



EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CONNECTION!

IN THIS ISSUE



by Evangelist Michelle Raysor It's amazing how in the grand scheme of things the majority of women don't really have any basis for why she does not interact, respond, or just be a sister to another woman. God is in the process of establishing a "real sister hood". Women are sometimes carrying so much additional baggage that it gets in the way of being able to carry the things in life that produce wholeness, genuine relationships, trust, and being nonjudgmental. Trauma has far reaching ramifications in a women's life than many may realize. Anything left unchecked, omitted, or dismissed finds its own way of manifesting through current and future relationships, emotional health, on the job, in the church, just to name a few.

What is concerning is that "she" does not know it, or has carried the same baggage for so long that she is too familiar with it and anything outside of the familiar comfort zone is a direct threat to the core of her facade. It becomes a façade; A facade is the front of a building, or a kind of front people put up emotionally. If you're mad but acting happy, you're putting up a façade; the word facade has to do with the outer layer of something. One sense has to do with the front or outside of a building. The other meaning has to do with people who are hiding something. In

both cases, the facade could be deceiving. A building with a gorgeous facade isn't necessarily gorgeous inside. A person putting up a facade is definitely putting on a front: the face they're showing to the world doesn't match how they are really feeling on the inside; this is why we must be healed and whole to help one another.

Genuine Sisterhood is not a bond that happens overnight, it takes time, willingness and effort. 1 Corinthians 16:13 tells us men and women alike to "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong" It takes maturity to operate on this level of sisterhood. Then we will be able to defend each other's dreams; at the same time we will not hesitate to caution each other about impending danger, we will push each other, even get each other angry in order to get a needed message across. The sisterhood that has been ordained by God is not just for biological sisters. However, that same level of loyalty and covering is going to be critical in bringing God sisters together with one accord; we will be able to be at our best when we know that we have a group of "sisters" praying for us, cheering us on covering us. God gives us a genuine desire as sisters to support and pray for one another; I am My Sisters Keeper!



One Day Women's Retreat

Women With Purpose gathered together at the Renewal Center in Brentwood, New York on July 15, 2016 for our first "One Day Women's Retreat

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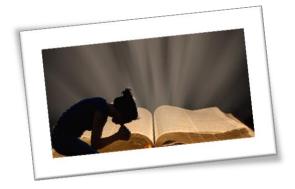
Who Are Women With Purpose?

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Strategic Prayer

by Evangelist Michelle Raysor

It is praying time! We don't need to discuss prayer; it's not time for a seminar about prayer; we don't even have to read about prayer. In this hour we need to get down on our knees, fall on our face, lie on the floor, or sit in a chair, whatever we have to do, but we have got to call on the God of our salvation. If you do not have a particular time of the day to pray, it is time to deliberately establish a set time for prayer. We have to make time for prayer. I still believe that "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4). Our weapons are powerful through God to the extent that the word for "pulling down," implies the entire clearance of an obstacle. Prayer enables us to wipe out anything hindering God from moving in our lives. There are eight prayer watches within a 24 hour day. The First Watch is the evening watch from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The prayer watches are every three hours ending at 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. the eighth prayer watch. Psalm 127:1 emphatically declares "except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city,



the watchman waketh but in vain.

We are in a fight with a formidable enemy. We are going to have to pray like we never prayed before to get what we never had in order to do what we never did, but always wanted to do! Everything that is going to be manifested will only be birthed through a consistent prayer life. Our prayers make it possible for God to do what He otherwise would not do. God is just looking for somebody who will pray...Jeremiah 33:3 says Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

There are so many forces with strict instructions to kill steal and destroy without regard for anyone. In 2Samuel 1:27 David laments over the death of Saul and Jonathan "How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons

of war perished". We have to get to the line of defining and strategizing specific and intentional prayer; don't lay your prayer life down. Prayer is your weapon that has to be used intentionally. After Blind Bartimaeus finished screaming Jesus asked him "What do you want me to do for you?" (Mark 10:51).

