Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk” (Acts 3:6)

It was at the hour of prayer that Peter and John went to the temple. There a lame man was at the gate where he begged those going into the temple. He had been lame since birth. Can you imagine not being able to walk since you are a child and having to spend your later years begging in order to survive?

When the man saw the two disciples, he asked them for alms, much as he asked anyone who passed that way. Peter told the man to look at them and he did, ex- with his hand out-stretched, expecting to receive something. However, Peter made it clear to him that he didn’t have any money to give him but he had something far, far better to give him.

Without further delay, he told the man to rise in Jesus’ name and then he lifted him up. The man leaped up, stood and walked into the temple with them, leaping and praising God. The people saw this miracle and were filled with wonder.

When was the last time you asked God for something and He blessed you with something far better? Did you respond in joy and praise Him? Did you tell others about it?

Summer is almost over and Fall is just around the corner. In October and November Canada and the US celebrate Thanksgiving respectively. As you partake in a mouth-watering meal, what would you like to thank God for?

In December we celebrate Christmas with our loved ones. This season thank God for His many gifts, especially the most important One.

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and a merry Christmas.

A. Butler
Battered Women’s Support Services (BWSS) is an organization dedicated to freeing and liberating women from violence and empowering the community through training and education programs. The organization has been providing counseling and healing spaces for victims of abuse for over 35 years and helping women to be strong and resilient through advocacy, law reform and in-class youth engagement programs. They operate My Sister’s Closet, a thrift boutique, allowing women, men and children access to beautiful new and second-hand clothing. The revenue generated from the sales of these clothes help fund violence prevention and intervention services operated by Battered Women’s Support Services which supports over 10,000 women every year.

If you are interested in supporting BWSS in their fight to end violence against women, here are some ways you can do so:

⇒ Get informed
⇒ Connect and share
⇒ Get updates
⇒ Volunteer

For more information check out their website at: http://www.bwss.org/
In the Spotlight

Her name was Qamar Zia and she was born into an Islamic family on 14 December 1929, in British India. At the age of 17 she attended a Christian school where she was inspired by the book of Isaiah. As a result, she converted to Christianity.

In 1947, Zia’s family migrated to Pakistan. There she continued to study the Bible in secret. Seven years later, she ran away, fearing that her family would force her into marriage.

She took a job at an orphanage in Laugesen, Karachi and changed her name to Esther John. In June 1955, she moved to Sahiwal where she lived and worked in a mission hospital. For three years she trained to be a teacher at the United Bible Training Centre in Gujranwala, then spent the remainder of her life evangelizing in the villages around Chichawatni.

On February 2, 1960 Esther was found murdered on her bed at her home in Chichawatni. She was buried at the Christian cemetery at Sahiwal.

In 1998, among the ten statues unveiled above the great west door of Westminster Abbey in London, depicting ten 20th century Christian martyrs was Esther John, alongside the figures of Óscar Romero and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Like the eunuch in Acts 8:26-39, Esther John’s life was changed by the words written by the prophet Isaiah. This led to a life of evangelism.

Notes to Women celebrate this phenomenal woman and martyr.


RELATIONSHIPS

LOVE IN ACTION

In John 13:2-17 Jesus washed twelve pairs of dirty feet. Why? He wanted to teach the disciples about serving those whom you love. Words of love are meaningless without actions to accompany them. He wanted them to love each other as He loved them and part of that love is willingly serving each other. Jesus thought nothing of removing His clothes, wrapping a towel around His waist and getting down on His knees to wash their feet. He had said that He did not come to be served but to serve. Love and service go hand in hand.

My husband told me of a man whose wife had taken such good care of him throughout their marriage. So, when she got Dementia and could no longer take care of herself, he was more than happy to do it. It was a joy for him to look after the woman who had been such a good wife to him.

Another woman’s husband used to mistreat her and take her for granted. One day he got scared and smartened up when she became ill. All those times when he had been unkind to her, she continued to love and care for him. He began to treat her the way she deserved to be treated. It took a while for her to get used to this change.

True love is not lip service, it is action. It is shown in kind, thoughtful acts and selflessness.

Love your spouse the way Jesus loves you. It’s not always an easy thing to do so, but with God’s help, you can do it.
South Central Conference Women’s Biennial Retreat

**Date & Location:** November 10-13, 2016. Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, 4000 Sandestin Boulevard South, Miramar Beach, FL 33550.

**Description:** Expect to be awestruck and speechless by the “Redeeming Love” of God as He speaks to you through nature of His bountiful goodness as you bask in His provision with blue skies overhead, the sand underneath your feet and the crystal waters rushing back and forth from the seashore. Dynamic speakers and presenters will continue to paint on the canvas of your mind, the indescribable, unconditional love of our Redeemer. You will have a new found sense of the One omnipotent in power, great in goodness, in mercy, and love. To prepare for this awesome adventure and a round table discussion, we challenge you to read, “Redeeming Love” by Francine Rivers.

**Who Should Attend:** All women eighteen and older are invited to attend.

Oregon Christian Women’s Retreat 30th Anniversary

**Date & Location:** October 28-30, 2016. Eagle Crest Resort, 1522 Cline Falls Highway, Redmond, OR 97756.

**Description:** A delightful weekend of spiritual renewal and refreshing fellowship for women.

**Who Should Attend:** All women and teen girls (15-18) are invited to attend. We have limited space for teen registrants. Each teen must have a mom or mentor registered for the main retreat (maximum of two teens per mom or mentor). Teens will enjoy all general sessions and meals plus their own break-out sessions with social time.

Gulf States Women’s Autumn Renewal Retreat

**Date & Location:** November 11-13, 2016. Perdido Beach Resort, 27200 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach, AL 36561.

**Description:** Our theme this year is “Drops in the Ocean” what a wonderful idea of God’s love this is! We have so many things that weigh us down and cripple us, but God wants us with all our flaws, just as we are, not how we should be. He is for us and wants to work in us, not against us. God’s love is boundless, and He proved that by the scars He carries on His side and hands. He will not stop pursuing us and loving us. He hates to see us suffering and hurts right along with our pain. But this world will not last forever and He will celebrate when we are finally with Him. If you are longing to know more of the God who related to you on every level, you do not want to miss this retreat. You will be introduced or reintroduced to your friend, Savior, and King. Can’t wait to see you in Orange Beach.

**Who Should Attend:** All women 13 and older seeking a closer walk with God, and anyone struggling to understand God through the disappointments in life are invited to attend.

For more information on these events visit [https://www.adventsource.org/as30/event.registration](https://www.adventsource.org/as30/event.registration)