



Sisters in the Spirit Ministries Newsletter

Empowerment for the Christian Woman



Shiny Wishes

**By Rev. Dr.
Katrina White
Brown**

The year was 1848. James Marshall was working on building a sawmill at the south fork of the American River in California. He had been hired by John Sutter, who was expanding his agricultural empire in the central valley region newly conquered from Mexico by the United States.

One day while at the sawmill, Marshall discovered a gold nugget. He and his men found more gold nearby. He told Sutter about the gold find, and although the men tried to keep the discovery quiet, the news got out. The discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill touched off the largest migration to ever take

place in American history. The California Gold Rush became the personification of hope. Thousands of people with shiny wishes flocked to California, expecting to have all of their dreams come true. Unfortunately, the Gold Rush was also the death knell for thousands who lost their lives because of the overwhelming migration to California. The massive influx of people, estimated at 140,000, decimated natural resources. Clean water became scarce, grass to feed livestock and fertile soil needed to grow food was destroyed, and diseases like cholera rampaged.

Native Americans in particular suffered because of the pursuit to fulfill shiny wishes. For centuries Indians had lived in the west without any competition for resources. But with the desire to fulfill shiny wishes came the loss of selflessness, compassion, and conscientious respect for the lives and values of others.

The Gold Rush destroyed the way of life of the Native Americans, as the land, food, water, and space were consumed without mercy, by those blinded by their shiny wishes.

Ironically, neither James Marshall nor John Sutter ever profited from the dis-

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20 SECONDS OF PRAISE



Health officials recommend washing your hands frequently for a minimum of 20 seconds as a primary defense against germs. You can time this by singing the verse and chorus of:

Said I Wasn't Gonna Tell Nobody
By Alex Bradford

I said I wasn't gonna tell nobody
But I couldn't keep it to myself (3 x's)
What the Lord has done for me
Chorus
You ought to been there, when He
saved my soul
You ought to been there, when He
signed my name on the roll
And I started walking, started
talking, started singing, started
shouting
Oh, what the Lord has done for me

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Blessings From the Sisters in the Spirit Ministries Board of Directors



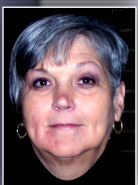
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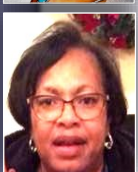
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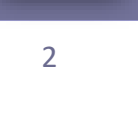
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Sisters in the Spirit is an outreach ministry created to empower Christian women in better serving the Lord. We are here to help "equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ..."

Ephesians 4:12



New Year's Day. It's also known as resolution day; new beginnings day; fresh start day, change your life day ... January 1st is the day that we typically commit to during things differently than we did in the prior year. There's really nothing wrong with doing that, but Sisters - how many of us really maintain the change? I've made New Year's resolutions in the morning on January 1st that I have broken before the end of the day. We make these commitments with good intentions, but until we embrace the change in our spirit, it's not likely to happen. Making a change in our lives requires us to make a change in our attitude.

I suggest adopting Be-Attitudes.

Yes, this is a shameless adaptation of the word Beatitudes, which were eight declarations of blessedness spoken by Jesus during His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-12). The Greek word translated "blessed" means "happy, blissful" or, literally, "to be enlarged." In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus uses the word blessed to refer to more than just superficial feelings. Being blessed creates happiness, spiritual well-being, prosperity, and joy. Jesus told the crowd on Mount Olivet that the blessed will: be comforted when they mourn; be filled when they hunger and thirst for righteousness; receive mercy; see God; and be called the children of God. Jesus' Beatitudes are truly empowering!

Sisters, when you really embrace your Be-Attitudes, they are also empowering. In fact, they become your life affirmations. Affirmations are important because they reflect your mindset and improve your perspectives. Affirmations also become part of your legacy - what you did to make life better for those around you.

Your Be-Attitudes can be life changing! Write them down. Speak life to them. Be intentional about living your Be-Attitudes as a way of blessing the Lord and everyone you come in contact with. Commit to doing at least one of your Be-Attitudes every day. And let them be a testimony to serving the Lord with gladness.

