



Places In The Father's Heart

That reach out and touch, to bring times of refreshing...

Refreshing Times

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2008

The New Season ~ by Gerri

As I look around, evidence of Spring is everywhere. It is one thing that I love about the South.

There is a new season spiritually as well. I don't think that many Christians today would deny that we are living in the last days before Christ's return. The Mercy Season is truly upon us. We are experiencing God doing things very differently than He has in the past.

Some have refused to acknowledge this new season and as history records, they have become the biggest critics of the new season. For those who are choosing to move ahead into uncharted waters, we are just beginning to glimpse a marvelous thing unfolding. For example, one of the



Springtime in the Carolinas!

definitions of the new Mercy Season of the church is that the methods of warfare used in the Ruler Season are no longer working. We are finding that there is great truth in the following: **The PEACE which passes all understanding is the destroyer of the authority which establishes chaos and confusion.** In this new season, we simply need to press into

fuller intimacy with Father where we find this kind of PEACE and it literally becomes our weapon of destruction against the enemy! When we walk in this kind of PEACE there will be little need to attempt spiritual warfare by methods we have used in the past. While they were important and useful in the old season, they are no longer the power house they once were.

How much better it is to just flow in intimacy with our Father. How much better to just crawl up in Daddy's lap and rest as He instructs in Matthew 28... "come unto Me all ye who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

The rest and peace Father is referring to is that which is found in intimacy and up-close relationship with Him. Pressing into this kind of peace and learning to rest there then becomes **an automatic weapon used to defy the very outcome of its lack...peace destroys chaos and confusion!**

Father, give me this kind of peace as I rest in Your embrace!

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Roger & Gerri

Prayer Ministry

Signs of Abandonment

- Anger
- Self Hatred
- Self Protection
- Isolation
- Self Reliance

Abandonment & Rejection are serious wounds that need to be healed.

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When someone has no peace, they take away the peace of others around them.

Beauty for Ashes ~ by Gerri

Many years ago Roger and I sat nervously in the waiting room of Samaritan Counseling Services in Phoenix, AZ. We were waiting for our first ever counseling session with Al Ells, founder of Samaritan, and now our long time mentor and friend. I remember asking myself, "What in the world am I doing here?" I was a total emotional mess and Roger wasn't much better! We'd reached a total impasse on some marriage issues and realized we needed help to get 'unstuck'.

While waiting for our appointment time, I noticed a beautifully framed print on the wall and I got up and crossed the room to read it. It changed my life and today it hangs in my office. Here is what the prayer said:

Father, may the Spirit of Lord rest upon those who provide counsel here, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Strength, the Spirit of Knowledge and the Fear of the Lord. May all their counsel be as the wisdom from above, that is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering and without hypocrisy. We further ask that all who would come searching and seeking answers, would find You, Lord, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace. Finally, Father, we ask that You would mercifully and graciously provide: *Relief to the tormented; liberty to the captive and addicted, trust to the fearful, new hope to the depressed, healing to the broken hearted and wounded, reconciliation to those in contention, direction to the confused, comfort and the oil of gladness to all who mourn, revelation to the searching and seeking, forgiveness to those who confess their sins*

A significant moment in time can begin your healing journey. We are either in recovery or we are in denial.

and forgive others, peace to the fretful and anxious, and power to those willing to do Your will. In Jesus name, Amen.

Just as I finished reading this prayer, Al stepped into the waiting room and called our names. This moment in time began our healing journey back in the early '80's and our journey continues on today. There have been many 'healing crises' in our lives since that time, but I always try and remember Father's word and promise to me from Isaiah 61:1-3, that He does give beauty for ashes and the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness....**THAT WE MAY BECOME TREES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, THE PLANTING OF THE LORD...THAT HE MAY BE GLORIFIED.**

Whether you are well into your healing journey or you are just thinking about beginning, we can promise you this: **The Lord is going to give you beauty for your ashes! He is going to heal every area of your broken heart, empower you with the goodness of the Gospel and release you from whatever has held you captive. This means that though you**

may be in the fires of affliction and you feel like you are a "crispy critter," He is giving you beauty!

If this word is for you today or for some time in your tomorrows, know that for certain it will be for some appointed time in your life! May you become a tree of righteousness... that Father may be glorified.

Should Father be speaking to you concerning prayer ministry, please visit our website, www.placesinthefathersheart.org and click on the Prayer Ministry link for more information and application forms.

A Note to Business Executives

Dr. Grant Mullen, MD who is partnering with us here at P I T F H has a new book out entitled *The Breakthrough Solution—Release the Potential in People*. This book is targeted towards the business marketplace, corporate executives, CEO's and Human Resource Departments. It is a fast read taking the reader on a fascinating, unpredictable, humorous journey of corporate investigation to find out why a cutting-edge technology company is failing. Not only will you better understand the puzzle of human behavior at work, but *The Breakthrough Solution* will also give you practical, easy-to-use keys you can start using right away to turn your organization around! **If you are a business leader, corp exec, or head of a department, please call our office to find out how you can get a free copy of Grant's book. (843) 365-6994.**

www.trikke.com

We recently saw a new infomercial on the trikke. You can view it on the above website. We liked what we saw and we had been praying about a form of exercise we could do together and have fun at it. We purchased our first trikke a few weeks ago and this past week we purchased one for Gerri so we can ride together. It is absolutely great fun and a wonderful workout. It has been proven that a good workout produces endorphins in the body that reduce stress! In today's world we all need some form of stress relief! This is especially true for church and ministry leadership.

Check out the trikke! It just could be for you!

