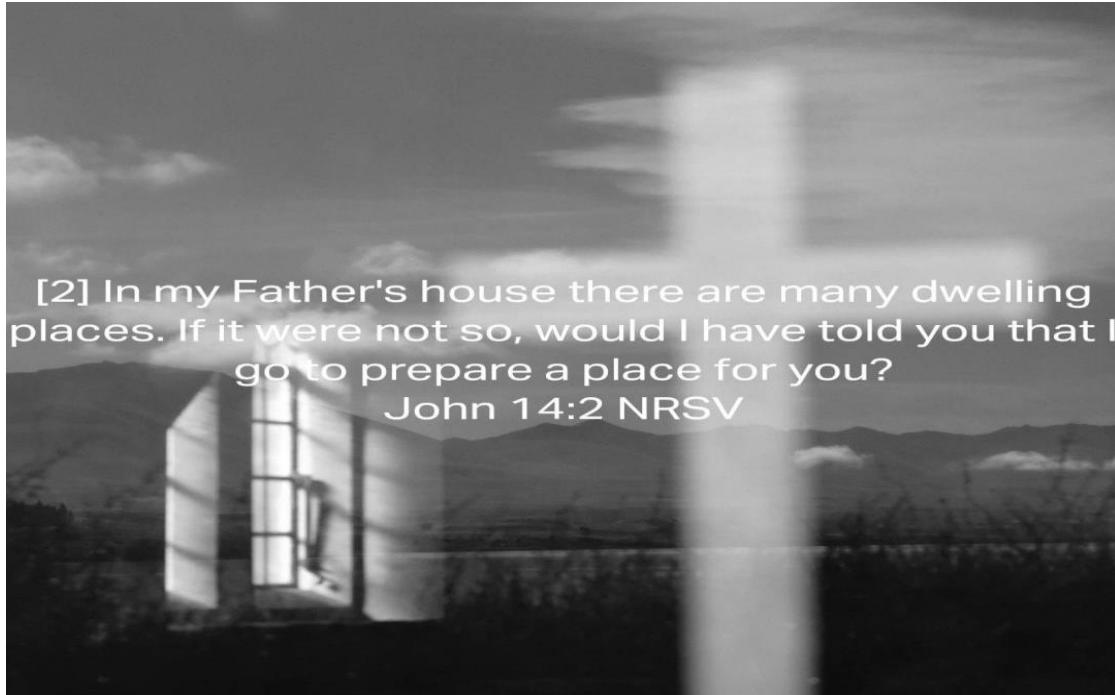


# MISSION POSSIBLE WORDS OF HOPE MINISTRIES

## APRIL 2024



[2] In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

John 14:2 NRSV

Greetings to you, our brothers and sisters. What a privilege it is to correspond with each and every one of you. Production difficulties have delayed this month's newsletter and hence we are forced to send it in this abbreviated format. May our loving God surround you with His Comfort, Peace, and Presence.

In Him,

Sally, Viv, Yvonne, Connie, Tom and Kevin

### Finding Meaning Through Tragedy

Have you ever experienced gut wrenching grief or trauma? Unfortunately, many people have been directly affected by loss and trauma or have known someone who has. Tragic loss can lead a person to feel defeated or to feel assured that God is with them in their suffering. As Christians, we know that Jesus sacrificed his life to save his people, but at the time of His death, Mary and the disciples may have looked at Jesus' death as a tragic ending initially until they witnessed his resurrection and were reassured that His promise of life everlasting is true.

Sometimes we can be bombarded through media of multiple types of tragic events and become overwhelmed or helpless to know what to do. In a lifetime, we may experience news of earthquakes, hurricanes, mud slides, tsunamis, mass shootings, deaths by drunk drivers, fatal car

crashes, death by war or genocide and tragic loss related to domestic violence. Well, you get the grim idea. What is important to remember is that people have found amazing ways to manage the impact of such events that were out of their control. I believe it's a God thing.

Some examples of the wonderful responses that have occurred after tragic loss are the creation of charitable organizations, foundations, scholarships and disaster response teams by people who may have been directly or indirectly impacted by tragedy. Some of these include the COPE Foundation, Compassionate Friends, the National Alliance for Children's Grief and OUR HOUSE which all offer grief and healing support services. Another organization CARE is the largest private international humanitarian nonprofit that is committed to helping families in poor communities improve their lives and achieve lasting victories over poverty. CARE was founded in 1945 to provide relief to survivors of World War II. Team Rubicon was established by Marine Corps veteran, Jake Wood, in 2010 after a 7.0 earthquake devastated Haiti. He along with 6 others jumped into action with compassion to help thousands of survivors. That organization has since grown exponentially.