My Be-Attitudes include:

Be a friend - use Jesus as the role model for friendship and love.

Be open to new experiences - this includes reaching out to people who are not like you, don't think like you, or look like you; trying out new ideas; and listening to new or different thoughts and opinions.

Be informed - know the Word of the Lord for yourself by studying the Bible; reading and researching news and information, and social media posts to discern fact from fiction. Know the truth for yourself.

Be helpful - if you can't be helpful, be quiet.

Be willing - take responsibility for doing all you can do to make a positive difference.

Be prayerful - stay in communication with the Lord through prayer and in supplication.

Be intentional - choose to be who God called you to be; choose to trust in the Lord with all your heart, no matter what; choose to forgive others as God forgives you; and choose to love - love God and love each other.

In my Spirit for you my Sisters, is that you commit to your own Be-Attitudes. It'll be one of the best things you can do to experience the rich fulfillment of the "Beatitudes" that Jesus preach about.

*Love, Peace, and Blessings Always,
Katrina W. Brown*



AT 97 YEARS OLD, AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Christine Boyd has been around for every major historical event since World War I. Through it all, she says without a doubt, God has been with her every step of the way.

We all have a lot of numbers in our lives: phone numbers; house numbers; social security numbers; bank account numbers the list goes on and on. We live in the digital age so numbers are just a fact of life. This is especially true when it comes to our age. Age determines whether or not you can drive, drink, vote, become the president of the United States, or get senior discounts at restaurants, movies, and on airline tickets.

Christine Boyd's age is 97, but she says just like everything else, age is just a number. *"How long you've been here is not nearly as important as how you have spent the time you've been here. For me, I've spent my time, all the moments God has given me, loving and serving the Lord,"* proclaims Ms. Boyd. She's seen a lot of moments. She has been alive for just about every major historical event since World War I. She has seen 17 presidents - every one from Calvin Coolidge (#30) to Joe Biden (#46).

She has witnessed U.S. involvement in at least 5 wars, including World War II, the Korean Conflict, the war in Vietnam, and the Afghanistan and Gulf Wars.

She has seen dramatic changes in the cost of living. When she was born in 1924, the price of gasoline was 11 cents; the average annual income was \$2,196; a first class stamp cost 2 cents; a metal bed with a mattress went for \$27; the most extravagant cars could be purchased for under \$500; and the average life expectancy was 54 years.

During the year that she was born, history witnessed: Ellis Island in New York, the place where so many immigrants sought a new beginning, closed its doors; the 1st ever Winter Olympic Games were held in Chamonix, France. This was the only Olympics held where the host country won zero medals; the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act which gave citizenship to Native American Indians born on U.S. soil. The Native Americans did not receive the right to vote until 1948; the 1st Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade was held; and J. Edgar Hoover became the head of the FBI.

While all of this was happening, Christine Stokes was being born, the last of nine children born to Simon Columbus and Annie May Lewis Stokes.

"I was a Daddy's Girl," Ms. Boyd acknowl-

edges. But she also pointed out that *"there was so much poverty when I was growing up, the best decade of my life was when I moved away from home."*

GROWING UP IN GLOUCESTER

Ms. Boyd was born in Gloucester County, Virginia at a time when the landscape was mostly rural and was populated by roughly 11,000 residents with diverse backgrounds. Native Americans Indians, those of European descent, and those of African descent primarily worked the land or were engaged in the fishing industry. Many of them were poor, just like Ms. Boyd's family. *"The normal things we didn't have. We didn't have much of anything. We raised everything we ate, we didn't have a radio, or toys, or bicycles, or anything like that, but we did have lots of love from our parents, and love was what kept us together,"* she said.