Sticky Note Quandary ~ by Roger

For months now as I have prayed and studied, I have had informational flashes that were revelation to me. Each time I would grab my pad of sticky notes and write down the flash. They have been collecting by my chair. I have questioned, "what are these for; what should I do with them?" No answer, so I just review and enjoy!

A few days ago, Gerri asked me if I had an article for this newsletter and I responded, "No." Then as I began to pray and ask Father for a topic, my sticky notes came to mind. The more I thought about it, the more I liked the idea of sharing my sticky notes with you! I hope some will be a blessing. If any bother you, just remember, it's only a stick note and easily disposed of! So here it goes!

- **Our personal spirit is where our true love seat is located. When our personal spirit is slumbering or hiding from life, our love seat is in our emotions. (This sticky note was from Gerri to me!)**

Comment: It seems to me that trying to build personal relationships on an emotional level only would be akin to building our house upon the sand without a foundation. When the storms of life come and our emotions take to the roller coaster circuit, what happens to our relationships with God and man? The strength of our relationships must be spirit to spirit so a strong, healthy, personal spirit is required.

- **The only way we can maintain control in our lives is to explain away or deny what we cannot control.**

Comment: A person's need to control is typically rooted in fear and fear is typically rooted in love hunger. Anger is usually a by-product. A controller will usually have relationship problems. Intimacy is mostly a foreign subject. This person is usually manipulated by a fear of man and a fear of failure and is often performance oriented and walking in an orphan attitude. This makes proper intimate relationship with God and man very unlikely.

- **The works of the flesh come from the mind. In order to do evil, you have to think about it!**

Comment: The moment you catch yourself thinking evil, stop immediately and repent and ask Father's forgiveness. Renounce and reject those thoughts and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to renew your mind and Heart.

- **The works of our spirit must come from our human spirit which should be in dominion over our soul (our mind, intellect and emotions.)**

Comment: Up until two years ago, Gerri and I paid little attention to our personal spirit. We were born again and our spirit was made alive unto God and the Holy Spirit now dwelt

in us. All was well, or so we thought. When we met Arthur Burk and he began to teach us about our need to bless and heal our personal spirit, the concept was new and challenging but the results have been dramatic. A neglected, slumbering, hiding or wounded spirit will not succeed in rising to its rightful place of dominion over our soul and our body.

- **Pain is a deterrent for people wanting to move on in God. Pain avoidance can slow our spiritual growth.**

Comment: People who are deeply wounded want to avoid pain at all cost! However, a close walk with God requires the healing of our painful issues! This means confrontation with those issues and the pain that goes with them. Some people who were zealous at salvation may shut down and even withdraw from God because of the threat of painful encounters required to move deeper into their relationship with Him. We are to walk with Him 'in the fellowship of His sufferings.'

- **In Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said the most important commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and the second is like it; to love your neighbor as you do yourself.**

Comment: Sadly there are many Christians who do not love themselves. Therefore, how can they love their neighbors well? Even more importantly, can they love God well? Where there is low self-esteem, self hatred, self rejection in its many forms there is evidence that healing is required. This can also be evidence that they have not met Father on a personal level because experiencing His love brings legitimacy and self worth.

- **If we deny the gifts of the Holy Spirit, healing and miracles, we must do ministry our way and in our own strength. The result of our denial is heavy labor with reduced fruit and potential stress, burn-out and confusion.**

Comment: Powerless ministry will not change lives and our world as Father intended.

- **One reason there can be many different interpretations of what the Word of God teaches is that too often there is not an active, intimate relationship with the God of the Word!**

Comment: If the focus of the relationship is on the written Word of God rather than a personal, intimate relationship with the God of the Word Himself, many different interpretations can result. This becomes true for many Christians because we struggle with intimacy in most all of our relationships. We must KNOW the God of the Word and then the Word of God becomes truth revealed.

I hope that you have enjoyed some of my sticky notes. I have enjoyed sharing them with you. Blessings!

Roger



Book Review ~ The Shack by William Young

“This story reads like a prayer—like the best kind of prayer, filled with sweat and wonder and transparency and surprise. If you read one work of fiction this year, let this be it.” ~ Mike Morrell

“An exceptional piece of writing that ushers you directly into the heart and nature of God in the midst of agonizing human suffering.” ~ David Gregory

Mackenzie Allen Philips’ youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his Great Sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend.

Against his better judgment he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change Mack’s world forever.

In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant *The Shack* wrestles with the timeless question, “Where is God in a world so filled with un-

speakable pain?” The answers Mack gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him. You’ll want everyone you know to read this book!

This book was recommended to us by one of our prayer ministry clients. It is an exceptional read. If you are tired of religious Christianity and ready for your ‘religious boxes’ to be smashed into tiny little pieces, then this read is for you.

Once you begin reading, you are captivated and you know you must finish it. You just have to learn what actually happened to Missy. You will see a parallel example of what we teach here at Places In The Father's Heart about the Mother heart of Father God and the Father heart of Father God. You will see how important it is to deal righteously and honestly with your hidden inner core pain and you will come to know Father, Son and Holy Spirit in a brand new way, I promise! *Gerri*

About the author: William P. Young was born a Canadian and raised among a stone-age tribe by his missionary parents in the highlands of what was New Guinea. He suffered great loss as a child and young adult, and now enjoys the ‘wastefulness of grace’ with his family in the Pacific Northwest.

Order at Amazon.com or www.TheShackBook.com



Places In The Father's Heart

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Conway, SC 29526

TO:

Jesus is the way...Father is the destination!