

## Ladies Prayer International Newsletter



United Pentecostal Church December 2016



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### Joy for the Journey

By Adena Pedigo



I am blessed to have been raised by parents who taught me to see the funny things in life. It seems as though each new day presents circumstances that have the ability to expose the darker, uglier, and more painful side of any situation or event. However, my parents instilled in me the recognition that we always have just as great an opportunity to see the good, the enjoyable, the brighter and lighter side.

My father and mother tell story after story of funny things that have happened to them or that they have seen along their life travels. What seemed bad situations, my parents instead chose to find the humor in them.

Life can be tough at times, but being able to find the good, the joy - and perhaps the humor - in a bad situation can change so much how we deal with and feel about the hard things in life.

Life is a journey, and good and bad happen to us all. The apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 8 that if we stay firmly secure in God's loving hand, the circumstances only come to shape and mold us, but never to destroy us.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the

called according to his purpose: (Romans 8:28).

If we don't lose hope, if we don't lose faith, if we continue to love God and seek His will through the good and the bad, all things will work together for good. Just three verses later, Paul gives a clear reason to always see the good side of things:

"What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31).

I can find joy and peace in every situation because God is for me, and no weapon formed against me shall prosper. Even when I make mistakes or it seems a cloud is overtaking me, I can find a brighter path because God is working all things for my good.

When things seem rough, dreary, and hopeless take parade and stand strong. Remain centered in God's will and choose "joy for the journey." I love this song my husband wrote titled "Either Way We Win." The eventual outcome is all that matters, not what we face daily and not the process. Find the joy and hope in every circumstance. Whether we understand it in this life or when we make it to heaven - either way we win.

My prayer is that I will teach my children, as my parents taught me, that through every situation God is in control. I don't have to worry. Seek God and His will with all your heart, always looking for the good in every situation. Choose joy for your journey.

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Romans 14:17).

Note: Adena Pedigo is Indiana Ladies Ministries president. She and her husband, Tim, are assistant pastors of Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis, pastored by Reverend Paul D. Mooney. She is blessed with two children, Maci and Georgeon Pedigo.

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## Joy for the Journey

By Sandy Jordan



Webster's dictionary defines joy as "an emotion of great delight caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying; a feeling of great happiness."

My husband and I had been married ten years and didn't have children. God blessed us with an adopted son, and when we finally saw him for the first time - curly reddish blond hair - I remember the joyful emotion I had. I asked the lady, "Is he ours, really ours?" She said, "Yes, he is!" Talk about joy! We

were ecstatic.

Two and a half years later, another little boy came into our home, and we experienced that joy again. He had such a sweet disposition, very calm and not demanding at all. Then two years later, a fifteen-month-old little girl joined our family. What joy these three children brought into all our lives - our parents, our families, our churches, our friends - and made our journey complete. I read a Chinese proverb that says "One joy scatters a hundred griefs," and I can relate to that. We felt like God had given us these three children and erased the memories of childless years.

They grew up and married. When I watched my oldest son's daughter, Kinzie, being born, I wept with tears of joy. There is nothing like grandchildren! We remained very close through the years and when she was eight years old, I took her to Ohio camp where she received the Holy

Ghost. I could join Isaiah when he wrote in Isaiah 61:10, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness."

The next January while at Because of the Times conference, I asked her great grandmother to help me pray that somehow Kinzie would feel the need to be baptized. We agreed together we would both pray. The following January, we were again going to Louisiana and would spend a few days with Kinzie while there. I mentioned to her mother about her being baptized. Several days later, she called back and said Kinzie did want to get baptized, and she wanted Papa to do the honors. God answered our prayers and we saw her go down in the precious name of Jesus, washing her sins away. Psalm 95:1 says, "O come, let us sing unto the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."

I saw a book entitled, "Joy in the Journey: Finding Joy in the Everyday Moments." Every day in our journey of life, we can find "the emotion of great delight" - joy - and this was definitely one of the greatest joys in my journey!

Note: Sandy Jordan has lived in Toledo, Ohio, for most of her life. Her parents, Fred and Vera Kinzie, pastored First Apostolic Church for thirty years. She and husband Mark Jordan became pastor and served forty years before recently retiring as pastor. Brother Jordan still serves as Ohio District Superintendent. She travels with him and also watches her grandchildren as often as she can. They still attend the church in Toledo and love being a part of it and helping the new pastor and his wife, Kris and Jen Dillingham.

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## The Joy of the Lord

By Clara Brett



"Now godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6).

There was a time when I never would have thought being content could be a struggle. Three kids later, pastoring, and working - I understand the struggle for "contentment." The trap of getting depressed for feeling like I cannot live up to other people's, and my own, unrealistic expectations is just too easy to fall into.

I have come to the conclusion that twenty-four hours in a day is just not enough to do everything I would like to do: Build a church, bring truth to my nation, follow-up, pack lunchboxes, change diapers, wash clothes, prayer time, be a wife, breathe, work, teach, cook - and do it all over and over again.

So what to do when there is not sufficient hours to do just a little part of these things anywhere close to the level and way it should be done? What to do when I feel overwhelmed and incapable?

There is only one perfect answer. Listen to the sweet, patient, loving voice of my Lord, Who calls me out of the craziness I or others create all around myself. Find a moment in the morning to call out to Him and ask Him to guide my day. Hand the to-do's, should-do's, and would-like-to's to Him. The more I hear His voice, the better I am able to focus and prioritize. The more I rely on His strength, the better anything gets done.