Ms. Boyd's family tree includes her paternal grandfather Simon Stokes who was born in Mathews County, VA in 1839 as an enslaved person. His biography was documented as part of a federal government writer's project, and can be accessed at the Library of Congress. Ms. Boyd grew up in Gloucester at a time when the county was still standing on segregated legs. She pointed out that *"everything was labeled White or Colored, but the races pretty much got along here, because everybody knew everybody. The family that lived in the farm next to us was White. We shared what we had, they ate at our table, and they shared what they had. Although Black and White people lived in the same community, we couldn't go anywhere together. We knew where we could and couldn't go. Segregation was the only thing we knew, but we still got along."* Ms. Boyd recounted the time when the Ku Klux Klan held a rally in the county. *"They were all gathered at a field but a Black woman, went up to them, cursed them out, and told them to get out, and they just left. Otherwise, the races did what we had to do to get along."*

GETTING OUT OF GLOUCESTER

Ms. Boyd attended The Gloucester Training School which was the first high school established for Black students in the county. The school was started by Thomas Calhoun (T.C.) Walker who was the first African American to practice law in Gloucester County (1887). Later he became the Superintendent for

Gloucester Negro Schools. She graduated at age 18 and wasted no time getting out of Gloucester. *"There was nothing to do and no place to go in Gloucester. The place was just dull. When I graduated, I left and went to Lackey (VA). I worked at Fort Eustis, but then I got married at age 18."* Things didn't change much for the newlywed however. *"My husband had already signed the papers to go into the military. He left for three and a half years, and I stayed in Lackey."*

While Ms. Boyd noted that the best decade of her life was when she left Gloucester, the worst decade of her life was during the time her mother became ill. *"My mom had tuberculosis, and was extremely ill. I was making plans to move back to Gloucester to take care of her. She died before I could do that however."*

LIFE CHANGES

One of the biggest changes in her life occurred at the end of World War II. *"My husband came home after the war and we relocated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. But I found out that his priorities and mine were not the same, and so we didn't get along."* Ms. Boyd explained that she has always loved the Lord, always loved going to church, and always tried to live her life in a way that was pleasing to God. *"But party time was my husband's priority. He was really caught up in doing worldly things. He didn't drink, but he liked to party all the time. I stayed with him for 25 years before I divorced him."*

This seemed to touch off a series of life changes for Ms. Boyd that thrust her into a continuous role of caretaker. *"I love people, and I always look for the good in everyone, and I try to help others when I can, and I ended up taking care of a lot of family members,"* she said. This included raising her god-child, taking care of her niece, caring for her father after he was released from a sanatorium, and taking care of her older sister Helen, who lived to be 104 years old.

When she married her second husband Samuel Boyd, she thought she had found the God-fearing man with whom she would spend the rest of her life. *"He was a deacon in the church and he represented himself to be very religious, but he deceived me. He had been previously married four times and I didn't*

Continues on page 5



WHO'S ON FIRST?

The Bible is full of firsts. See how many you can find in this crossword puzzle.

