

## Life Awakening

teaching the simplicity and practicality of the Gospel for abundant and eternal life.

*"...the Gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation..."*

*Romans 1:16*

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## Kingdom Seekers Bible Study

Ladies, if you are interested in joining a group of spiritually hungry women, join us on Tuesday mornings 9:30 - 11:30 at City Gate New Holland, 117 E. Main Street, New Holland. We are studying the Gospel of John. If you would like to join us, call for more details!

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## Mission

To train people how to simply and practically join the Gospel for freedom, healing, and victory from the burdens of sin and pain for themselves and others.

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## Vision

To see believers fulfill the promise of the Gospel for abundant life here on earth, while furthering the expansion of God's Kingdom.

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# AWAKENED

Newsletter

I accepted Christ at the age of seven and was raised in a Christian home along with three siblings. We learned the cruelty of life at a young age. My father was involved in an accident that resulted in paralysis and a life confined to a wheelchair when I was two years old. Mom did her best to care for him and raise us, while working full-time, but the stench of shattered dreams and brokenness was tangible. We were taught to work hard and push forward despite the circumstances and that our worth was derived from what we could do. Then in my senior year of high school, I contracted a rare form of meningitis that left me fighting for my life. Through intense intercessory prayer and God's grace, I unexpectedly survived, but not without deep scars. Within a year, my father succumbed to complications of his injuries, and my mother was diagnosed with stage four cancer. I was swept up in a whirlwind of events that reinforced the lie that I was cursed and destined for a life of struggle.



**KIEL GRAVER**

I pushed the pain and disappointment down and enrolled in Bible college determined to serve God and gather what was left of my life. It was there that I fell in love with a young lady and pursued the Bible as a textbook. We became pregnant in our third year there and dropped out of college. We wed, pressing forward into the unknown together, broken and seemingly alone. I then added guilt and shame to the growing list of lies I was carrying.

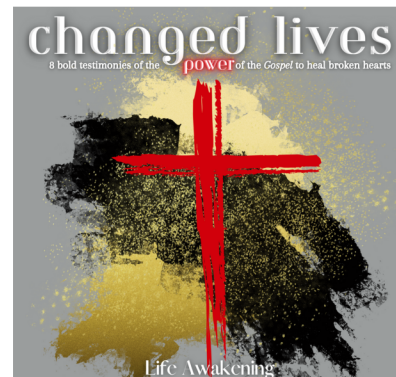
The next 15 years were a blur of busyness and hard work with many good memories and experiences but the whisper of lies and pain had grown into loud voices of condemnation and accusation. The stress on my marriage and relationships with my now three daughters was undeniably evident. In my mind I was a failure, a college dropout with no future, and had a family I was struggling to support. I was no longer listening to the lies; I was living from them. No matter how hard I worked or tried I couldn't break free. I self-medicated with alcohol, and more work but the distractions could no longer fill the holes in my heart. I asked questions like "How is it possible for a Christian to struggle this deeply?" I was always able to push through with sheer willpower but I had none left. My life was void of joy, peace, and purpose.

I had been to Christian counselors before but I decided to give Life Awakening a chance even if it was only to tell my story and have them agree that I was cursed. Linda walked me through the Gospel Process and it was there that I learned for the first time just how intricate of a plan the enemy had for my life. I was giving life to the lies by believing them and unable to see the truth. She showed me how to get rid of the lies, permanently. Through the Holy Spirit I am now able to discern truth from lies and harness the power of the Gospel. The truth is that God had never left me or turned His back, and He created me with a purpose and a future just like He said. I have joy and peace and victory not because of me but because of Him. I've seen my relationships restored, a cycle of self-deprecating behavior disappears, and the rebuilding of inner strength and peace grow because of His truth. (Ephesians 3:14-21) This is only the beginning of the good things He has planned. God is GOOD!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In this holiday season, we want to show our thankfulness to God and those He has sent us to accomplish His work to see the brokenhearted freed and healed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ!! David says to “enter his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise...” (Ps. 100:4). As we look back we can see the vast faithfulness of God to supply all we at Life Awakening needed to water and nurture the seed of the *Gospel Process*. He provided people, resources, finances, skills, and opportunities to sprout that little seed, for which we thank and praise Him. We now fully trust He will continue to “plant” us firmly where He wants us in His Kingdom to provide much more fruit.

Please call for and share with friends our new “Changed Lives” booklet which contains eight select testimonies of people transformed into powerful vessels of Christ through the *Gospel Process*. THANK YOU, GOD, not only for those eight but for the many others not in the booklet and the many more to come! - *Andrea Holder*



## Director's Corner

*Linda S. Ingham*

As we celebrate Jesus' birth, may we wonder about God's experience when His Son transitioned from Heaven to Earth. For instance, God *saw* His Son in actual *human form*, knowing that His body would be tortured and killed (so the relationships broken by sin could be restored). Would you and I want to solve that *sin problem* by sending the only children we had to endure the evil atrocities of the human heart? I think not!

BUT GOD DID! It seems cruel, coldhearted, and even sadistic! So, to understand, we must step back in time to grasp *why* God did it. He designed and created the universe, the earth, mankind, and animals. What an intricate and elaborate masterpiece! But then in a flash, all of creation was altered. Relationships were broken. People were lost. Maybe God wept, crying out, “*My children, my children! I can't stand to see you in this pain! I didn't create you for this!*” Thus, He activated His plan of redemption, wherein He ultimately sent His Son to be the payment for sin, so *broken relationships could be restored*.

John summarizes it all...“For God so **loved the world** that He **gave His only begotten Son...**” (John 3:16). God's deep love, I say, **a fierce passion for relationship with His children** moved Him to not only send the only Son He had to endure the atrocities of the human heart but to watch the anguish and be satisfied (Is. 53:11). This Christmas, may God's **fierce passion for relationship with you** - the reason WHY He sent the only Son He had - ignite and move your spirit as it moved Him! **Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!**

*Life Awakening is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Financial contributions are deductible as charitable gifts for federal income tax purposes.*

*Ways to give financially: 1) Check; 2) PayPal via LA website; 3) Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), call us to set up*

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