

WOUNDED HEALERS

ADVENT 2019

Dear Friends,

“Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one, God, now and forever. Amen!”

For those of you who are not of the Anglican persuasion, the prayer above is what is commonly called a ‘Collect’ which is another name for a prayer recited in unison by a congregation gathered in worship. This Collect is for the first Sunday of Advent and please may I encourage you to use it in your daily prayers throughout the Advent Season. This prayer is a reminder that we wait with eager expectation for our coming Savior to return in glory and power. This prayer fills my heart with hope and helps me stay centered as we move through Advent and what is normally a very busy Christmas Season.

Two things strike me as I read this prayer. **First**, we ask God for the Grace we need to cast away the works of darkness, because we certainly cannot do so in our own strength and power. **Second**, the prayer reminds me to ‘look up’ because day by day our Redemption draws near. That doesn’t give me permission to sit by comfortably and wait lazily for that day to arrive unexpectedly and catch me unprepared. No, as a disciple of Jesus, I am to be just like Jesus. What did Jesus do when He came to us in great humility? He went about doing ‘*The Father’s business.*’ And what is the Father’s business? It is to heal the sick, feed the poor, provide for refugees and take care of widows and orphans. We are the hands and feet of Christ in our world which is in desperate need of hands and feet that will work for the furtherance of God’s Kingdom.

At Wounded Healers we attempt to play a very small part in the Father’s plan. Our mandate is clearly spelled out in Jesus’ commission from Isaiah 61 - I love how the Passion Translation says it: **“We are to be messengers to preach Good News to the poor. We are to heal the wounds of the broken-hearted and to tell captives: ‘you are free,’ and to tell prisoners: Be free from your darkness and to announce to others a new season of Yahweh’s Grace.”** After reading that I cannot help but shout out, Amen and Amen, the Good News of Christ is all about abundant, undeserved and unmerited Grace!

As this year draws to a close, I am reflecting on the two conferences that we held this year. The first conference in May focused on Steps to Forgiveness. We didn’t skim the surface on this topic, but we dove deeply into the subject with a group of very gifted teachers and preachers. The difficult topics and testimonies included:

- 1) How I received God’s Forgiveness and the difference it makes in our lives
- 2) What is the difference between Guilt and Shame?
- 3) How do we Forgive the Church?
- 4) Do we need to Forgive God?
- 5) Forgiving my Father who is deceased
- 6) Why Forgive others and be Forgiven?
- 7) Forgiving Ancient and Modern Word
- 8) Forgiving one’s Parents

It was a full conference, but I am delighted to tell you that many left redeemed, delivered and on the road to wholeness through Christ.

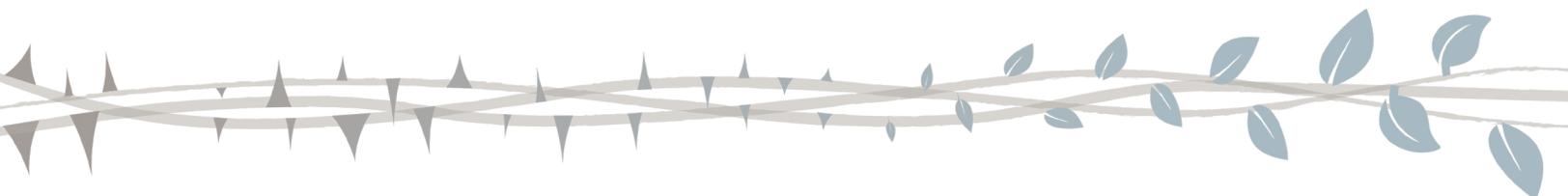
The topic of Forgiving One's Parents in the Spring Conference resulted in a Fall Conference entitled: "*Healing the Father/Mother Wounds.*" I had the great privilege of working with Bishop Trevor Walters as he focussed on his book, *EAS Syndrome*, and I focussed on my book, *Deliver Us from Evil*. Again, this conference was well attended; the sick received healing and more prisoners were set free. But the work of Wounded Healers ministries does not stop when the conference is over. No in 2018-2019 we have ministered to clients up and down Vancouver Island. In 2018-2019 we saw about 25 clients for Prayer Ministry, Confession, Absolution and Communion. From the conference we just completed we now have about 35 people that we are ministering to on a monthly basis. It is a good work and that my friends is a fair description of the ministry the Father has entrusted to our care.