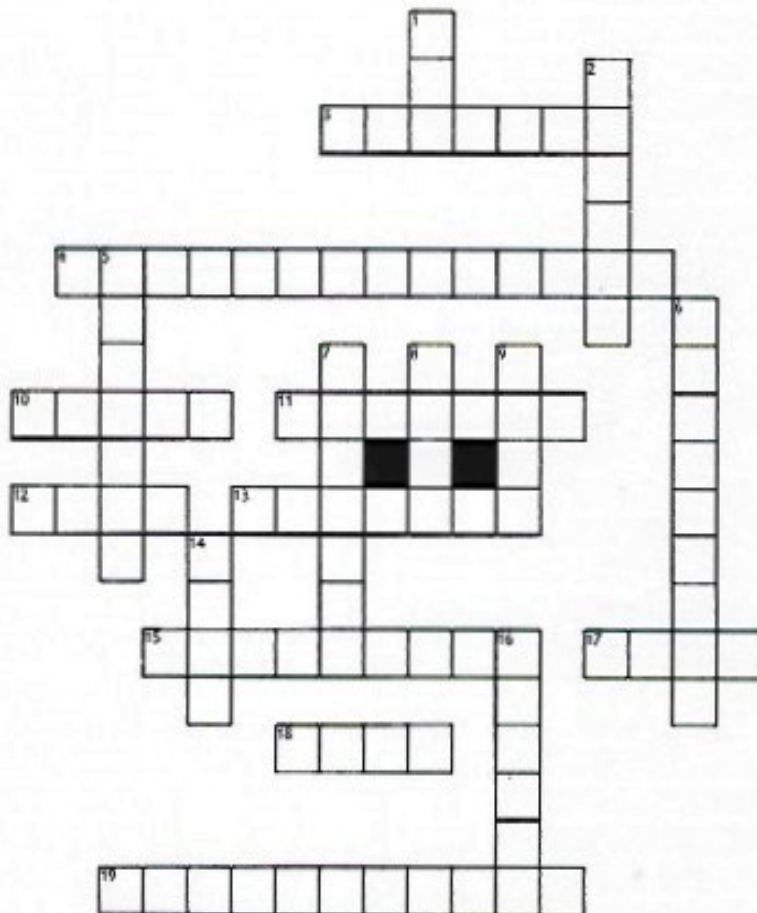
First for Fun

Across

3. Mother of the first twins in the Bible (Genesis 25:24-26)
4. The first two disciples called by Jesus (Matthew 4:18)
10. The first to see Jesus after He was resurrected (Matthew 28: 8-10)
11. The first and only female judge (Judges 4:4)
12. The first shepherd (Genesis 4:2)
13. The first martyr of the Christian church (Acts 7)
15. The Day of Pentacost was first experienced in this city (Acts 2:5)
17. The first left-handed man mentioned in the Bible (Judges 3:15)
18. First king of Israel anointed by Samuel (1 Samuel 10:1)
19. First Priest mentioned in the Bible (Genesis 14:18)

Down

1. The first woman came from this (Genesis 2:22)
2. The first measure of weight used in the Bible (Genesis 23:15)
5. Abraham's first born son (Genesis 16:1-11)
6. The author of the first Psalm
7. The first book of the Bible
8. The first drunkard in the Bible (Genesis 9:21)
9. First person to commit murder in the Bible (Genesis 4)



14. Location of the first garden spot (Genesis 2:8)
16. The first book after Malachi

AT 97 YEARS OLD, AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Continued from page 3

know anything about it. I was married to him nine years before he died.” Ms. Boyd has also outlived all of her siblings, as well as other family members.

She is a mother of two daughters - Sheri and Barbara; an award winning cosmetologist who graduated from Berean University School of Cosmetology in Philadelphia, PA; a grandmother and great grandmother; a Deaconess; and the Mother of her church - First Baptist Church in Ordinary VA. She has had a career in banking, in cosmetology, and has ministered to thousands through her church work. She is a world traveler, an accomplished baker (her sweet potato pie is legendary) and cook, and she has been a fashion and beauty icon for decades, and is the epitome of the woman described in Proverbs 31 - she is blessed and is a blessing; and this is just a short list of her accomplishments. But Ms. Boyd is quick to let you know that *“I could not have done anything in my life without God.”* She expresses her *“appreciation for the recognition I have received, and my family and friends love me as I love them, but I am nothing without God. God is my all-in-all, my life, my joy, and my hope. And it grieves my heart to see how badly we are treating one another in the world. God is just not pleased with what is going on.”*

CHANGING LIFE

Ms. Boyd has also seen a lot of events that have grieved her spirit. *“9/11 was one of the most painful things to have happened. There were so many lives lost. I don’t think we’ll ever get over that. The Pandemic is taking so many lives, and I wonder what can happen next. What happened at the Capitol last year when those people went down there and attacked - that was one of the worst things I’ve ever seen. We really need to pray more, trust God more, and seek God’s direction in everything we do. That’s my advice. We need to get closer to God.”*

WHAT’S NEXT?