God gives us the secret to one of His strategies in Isaiah 43:6 "Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified". In other words when you pray, pray the word because God watches over His word to perform it (Jeremiah 1:12). Strategically choose which watch you are going to pray and stick to it. Commit yourself to a prayer time and don't let anyone or anything interfere with your prayer time. When distractions come don't let them cause you to doubt God. It is time to engage in strategic calculated prayer.



The Devil is in Places He Does Not Belong!

by Evangelist Cynthia Jones

As people of God we have to recognize when the enemy is trying to get into places he does not belong. He comes to steal our peace, joy, happiness, strength, families, finances and most of all our purpose. Think about it if you knew a thief or robber was coming to your house to take from you would you willingly let him in? No!

So we must be just as diligent when we see the Devil trying to enter in our life. It may be something as simple as our attitude towards others. It may be our spending habits which keep us in a state of poverty because we're buying things we don't need; trying to impress people who either don't know or care about us. You see we all have things it is just a matter of one's taste. These random acts of spending! prohibit us from being able to help support the kingdom of God; most of the time when we should be giving in the offering we can't because we have wasted it on things that do not benefit us at all. When we invest in the kingdom of God we always get a return in so many ways.

It could also be the lack of time we are spending with our families. This allows the enemy to bring about division and separation. It may be the way we think by always dwelling on negative things rather than counting our blessings. For example you know that someone has wronged you instead of you going to them letting them

know about the offense you tell others. Every time you come into the presence of these individuals you speak harsh or hardly say anything at all. This is a clear indication that there is a problem that needs to be resolved. Let's be mature about it and go to that brother or sister that has offended you in the spirit of love. The bible clearly states if you think your brother or sister has an aught against you (leave your gift) at the altar and be reconciled to your brother. We allow him to get into our family life by not addressing things that we know can be detrimental to our lives. When we do speak it is in a negative way. What happened to the good old days where we sat down at the dinner table and talked about our day or what are our plans for the future were? When was the last time you took the time out to just listen to your children?

When was the last time you prayed or read the bible together as a family? You see this is why he is in places he does not belong lets touch and agree and take back everything the devil has stolen and shut the door on him and keep it shut. Amen Amen!!

Analogy of Giving Birth

by Evangelist Michelle Raysor

An understanding as to the urgency of the mandate God has planned for you should be top priority. You have finally given birth. The period of carrying the promise seemed almost unending. It was an unpredictable journey, experiencing the progression of your vision evolve to fruition. Synonymous to carrying a natural baby; there are external and physical indicators that confirm the pregnancy. Physiologically the woman's body begins to change. Initially the only proof that she has to substantiate the existence of this conception is a word (positive or negative; yes or no). Based on a word, she believes that she is carrying and that it will come to full manifestation. She is not showing yet so the only proof or confirmation is that word. Nothing is visible yet, nothing has manifested, and nothing is evident to the natural eye. Only the intuitive experienced mothers and midwives have discernment to know that a seed has been planted and is beginning germination. Germination is a process in which a seed or spore awakens from dormancy and starts to sprout.

It was interesting to discover in my research that both seeds and spores experience periods of dormancy that is influenced by external factors such as temperature and light availability. Seed and spores are programmed to remain dormant if conditions are unfavorable for growth. The fact that conditions can be manipulated to force germination or dormancy is eye opening because of the parallels that exist to cultivating the growth of anything.

Making the right connections with the right people and places is crucial through this period. MIs-alignments and toxic relationships are some of the reasons for miscarriages. The absence of experienced and prepared individuals who recognize the significance of dormancy is crucial to getting through his period. Dormancy is a period in an organism's life cycle when growth, development, and physical activity are temporarily stopped. This minimizes metabolic activity and therefore helps an organism to conserve energy. Inactivity does not mean missed opportunity; it is a time to wait on the Lord for renewed strength.

I use these analogies because they are so relevant to understand the birth and growth process. Whether carrying an unborn child or



Part 1

planting any type of seed the ultimate goal is to make it to the delivery date or the point of leaf formation in a plant.

