

Greetings from the desk of Joy Pedersen -

Amidst the uncertainty of things in the last eight months, I hope that you are doing well. In praying, my desire is for you to be whole and thriving above the COVID. It is time to keep our light burning bright so that the world will know the King of Love and light.

It has been some time since communication from Clear Hope. To reignite our relationship, this letter is key. We are still here!! How I appreciate all the support and kindness from you as I reflect on past events and communications. Here things have been progressing slowly, actively connecting with lives to bring richness through Christ. Our intention continues to be to assist people in growing in relationship with The Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, this is a brief to let you know the activities over the last four years, the current direction of the ministry, and future dreams.

In 2016 a California team was prepared to continue ministry as I moved to Texas. The small team of women overseeing ministry here was led by Lisa Flanagan who shouldered the workload. A special thank you to her and the team who dedicated themselves to serving and reaching individuals using "*A Longing to be Cherished*" and providing personal ministry.

Each of these women offered hope and help to many individuals. One of the women from the team developed an effective outreach to about 40 women on Balboa Island. Other discipleship relationships were formed using knowledge given through study and encouragement as a group. Such exciting deposits in the Kingdom of God!

The move to Texas in 2016 proved to be enriching and was productive. Outreach in our resident neighborhood opened the door to a group of women where weekly home Bible studies were held. Personal ministry to heartbroken individuals, Biblical counsel, and deep fellowship was also rewarding. Training using "*A Longing to be Cherished*" and miracles brought change to women's lives. Several had not been attending church. One came to the Lord, all experienced deepened or restored relationships with the Lord, growing bonds in deepened relationships.

Attending church in Texas, brought personal growth, ministry, and fellowship nearby. There was opportunity to conduct a study in our home on '*The Kingdom of God*'. The result was women moving into ministry to others whose hearts are broken, applying God's Word personally, and God's love coming alive in greater ways. Time in Texas was dear!

The Lord's leading caused a return to California in October 2019. The Holy Spirit helped process the purpose of going and returning. He revealed a deeper need for helping Christ-followers as disciples. The command in Matthew 28:18-20 speaks of discipling and calls us to teach others to faithfully follow Jesus. Most feel inadequate to do this, but we are all called as believers to teach.

With this in mind, God has called me to write a series that anyone can use – no training to teach required – to walk alongside those we want to see grow in the Lord.

We are now creating a series of five booklets (each around 100 pages) which will expound on ‘The Most Important Commandments’ from Mark 12:30-31. They are in process. They require team oversight which is labor-intensive. The first book has been written and has entered the publication stage. They are designed with discipleship, encouragement in the faith, and personal growth in mind. Each book focuses on one area separately for learning more about “*The - heart/ soul/ mind/ strength/ relating - Of Love*”, to mature in Loving God with our *ALL*. A few small testing groups are previewing and studying “*The Heart Of Love*” and finding it to be a great tool for fellowship and growth. This is our present activity with a small team of women here in California. The future involves getting the other four books completed. Please pray for the authenticity and effectiveness of the material and protection as I write and for those overseeing the accuracy of the message.

As friends in the ministry, we long for your re-engagement in communication, walking alongside each other, networking where we can, and the opportunity to encourage you as you disciple others. Please pass on information to those who could benefit from our work. We can be reached on our website, [www.clearhope.org](http://www.clearhope.org); Facebook page as friends of CLEAR Hope Association; email at [joy@clearhope.org](mailto:joy@clearhope.org); or my personal phone by text for a return call at 714-366-1569.

It is so good to reconnect and let you in on what God has been doing here and what is ahead.

Blessings and peace be with you.

Joy M. Pedersen

Clear Hope Association