“Things have changed so much over the course of my life. Children are telling their parents what to do, women are much more independent than before, there are no pay phones anymore - everybody has a cell phone, and everybody lives and puts all their business online. I don’t like computers, but everything you do now has to be online—even church. But no matter what, there are some things that will never change in my life. I will always start and end my day with the Lord. I will always thank the Lord in everything I do and for every step I take. I will always seek God’s guidance in every decision. And I will always pray about everything. People ask me what is the secret to long life, but if there is one, I don’t know what it is. I am thankful to God that I’m not on a bunch of medications. When I get up in the morning sometimes I have pain, but I talk to God and sooner or later I’m able to move around. I drink Willard’s Water daily, and I praise God that I don’t have a lot of ailments.”

Age really is just a number for Ms. Boyd. *“I live to serve God, and that’s what I want people to remember about me - that I lived a fruitful life, that I have been able to help people, that I’m grateful for the people who have helped me, that I love people, that I’m thankful that people love me, and that I love the Lord and I know He loves me.”*



Virginia Tech Cadet Maj. Travis Worrell hands the American flag that flew over T.C. Walker Elementary School (formally Gloucester Training School) to Christine Boyd, a 1941 graduate of the school, during the school’s closing ceremonies in 2012. Photo credit: Gloucester Mathews Gazette Journal.

I WILL BREAK YOUR PROUD SPIRIT
BY MAKING THE SKIES AS UNYIELDING AS IRON
AND THE EARTH AS HARD AS BRONZE.

Hunting Monkeys

In many countries around the globe, monkeys are considered a valuable staple of the diet. “Do you know how hunters of old used to trap monkeys?” A man asked his child.

“Rather than chasing them up a tree or shooting arrows from below, they’d put a heavy glass jar with a very narrow neck on the ground, which had the monkeys’ favorite food inside.

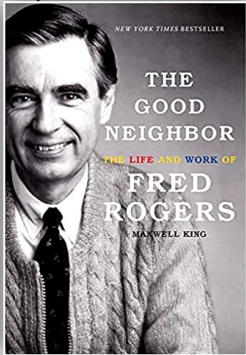
They’d then step back and hide, waiting for the unsuspecting animal to approach. When it did, the monkey would reach inside, clench a fist around the food, and try to pull it out. However, the very narrow neck of the jar would stop the monkey from getting its hand out.

It would pull and pull, but to no avail. There was simply no way to get its hand out of the jar without releasing the food. Rather than letting go, the monkey would persevere, refusing to drop its dinner. The hunters would then approach and catch it to enjoy a meal of their own.”

“Don’t be like that monkey,” warned the man, “In life, to fight another day and grow as person, you must know when to quit, when to move on, and when to let go of whatever’s holding you back.”

Sometimes you have to let go and give up what you have now in order to receive something better in the future. Don’t let stubbornness be your downfall. God said “I will break down your stubborn pride and make the sky above you like iron and the ground beneath you like bronze.” (Lev. 26:19) Stubborn pride creates hardened hearts. It is shortsighted and insecure and tries to control everything. Stubborn pride acts as if it has everything together and doesn’t need the help of anyone, even God.

The demands of stubborn pride are unreasonable, resistant to change, and misses out on opportunities for growth. If you find stubborn pride sneaking into your beliefs and behavior - STOP. A person’s pride will bring him or her low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor. (Proverbs 2:23) Don’t let your stubbornness lead to your destruction. When you truly **let go**, you can humbly **let God**.



THE GOOD NEIGHBOR: THE LIFE AND WORK OF FRED ROGERS BY MAXWELL KING

In the opening chapters of *The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers*, former Philadelphia Inquirer editor Maxwell King identifies the central miracle of Fred Rogers' life - he suc-

cessfully married the sense of duty and service to God with the call of the artist, educator, and creator. Rogers (1928–2003) was the creator of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. His guiding principles of his Christian faith, that of kindness, acceptance, and unconditional love, reinforced every aspect of his professional and personal life.

The book traces Rogers's development from an often sickly and overweight child, subjected to childhood bullying and an overprotective mother. His upbringing, while often socially isolating, provided a rich environment for the development of his creativity; he went on to study musical composition and become ordained as a Presbyterian minister.

Mr. Roger's Neighborhood, which ran from 1968 to 2001, was radical for its time, covering war, death, divorce, and other controversial topics honestly and respectfully for children's understanding. Rogers had a kindly public persona which made it easy to forget this simple truth—that his anger over how the world treated children was the driving force in his life.