Every stage of the pregnancy period has significance. Ultimately we are carrying purpose and everything that we do will impact the formation and development of the promise. A natural pregnancy last for approximately 40 weeks grouped into three trimesters. The first trimester is usually the time when some major unexplainable discomforts start to take place. In the spirit realm, any time we step out in faith to believe God for something new there are periods that challenge the very core of our motives and aspirations. Much of the discomfort has the ability to cause you to regret the fact that you have stepped out here on what seems like "nothing all by yourself". It takes faith to believe that these sick feelings are going to lead to something tangible. 2 Corinthians 4:17 declares "for our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory".

During the second trimester the more severe symptoms seem to subside, but it is still no time to take anything for granted. Women are instructed to stay informed about their pregnancy during this period. It is during this period of seemingly relaxation and retreat that we have to watch and pray even more. At this point there are more noticeable changes happening. Just as a women's abdomen begins to expand as the baby continues to grow, on the spiritual level this is a time that requires intense and focused prayer and intercession; signs of life and movement have begun. As in this trimester just as a natural baby begins to move, and the body changes to make room for the growing baby, the purpose of your vision is approaching manifestation; you can actually see things coming together. God has begun to increase and expand the circumference of the ministry. The aches and pains are designed to stretch the parameters of your faith to continue. Although it seems like it is taking so long to come to pass, this is a time God is drawing us to travail in prayer until

what we have been hoping for and waiting for is formed; Galatians 4:19 is referring to being in a state of determination not just to pray for others but to travail; being willing to go through the pain and the rough times just like we can travail for salvation for others; ("My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you"); as we travail in prayer until the vision that we are carrying begins to take shape; during this second trimester we start to feel the baby kicking, things are moving; it's coming together!

In the third trimester some of the same discomforts experienced in the second trimester will continue. This means that the baby is still growing; the bigger the baby grows the more pressure it puts on a women's organs increasing the frequency of urination in the physical sense. Here you are carrying your purpose; God has assigned you as custodian to protect the integrity of the vision. The frequency and intensity of your prayer life has to shift at this point in order to guarantee delivery on the due date. The prayer in this trimester is going to require you to Pray Until Something Happens. Everything leading up to this moment through travailing prayer has put you in the position to PUSH your baby out. You feel everything that there is to feel now because every prophecy spoken over your life pertaining to the birth of what seemed like a dream is now crowning. It is really coming to pass.

This baby has to be monitored closely because it is big. It is so big that God is going to make sure that there are enough likeminded mid-wives, doctors, and other qualified individuals to assist you with the delivery. That is why it hurts so much because you are about to deliver one of the biggest blessings that you have ever experienced. 1 Corinthians 2:9 says "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Everything that has transpired was leading up to this day of deliverystay tuned for part 2



God Brought Us Together



Evangelist Michelle Raysor Host and Visionary



The Women Came to Receive!

Every ear and eye was open as Dr. Karen Deadwyler shared her story of multiple miscarriages and the power of God in her life present to heal her body, soul, and spirit.

Women With Purpose gathered together at the Renewal Center in Brentwood, New York on July 15, 2016 for our first "One Day Women's Retreat. Everything from the workshop materials, to the décor, and the entire arrangement was done in a spirit of excellence. God began blessing us as soon as we entered into the conference room. Women have unique circumstances that must be dealt with prayerfully and skillfully. Intercessory prayer undergirded the leading up to this day.

Evangelist Michelle Raysor opened up the retreat with an anointed intercessory prayer that set the atmosphere for deliverance. We were literally ushered into the presence of God. Women came from as far as Yonkers, New York in search of answers to some really pressing issues. The Women came prepared to deal with topics regarding "Emotional Healing: Knowing the Root Cause". The Looking Glass Self is a psychological concept, created by Charles Horton Cooley stating that a person's self grows out of society's interpersonal interactions and the perceptions of others; however because we

One Day Women's Retreat

"Restored, Renewed, and Prepared"; A Healed Woman Produces Whole Women!



interact with so many different individuals and entities we can become influenced by mis-conceptions. Evangelist Raysor opened up the workshop However, the Bible already tells us to" praise God for we are fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well (Psalm 139: 14.).