God didn't intend for us to stress over the daily things. He doesn't even intend for us to stress over the difficult things. "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials" (James 1:2 NKJV). The journey of our lives brings us through different trials and testing of our faith. In return, this testing produces patience in us.

I understand that seasons change and this season is perfect and right for me right now. The

journey of life shifts and changes. One day the kids will be grown and things will change. But these years are a gift from God, just like past years were and future years will be. Joy for the journey comes from spending each day living it to the fullest because "the joy of the LORD is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). It may be at 2:00 a.m. changing bedsheets for a sick toddler or when my five-year-old comes home from school and tells me he taught his classmate to pray.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13)

Note: Clara Brett is a pastor's wife in her native country of Denmark. She is also a mother of three and lawyer. She tries to do whatever is needed including music, Sunday School, and teaching.

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## Prayer Warrior

By Jean Tir



Her colleagues called her "Registered Nurse" and "Colonel Potter"; I called her "Mom" and "Prayer Warrior." As a nurse, she knew how to give orders, fill out charts, and administer tender, loving care. Most importantly, she knew how to pray and to wait for God's answer. I remember one pivotal time in my life when Mom, blending the characteristics of both nurse and prayer warrior, taught me key principles of prayer, preparation, and praise.

When I was twelve years old, I spent a few days recovering in the hospital after my tonsillectomy. Everything seemed fine; but Mom had been praying and listening to God, Who had warned her in a dream that I would need to go to the operating room a second time. Of course, she did not frighten me by sharing the information with me then. Instead, Mom continued to pray and to trust God. She stood upon the promise of God's Word: "Casting your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Although the Prayer Warrior trusted God, the Nurse understood that certain preparations needed to be made. Mother, knowing she could not be with me all the time and leave my younger sister alone, hired her friend who was a private nurse to stay with me overnights at the hospital. The Bible teaches in James 2:26 that "faith without works is dead." Mother's faith in God was manifested in her practical preparations. When my stitches broke, causing a major hemorrhage, I was not alone. God was with me, and a nurse was with me. After the second surgery, I awoke to see my Mom's caring face and to hear her comforting words, "Jean, you are going to be fine, dear."

Through her actions and attitude in the midst of crisis, Mom taught me that the value of prayer and preparation is enhanced by the power of praise. Although she gave thanks to the doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff who took care of me; she reserved the highest praise for her Lord Jesus Christ. The testimony she shared with her colleagues about my surgeries revealed to them a loving and caring Savior who also manifested Himself as the Master Healer. Through the example of her mother, a twelve-year-old child learned to give praise to a God who loved her and took care of her.

Although Mom passed from this life to heaven earlier this year, her legacy continues. The lessons that my mother taught me when I was just twelve years old still provide strength and endurance in my life as a missionary today. I thank God for giving me a mother who taught me the priceless principles of prayer, preparation and praise.

Note: Jean Tir has been involved in missions work for over twenty years in Slovakia, starting under the AIM program, then progressing to appointment as an Intermediate and Career Missionary. She and her husband Steven Tir are now appointed to represent both the nations of Slovakia and Serbia. Jean loves reaching out to people in Eastern Europe,

especially as a Ladies Ministry leader and as a Bible school instructor.

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#### From the Mail Box

May the Lord bless you abundantly for all that you do for this very needful prayer ministry. It is far reaching and a blessing to so many around the world.  
Have a blessed week. -Dianna Tuttle, EME Ladies Ministries Coordinator

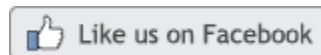
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Dear Sister Akers,  
Greetings from Lebanon! Praise the Lord for 'Ladies Prayer International Newsletter'!  
Blessings, Sister Mariann Starin, LPI Arabic translator

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Merci beaucoup pour ces mots d'encouragement qui viennent a point rencontrer mes multiples question! j'étais sur le point de me laisser submergée par le doute et l'inquiétude. les partages inspirants de nos sœurs viennent me rassurer et me redonner la force de continuer! Merci sœur Cornnie, merci sœur Miriam, merci sœur Linda Que le Seigneur vous bénisse!

Roughly translated...Thank you very much for these words of encouragement which has met my many questions! I was immersed by doubt and anxiety. These inspired articles of our sisters reassure me and give me faith to go on! Thank you sister Cornnie, thank you sister Miriam, thank you sister Linda Que Lord blesses you!



[Watch Ladies Prayer International 1-minute Video clip.](#)

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#### From the Editor



Debbie Akers

#### God is doing mighty things!

God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in English, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Greek, Arabic, Farsi, Czech, Chinese, Swahili, Hungarian, Tagalog, Indonesian, Romanian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Hindi and Georgian.

We have a temporary Japanese translator; please help us pray for permanent Japanese, Serbian, and Bulgarian translators.

If you wish to receive any of the above translations please send request to LadiesPrayerInternational@aol.com and we will be delighted to add you to our mailing list!

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## Ministry Links

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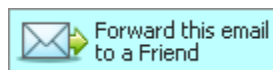
Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
  - That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
  - That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).
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### Ministries we support...

#### TUPELO CHILDREN'S MANSION

Children live in an environment with opportunity to grow spiritually, physically and emotionally.

**NEW BEGINNINGS** Maternity care for birth mothers considering adoption and child placement for adoptive couples.

**HAVEN OF HOPE** A program for girls ages 13-16 with behavioral and emotional issues.

**LIGHTHOUSE RANCH** for BOYS Healing broken and hurting lives of teen boys.







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