The book expresses Rogers' feelings about his calling in life. He got a college degree in music, but it was his first encounter with the new format of television that changed his life. He recalled watching a man get a pie thrown in his face as the audience laughed. He was incensed. This was suppose to entertain children? He then envisioned a world where technology could be used to educate children, and to help them develop a healthy sense of themselves as being both loved and safe.

This book is a haunting story of a man on a mission for God and God's children. It paints a picture of a driven, honest, innovative man propelled by sensitivity and a sense of duty to God.

One of the take-aways from the book is that we can learn from Mr. Rogers what it means to look for the sacred - the image of God, more valuable than money, power, and influence - in every avenue we pursue. This was what made his neighborhood flourish, as well as our own.

Review written by D.L. Mayfield, printed in Christianity Today magazine (October 2018). *The Good Neighbor* is available online at Amazon.com.

covery of gold at Sutter's Mill. Tragically, Marshall's shiny wishes were tarnished by numerous unsuccessful gold mining claims, and by massive failures in several business ventures he tried to establish. Marshall also became the victim of unrelenting harassment as he was hounded and threatened by those wanting his supposed knowledge of lucrative gold strikes. He became a virtual recluse, a raging alcoholic, and a self-destructive embittered old man who died broken and shattered by shiny wishes.

Shiny wishes will also break and shatter Christian lives. Jesus asked "what good is it for a person to gain the whole world but lose their soul?" (Matthew 16:26) There's nothing wrong with shiny wishes comprised of money, fame, power, and prestige, but they often come with an extremely high price tag: the loss of one's soul.

When Jesus asked His question, He was foretelling His own suffering and death to the disciples. But Peter, who rejected what the Lord was teaching, was quickly rebuked when Jesus said "you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." (Matthew 16:23) The disciples, especially Peter, were so focused on the human point of view, that they completely missed Jesus' perspective: the quality of life is not determined by what we have.

James Marshall discovered that there is no real or sustained profit in shiny wishes. The pursuit of them added nothing to his quality of life; no lasting fulfillment. This does not mean that fulfilling dreams results in no sense of achievement, but that their fruit never truly fulfills God's purpose for humankind.

The Jewish people had shiny wishes about their promised Messiah. They expected a great military leader like David, or a wealthy and flamboyant king like Solomon. Instead, Jesus was the suffering Savior who died at the hands of men. Although their wishes were shiny, their reality was God Almighty, and He is radiant beyond words.

Just as those thousands of people were willing to sacrifice everything in pursuit of their shiny wishes, we must be willing to sacrifice in order to follow Christ in fulfilling His purpose. Worldly suffering should not be a deterrent, because choosing Christ will always be the best decision we can ever make. The person who rejects Jesus in deference to power and wealth will find out that sooner or later Earthly treasures will pass away—no matter how shiny they are.

Nothing shines brighter than the light of the Lord. Our wishes should be for more love, more trust, more obedience, and more faithfulness to God through Christ Jesus. The Lord values us more than anything we could ever want on Earth. God gave His only begotten Son - the most valuable person in existence - that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have a home in Glory that outshines the Sun!



Free Christian Woman's Health Challenge and Transformation
January 25-Feb 15, 2022

4 Teach on Tuesdays

- Create a personal sleep diary
- The no added sugar diet
- Get healthy 1 minute at a time
- Faith and healing

3 Virtual Community
building sessions

21 days of corporate prayer

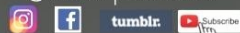
Private Facebook Group

Free stuff and Fellowship

Registration link



@iamdrphstubbbs



shop.drhamiltonstubbbs.com/transformation2022

Dr. Pamela Hamilton-Stubbs Creates the Christian Woman's Health Challenge and Transformation

Dr. Pamela Hamilton-Stubbs talks to God. During one of her conversations with God, she said "I felt a need to create the Women's Health Challenge and Transformation 2022 as a way of helping to heal the community."