There are other individuals that started benevolent causes after terrible tragedies. Triumph Over Tragedy Foundation was created by Reggie and Wesley Jones of Georgia some years after Wesley fell from a zip line in April 1987 and became paraplegic. This organization assists families who are dealing with catastrophic illness or life-changing injuries. David Schury established Tragedy to Triumph after he was burned over 30% of his body on April 13, 2000 while at his job when a damaged wire short circuited a 12,000 volt piece of equipment causing an explosion at a substation of Commonwealth Edison, the Chicago based electric company where Schury worked for 34 years.

The parents of the Sandy Hook Elementary School mass shooting victims established Sandy Hook Promise to lobby for gun control measures and greater safety in schools. Countless other families affected by loss related to subsequent school shootings have followed in the path of assisting families affected by these tragedies.

The family of Hannah Goman established the Hannah Goman Foundation and Safe Drive program in their Michigan city after Hannah was killed by a drunk driver. The program offered free transportation to individuals under the influence of a substance. Another foundation established by the notable John Travolta and his late wife Kelly Preston was named The Jett Travolta Fundation after their oldest son, Jett, who died of an apparent seizure at 16 years old. This foundation helps children with special needs.

I could name many other nonprofits that help people in various ways to get through tragedy, but the list is endless as people continue to find ways to develop meaning from suffering. Remember that God will always be with us when we are suffering in any way just as He was with Jesus in the final hours. We Christians know that God will help us grow and develop a stronger bond with Him when we give compassionately to others to ease their pain and find meaning in our own suffering.

Yvonne

## **PRAISE AND PRAYER, APRIL 2024**

Lord, we pray that You will continue touch and heal Bethany M., Louis P, Michael H., Lorri N., Debbie C. Eric D, Jim M., Remy P, Beth, Vivian M, and many others from the illnesses, injuries and side effects that plague them and give them relief from disease and that You would wrap Your arms around their family members and comfort them.

We praise you and thank you Lord for the change, growth, and healing in Carmen P's life and that you will continue to walk with her.

We pray that our children, our family members, friends and loved ones will all place their God, love God, love and obey the Word of God, confess their sins to God, worship God, and commune with God all their days. We pray that the Lord would grant us all humility, wisdom, discernment, honor, integrity, love, and grace in all of life.

We pray that God will keep and protect our brothers and sisters in prison from hopelessness, depression, and anxiety. We pray that He will give them a will to be well and to feed on His Word.

We pray for our nation Lord, that revival might break lose from coast to coast, that hearts would return to you, and that America would once again reflect Biblical values to a watching world.

We pray for the people of Haiti, of Israel, and of Ukraine, that as they endure this season of suffering trial and testing, that You would grant them strength and endurance, and daily reminders of Your love and grace. We pray, Lord, that You would change the hearts and minds of those who are following the path of destruction.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Acts 2:23	2 John 1:29	3 Luke 22:41	4 Isaiah 1:18	5 Psalm 95:6	6 John 17:13
7 Luke 10:19	8 Ephesians 6:10	9 Ephesians 3:19	10 Matthew 9:36	11 John 3:16	12 John 19:30	13 1 Thessalonians 4:14
14 Matthew 28:1	15 Colossians 3:17	16 John 14:6	17 Romans 4:5	18 2 Corinthians 5:21	19 Matthew 1:23	20 Psalm 40:8
21 Luke 5:16	22 1 John 3:2	23 John 15:15	24 Psalm 32:1	25 Romans 1:20	26 Psalm 31:24	27 Psalm 139:13
28 Luke 23:43	29 James 4:8	30 Matthew 6:11-12				

## **PRAYERS FOR SPRING**

### A Biblical Spring Prayer

God, by your mighty grace, make this season of my life like that wondrous moment when “Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.”

### A Short Spring Prayer

Lord, as I face this change, make me “like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither,” and grant favor and prosperity in whatever I do.

### A Spring Prayer to Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown. Fair is the snowfall, fairer still the snowmelt, that heralds all the joys of spring; Jesus, you’re fairer, Jesus, you’re purer, you make the woeful heart to sing. Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host; You, Lord, shine brighter, you shine far purer than all the angels heaven can boast. All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly, wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee; none can be nearer, fairer or dearer, than you, my Savior, are to me. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be Thine. —Author Unknown

### Spring Prayer from the Psalms

How many are Your works, Lord! In wisdom You made them all; You make springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. You water the mountains from Your upper chambers; the land is satisfied by the fruit of Your work. You make grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens human hearts, oil to make their faces shine, and bread that sustains their hearts. The trees of the Lord are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that You planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers. How many are Your works, Lord! In wisdom You made them all.

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