Dr. Karyn Deadwyler shared how she and her husband stepped out on faith in ministry despite having experienced multiple losses. She is the founder and visionary of Dr. Karen Deadwyler International, Willing Women of Worship Fellowship and GloryTemple Ministries located in North Baldwin, New York. Sister Joyce Roach from Life Empowerment Worship Center shared her testimony before an audience in regards to the death of her only son for the first time. She let us know that initially she was very angry, but God helped her to realize that everything happens in our life for a reason and God will give us strength to go through

Evangelist Cynthia Jones blessed us with a workshop entitled "Recognizing How Unresolved grief and loss issues can paralyze authenticity". She expounded on the story of Naomi in the bible with parallels from her own life as to how God will cause us like He did with Naomi to understand His sovereignty in all things. She reminded us again that God is able to bring something good out of bitter circumstances. Finally, Pastor Evelyn Cruz shared her powerful testimony of her life story which involved horrific experiences. She concluded with how her strong faith in God, and her commitment to family and the persistence of always believing that we all have the ability



Our final presenter Pastor Evelyn Cruz sharing her amazing story of the divine intervention of God in her life.

for greatness and success in life has carried her

The theme for the "One Day Women's Retreat was: "Restored, Renewed, and Prepared: A Healed Woman Produces Whole Women". The feedback from the ladies who attended was amazing.





Here are a few of the testimonies that were sent in after the retreat.

Testimonies:

"I thank and praise God to have been blessed to attend such an awesome retreat. It brought to light that we all have some inner hurts and until we release them and become healed, we cannot become whole. It made me reevaluate my own life. We are women with a purpose. To God be the Glory".

Sister Judith Scot

I'm truly blessed to have been at the retreat, to have the privilege to meet and listen to such powerful God fearing women. Women whom I could identify with and relate to; it helped me to see that I can and will overcome the obstacles that occur in my life. Thank you again, for inviting me, and I look for) ward to our next gathering of Christian Sisters. Alescia Bratton

So many amazing things occurred for me through this wonderful retreat, my spirit was rejuvenated, I had moments of reflection, and I gained clarity on some issues in my life that was hindering my spiritual journey. Release and restore! I was able to release some things that day, and I am going into this new season Refreshed, Renewed and Prepared. God Bless you Evangelist Raysor for bringing us all together in unity, to prepare us for the work God has for us." Blessings to You Always...

Sister Jahnice Strange

"My God won't He do it.... i did not expect breakthrough and deliverance to take place. God has let us daughters know, we no longer have to be an impostor. Healing truly is for us. God came to loose me from strongholds & make me whole inside. . To God Be All the Glory! -- Evangelist Marianna Humphrey

"I really enjoyed yesterday's retreat it helped to give me a sense of direction towards my future and to never look back. The speakers were very motivational and hearing there testimony was great. It made me to never be ashamed to tell my past and how God has brought me through it all. I would like to thank Ms. Michelle Raysor for the invite and can't wait for the next one". —

Tashica Chandler

The women's retreat was awesome! I was truly blessed. The speakers were excellent! When the speakers was speaking on some of the things they have gone through it brought back so many memories. I have been through some of the same things. I thank God for Evangelist Raysor, a beautiful woman in the Lord. When she said to the women "it is OK to cry"; it seemed like a weight was lifted off my whole body. Thank you Ladies for sharing your testimonies, and thank you Evangelist Raysor for being the woman God has called you to be. I Hope there will be another retreat soon!

God bless you all Evangelist Denise McMillan.

The Women of Purpose Retreat was a true place of refuge for women to share their experience, feelings and emotions...it was a place for women to know that they are not alone, and there are others who care. There were powerful testimonies and the move of all mighty God. God bless the visionary of this ministry, and Evangelist. Michelle Raysor who blessed us women by her obedience to God's charge!!!!...