The Health Challenge is a 21 day program that is designed to make a transformational impact in the way women eat, sleep, keep fit, and exercise their faith, conducted in a virtual environment.

Dr. Hamilton-Stubbs explained that "on four successive Tuesdays, beginning January 25th and concluding on February 15th, we will meet virtually from 7:00-7:30 pm. These 4 sessions are called *Teach on Tuesdays*. In addition, there will be three support community group meetings from 11:00 am to 12 noon on Saturdays, beginning January 29th and ending February 12th." She said that "the challenge lasts for 21 days, and every day we will commit to prayer and listening to God for our 2022 assignments."

Teach on Tuesdays Agenda:

Session 1 Tuesday 1/25/22 - Sleep on it: Participants will learn how sleep impacts mental health, immune system, muscle mass, blood sugar, and more.

Session 2 Tuesday 2/02/22 -

Diet: No Added Sugar: Participants will learn the relationship between sugar and chronic diseases such as cancer, hypertension, Alzheimer's disease, COVID 19, diabetes, as well as the process of aging.

Session 3 Tuesday 02/08/22 - Exercise: Participants will focus on "one minute movement" exercises, because everyone can take one minute to take care of themselves.

Session 4 Tuesday 02/15/22 - Faith: Faith is essential to having the abundant life God promises each of us. At this session participants will give testimonials of faith and healing.

The Saturday virtual sessions from 11 am—12 noon; 1/29, 02/05, and 02/12 are for encouragement, sharing positive reports, asking questions of the group, and community building.

Dr. Hamilton-Stubbs pointed out that the Health Challenge is for women but men may also join. She added that "each participant is strongly encouraged to join with a friend who will act as an accountability partner, or buddy, during the 21 day challenge." Registration is free, but it is required. Space is limited. The registration link is: shop.drhamiltonstubbbs.com/transformation2022

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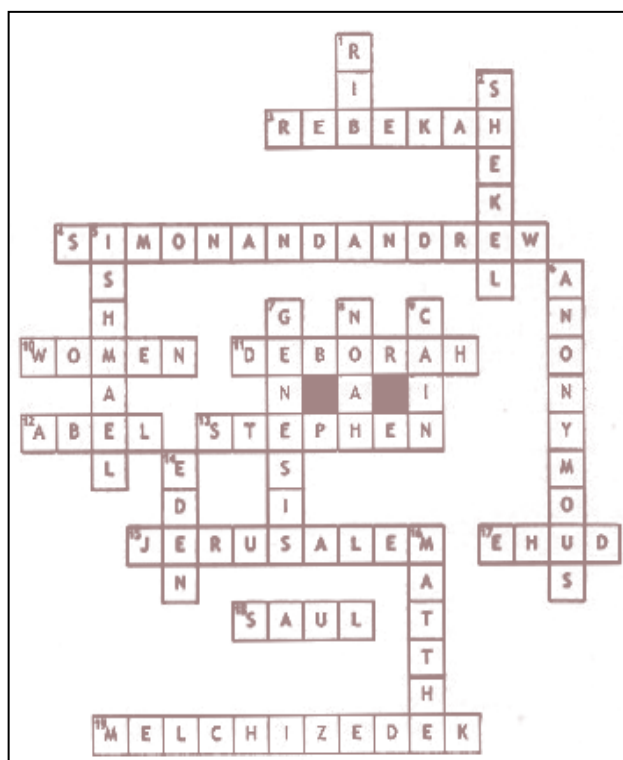
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Contributions of \$30 or more will receive a
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Who's on First Solution



Join **Sisters in the Spirit Ministries** on the
2nd Monday of every month at the
Walter Reed Convalescent Center for the



10:30 am - 11:30 am

7602 Meredith Drive * Gloucester, VA 23061

It's Hallelujah Good Time!



Sisters in the Spirit Newsletter

This is a free monthly publication by **Sisters in the Spirit Ministries, Inc.**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded to empower women in their knowledge and authority, to better operate in their God-given purpose.

Editor: Dr. Katrina W. Brown

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SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS AND BLESSINGS ...

