



WOMEN'S REFUGE  
Of ST. JOHNS COUNTY

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*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven."*

What do we pray for? What do **you** pray for? This is a personal question of course, but still a very critical one. I've spent many years praying selfish prayers - seeking my will. I did not understand the kingdom of God and His will until I began searching the scriptures myself. Matthew 6:21 says, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When God became my treasure and prize, my eyes were opened and He began to align my heart with His. He stripped me of everything I thought I knew (Which was a big fat NOTHING). He softened my heart (Ezek 36:25-27) and began to show me what life is truly about. My focus changed and with it, my prayers. My heart and prayers were no longer for my kingdom, but HIS.

Anyone can look around and see that this world needs God. We as His children with direct access to the throne have an awesome responsibility and honor to go before Almighty God with our hearts. No grandiose words needed - just you and your heart. Sometimes I think we get in our own way with our fears and insecurities, doubts, and expectations instead of approaching the throne as a child running to their loving Father unhindered, in complete abandon. My mentor, Joan Clements would say, "Now Debbie, don't wax eloquent!" Meaning, don't be concerned with eloquent, grandiose, perfect prayers - as if there is one. Come as you are the best way you know how. I can hear her now. This beautiful lady is now in Heaven, but her many words of wisdom still ring in my ears daily.



There may be mountains of uncertainty swirling around us, but the truth remains that God is still on the throne! Nothing is happening or will happen that He is not aware of. And to think, we have direct access to Him every minute of every day...

*"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." ~2 Chronicles 7:14~*



The world is changing constantly, but what has not changed is the need for the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ - and the need grows with every passing moment.

I am excited to report that the ladies and I have (safely) joined a few friends from Wellspring Community Center in a Bible study Thursday mornings studying the book FERVENT by Priscilla Schirer. This study focuses on specific and strategic prayer. We are reading The Prayerful Spirit by James P Gills in conjunction with Fervent. I highly recommend these studies to anyone seeking to enhance their prayer life.

The ladies remain involved with Celebrate Recovery on Tuesday nights, TPAC Women's Bible Study Wednesday evenings through ZOOM, Monday evening Bible study working through the study Grace by Max Lucado, and Sunday morning drive-in services at Turning Point at Calvary church.

I am humbled to report that the mission continues to move forward, and the ladies are continuing to grow in the Lord. Cathy has completed 9 months with the Refuge program. She is living with her mother, has a full-time job and is doing well. Karine is going on 7 months with us, and we will be acknowledging Rachel's 6 months with us September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please keep the ladies in your prayers as they move forward in their journey with the Lord.

We have an immediate need in which I petition your prayers. The ladies are breaching the final phase in their program where they begin seeking employment and transitioning into the world. A transition period is critical to their success. We ask your prayers according to this tremendous need. Nothing is too big for God and so we pray in faith believing.

Please read the brief testimony attached from Rachel, a current resident. My prayer - our prayer is that God's Kingdom come here on earth as it is in heaven, here in St. Augustine as it is in heaven, here at The Women's Refuge and in the hearts of the ladies in the home and in those to come as it is in heaven in Jesus name.

*"For Yours is the kingdom  
and the power  
and the glory  
forever.  
Amen."  
~Matthew 6:13b~*

His Kingdom Come,

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