What does the future hold for this ministry? Administratively we believe that we have done everything possible to alert the Church in Victoria and in the wider ANiC Church that we are available to go any place at almost any time to do this healing ministry. Please see our website for our latest videos and other information (www.woundedhealers.ca). We have a very gifted and committed team not only in Victoria, but in other places in Canada. I believe that now we wait for the Spirit to move on the hearts of Pastors and Boards across the country and invite us to come and do conferences on issues on *Abuse, Forgiveness or Healing the Father/Mother Wounds*. We believe that God has equipped us and given us the necessary resources to do this work and we will wait on Him to see what unfolds in 2020. In the meantime, we will continue our work quietly in the background providing ministry to those who would need Prayer Ministry, Confession, Absolution and Communion.

As many of you know I have wrestled with some health issues since April 2019. It is now the end of November and I am happy to say that I have finally received a definitive diagnosis of my problem and praise God it is very treatable. It is called **PMR (*Polymyalgia Rheumatica*)** and I am going to let all of you go to Dr. Google to see a full description of the disease and its treatment. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your prayers and great support during these past eight months. Hopefully, by the Spring of 2020 with this new medication and treatment I will soon be back to a normal lifestyle. (*Please God, a lifestyle that that includes Golf.*)

The Board and team Members know that this ministry would not be possible without your prayers and continued support. As leaders of this vital ministry Deirdre and I are very conscious of God's grace, as well as your prayer support and encouragement.

No doubt this may be one of many Christmas letters you will receive this year asking for your support. Yes, we are always in need of prayers and if you have any financial resources to invest in this ministry, they would be deeply appreciated. However, I always remind you that your primary obligation is to your home Church where you receive your teaching, nurturing and pastoral care. After that comes the poor and those in need. If after you fulfill those Biblical obligations and still have a surplus of funds, please remember us as part of your annual gift giving. All gifts and cheques are to be directed to ANiC who is authorized to issue income tax receipts on our behalf. They can be contacted toll free at 1-866-351-2642 and they can easily walk you through the process. Tax Receipts will be issued from WHM in the new calendar year.



We continue to be very grateful for a whole team of volunteers, but we need to acknowledge the work of Sheri Eisenhuth (Administrator at The Church of the Nazarene) along with Cathy Hallam (Administrator of WHM). In addition, we are very thankful for the Rev. Dr. Brett Cane (Chairman of the Board of WHM) as well as all the board members who have blessed us with their prayer support and encouragement as this ministry moves forward. Much of the work that is completed quietly in the background is carried out by our very gifted Prayer Minister, Colleen. I often receive notes and cards from our clients telling me how the Lord has used Colleen so powerfully in their lives. I see the 'fruit' of her work in the lives of others - thanks be to God. The Church of the Nazarene, under the leadership of Pastor Gary Bennett, (who has now retired) has been so helpful and encouraging. The current leadership of the Church is willing to have us carry on for which we praise God! We love our close partnership with them and with ANiC. We are extremely thankful to both organizations.

In closing, may God bless you abundantly during this Advent and Christmas Season! We hope and pray that 2020 be a year filled with God's joy and abundant blessings. Who knows? Yes, I did say this last year, and yes, even the year before but...maybe this will be the year that He returns! Come Lord Jesus!

Yours in Christ,

Ron Corcoran +
Archdeacon Emeritus, Vancouver Island
Executive Director, Wounded Healers Ministry