Our newest feature is a "letters to the editor" column. This is your time and space to share whatever comments about the newsletter with our readers. Please send your

THOUGHTS AND BLESSINGS to

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Email to
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*"Every time I think of you,
I give thanks to my God."
Philippians 1:3*

THE LAST LAUGH



BATHROOM ACCOMMODATIONS

There was a minister's widow, who was quite old fashioned and very reserved. She was planning a week's vacation at a campground, but she first wanted to make sure of the accommodations, particularly the bathroom facilities. She was uncomfortable writing the word "toilet" in a letter, and after considerable deliberation, she settled on using the term "bathroom commode." She wrote "bathroom commode" on the first page of her letter, but on subsequent pages of her letter, she referred to the bathroom commode as the "BC." In her letter she asked "does the cabin where I will be staying have its own BC? If not, where is the BC located?"

The campground owner took the first page of the letter and the lady's check and gave it to his secretary. He put the remainder of the letter on the desk of the senior member of his staff without realizing that the staffer would have no way of knowing what BC meant. Then the owner left the campground to run some errands. When the senior staffer read the letter he was indeed, baffled by what BC meant. He showed the letter around to several other staff members, but they couldn't figure it out either. Finally, the senior staffer's wife, who knew that the lady was the widow of a Baptist preacher, figured that the questions must be about the local Baptist Church. "Of course," the senior staffer exclaimed, "BC stands for Baptist Church." He wrote this response:

Dear Madam, I regret the delay in answering your letter, but I now take pleasure in informing you that the BC is located nine miles north of the campground and is capable of seating 250 people at one time. I admit it is quite a distance away if you are in the habit of going regularly, but no doubt you will be pleased to know that many people take their lunches along and stay in there all day long. Unfortunately my wife and I don't go very often. The last time we went was six years ago, because as we grow older it seems more difficult to go regularly. If you decide to come to the campground, I'll be happy to go to the BC with you for the first time and I'll even sit with you until you are finished. We want you to know that we are a friendly campground and we will do everything we can to make sure your BC experience is joyful. The minister's widow immediately cancelled her reservation.

VENGEANCE IS MINE

Three burly fellows on huge motorcycles pulled up to a highway café. These men were giants; the smallest one was 6' 4" 275 pounds. As the three fellows came in they spotted a truck driver who was perched on a stool quietly eating his lunch. He was a little fellow, barely 5'3" and weighing only about 130 pounds. The motorcycle men decided to harass the man. They grabbed his food away from him and laughed in his face. The truck driver said nothing. They threw water on him and called him foul names. The truck driver got up, paid for his food and walked out. One of the three cyclists, unhappy that they hadn't succeeded in provoking the little guy into a fight commented to the waitress: "Boy, he sure wasn't much of a man, was he?" The waitress replied, "Well, I guess not." Then, looking out the window, she added, "I guess he's not much of a truck driver, either. He just ran over three motorcycles."

HE WON'T REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKE

Two friends were watching an old cowboy movie on TV and it came to the part when the cowboy, on his horse, at full gallop, was headed right towards a cliff. One of the guys said to the other, "Hey, I'll bet you 10 bucks that he rides over the cliff." The other said, "Your on!"

Well the cowboy and the horse went right over the cliff. The man that lost the bet paid up. A while later, the guy who won said, "Hey, I'm feeling a little guilty about our bet and need to make a confession ... I already have seen the movie." The other fella replied, "Well, I have also seen the movie before ... but I didn't think he'd be dumb enough to do it again!"

THE PIRATE AND THE BIRD DROPPINGS

A pirate had a wooden leg, a hook on one arm, and a patch over one eye. Someone asked him how these things happened. He said that a whale bit off his leg, a crocodile had chewed off his hand, and a bird dropping hit him in the eye. The other guy replied that he understood about the wooden leg, since he had his original leg bitten off by a whale, and the hook was there to replace the hand the crocodile had chewed off, but a patch over the eye because of a bird dropping ... that he didn't understand. The pirate said that when the bird dropping hit him in the eye, that was the first day he had his hook.