Gayle Davenport My testimony for your Newsletter Amen It will be a blessing!



It was a blessing and an eye opener for me. It is a great feeling to meet new women in life and be a part of an organization such as Connecting For Purpose that is going to be great. Those women that spoke were awesome. I told my pastor and sisters about it. I can't wait for the retreat boat ride, CASAC class and then some. Michelle it's nice to have a mentor in my life that truly cares. God has a funny way of holding on to me. I see that you have not given up on me in the inside or on the outside thank you so much.

Laquita Brooks



GRIEF AND LOSS

Evangelist Cynthia Jones elucidated the life of Naomi with such precision and sensitivity to the Holy Ghost in response to the needs of every woman in the room.



YOU HAVE GOD'S PERMISSION TO CRY

Evangelist Raysor gave the women permission to cry. Get it out, let it go, and walk into your purpose restored, renewed and prepared; for the Lord hath need of thee, and He has called you...

Who Are Women With Purpose?

Women With Purpose is a Faith-Based Women's Empowerment birthed recognizing Whole Women are an asset to their church and communities, and God's strength and inner healing are the catalyst by which women will be able to fulfill her purpose; A HEALED WOMAN PRODUCES WHOLE WOMEN!

Through the influence of a united group of Empowered, Encouraged, Determined, Resilient, and Persistent Women a network of support is established with the foundation and core of our gathering emanating from the Word of God. We strive to minister to the 'Total Woman - Spiritually and Naturally' By offering bible studies, retreats, to inspire women to seek their gifts so that they are strategically and purposefully engaged; Healed, Empowered, and Renewed for effective ministry.

Therefore, we stand firm on the written WORD believing that whatever the situation, condition, dilemma, question or problem;

WE HAVE AN ADVANTAGE IN THE WORD OF GOD!

Believing that when we unite in Prayer, Praise and Love, we become Renewed, Regenerated, Revived and Restored Warriors for God's service; Healed and Whole to Do the Work of the Lord! Believing Isaiah 54:6; --"For the Lord hath called thee".

Purpose is defined as "the reason for which something exists or is done, made, or used; an intended or desired result; end; aim; goal; determination; resoluteness; to set as an aim, intention, or goal for oneself; to intend; design; to resolve (to do something); the subject in hand; the point at issue. Many have conducted trainings, workshops, and even preached messages posing the question "Why am I here?" This should not just be a question asked in order to prove how creative or smart we are to get accolades.

Purpose goes beyond our physical and emotional needs. When we look at purpose we have to look at it as something more elevated than the basic physical needs for which we may set goals we want to achieve. Our purpose goes beyond our immediate needs. It is basically identifying our reason for existing. What is the purpose of our being here on earth? What is the special influence

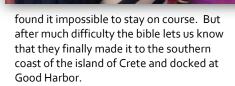
we are meant to have here on earth? What is our pre-ordained duty to justify our existence?

We aren't just here by coincidence or accident. We each have a purpose in life.
Our prayer as Women With Purpose is to ask God for the vigor and passion to stay focused as we prepare and position ourselves to fulfill the purpose we were born for.

Jeremiah 29:11 should always be in the life of every woman reading this newsletter: "
For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end".
The Message Bible kind of places a strong emphasis when interpreting this verse: "This is Gop's Word on the subject: "As soon as Babylon's seventy years are up and not a day before, I'll show up and take care of you as I promised and bring you back home. I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for."

Many of us have come through an insurmountable number of challenges, failures, setbacks, misunderstandings, betrayals, and even character assassinations just to name a few. In spite of everything we have come through or may even still be going through God has promised in His word that He is going to give us a future. This is not time to give up to despondency or hopelessness. God is able to gather up all of the seemingly broken pieces to get you back to the shore of your purpose...

In Acts 27 we find an Egyptian ship headed for Italy and having run into bad weather



In the course of this journey that was not believed to be a good idea based on sound advice from the Apostle Paul, they had lost a lot of time and the season had changed. This seasonal shift t landed them in the midst of winter; it would be stormy weather from now on through the winter, and too dangerous for sailing. Paul had warned against taking the risk, "I see only disaster ahead for cargo and ship—to say nothing of our lives!—if we put out to sea now." However at the word one of the Centurions" who said continue because "the owner/master of the ship had spoken to him. They lost a lot, they went through some gloomy periods, and probably some sleepless nights. But while in the midst of what was viewed as the wrong season God can still fulfill His purpose for your life with the pieces that remain. Paul admonished them" be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship". It is my prayer that you gather together the pieces that are left and ask God to re-ignite you with passion to fulfill your purpose;

It is not over, actually it is just beginning!

Attitude of Gratitude!

by Sister Jahnice Strange

Giving God thanks should be a theme running through our lives. At least five blessings result from this:

The first is that thankfulness forces us to focus on what we have had rather than what we want. In our materialistic culture, we have reduced our prayers to shopping lists.

Thankfulness looks outward, not inward. It realigns our lives so that they revolve around God instead of trying to make God revolve around us.

*Psalm 26:7

"That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works"

The second is that thankfulness highlights grace. To give thanks is to admit that you are dependent, to say, "I couldn't have done this on my own, but you helped me."

Thanksgiving removes the temptation to boast and strengthens the only basis on which we can relate to God: that of accepting our own unworthiness and God's free grace in Jesus Christ.



*Psalm 69:30

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving."

The third is that thankfulness encourages a positive attitude. It forces us to think about what is right with our lives rather than what is wrong. This is important in an age when many feel depressed. Thanking God is a proven way of piercing the gloomiest of clouds.

*Psalm 95:2

"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms."

A fourth is that thankfulness develops hope for the future. Looking backward to the past with thanksgiving actually helps us to look toward the future with anticipation.

Psalm 100:4

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."

A fifth is that to practice thankfulness regularly ensures that gratitude will spill over into every area of our lives. Grumpiness and irritability do not grow well in a climate of gratitude. Those who regularly give thanks to God find they are ready to give to others. Gratitude and generosity go hand in hand.

*Psalm 107:1

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."

God Has So Much More For You Kema!



1 Thessalonians 5:24

Faithful is he that calleth you,

who also will do it.

A Special Spot Light on Kema; she traveled from Yonkers New York to the Women's Retreat

God has a Purpose for Your Life Kema: You are a

Woman With Purpose!

J May Not
See it, but
J Hear
Rain:
It's Getting
Ready to
Happen!

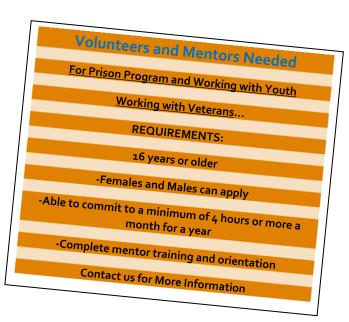


Call for More Information

You Deserve to Plan to Relax!







Articles being accepted for the newsletter:

e-mail them to:

mraysor@connectingforpurpose.com

Calendar Upcoming Events

August 15, 2016; Down payment for the 2017 Cruise to Bermuda is due. (\$150.00)

August 20, 2016 -12:00 pm-2:00 pm -

Connecting For Purpose Meet and Greet;

"Why Mentoring Matters"

All volunteers must be in attendance; Guest speakers; back to school supplies; Acknowledgements, Where: New Bethel Church 455 Station Road, Bellport New York 11713

<u>September 24, 2016</u> – 12:00 -- Where: New Bethel Church, 455 Station Road, Bellport, New York 11713

October 1, 2016 – Retreat in the Riverhead Jail 8:00-3:00 pm— Empowerment and Motivational Experience A Clarion Call for Interested Board
Members

Please use the contact information to inquire.

EMPOWERMENT

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DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT THE CONNECTING FOR PURPOSE WEBSITE

THROUGH CONENCTION!