



Mothers of Prayer Intl Newsletter

United Pentecostal Church International Ladies Ministries

June 2014

Mothers of Prayer Intl

Who we are . . . Since 1999: Mothers of 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...

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

Cultivating the Fruit of His Spirit

By Vercinia Reed



Drawn by the noise, I watch our toddler shuffle and stomp happily down the long hallway wearing her daddy's shoes, my hat, and an enchanting grin all her own. I'm not sure which is bigger: the shoes that nearly engulf her tiny body or the infectious smile stretching her chubby cheeks. When she sees me watching, we begin to giggle, enjoying the silliness of the moment.

Years have passed and she is more likely to borrow my purse than her dad's shoes, but the memory serves as a vivid reminder that children are constantly observing and learning from us. In Titus 2:3, we (older) women are called to be "teachers of good things." It is our privilege and our responsibility to model a life abundant with the fruit of His Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Gal 5:22-23).

Some days, though, I feel more like the poster child for the very opposite of what I long to instill. I vacillate between passively letting the works of the flesh flourish and actively cultivating the fruit of His Spirit. I'm glad I'm not alone in that struggle. Paul confesses in Romans 7:19 (ESV), "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing."

What do we do when the "ugly" comes out? Fortunately, we can press on to be the teachers we are called to be. Character is revealed to ourselves and to others through our behavior and words (Proverbs 23:7; Luke 6:45). We can begin to effect change by prayerfully training ourselves to think on things that are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). We are also directed to crucify the flesh with its passions and desires, and to live and walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:24-25). These are not milestones to reach; rather, they are goals to pursue daily

through prayer. Take comfort in knowing that the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness (Romans 8:26).

Prayer points:

- May Your Spirit find good soil to grow in my life.
- Reveal the works of the flesh and help me prune ruthlessly.
- Produce a bountiful harvest in my life that draws others to You.
- Let my life be an example worth following.
- May the children in my circle of influence follow me only as I follow You.

When I recognize my words or actions in my children, I am alternately dismayed and encouraged. Because sometimes I get it wrong, but every once in awhile, I get it right. We have the amazing possibility to influence others for good through word, deed, and prayer.

Note: Vercinia Bailey Reed and her husband, Brad, serve as AIMers in the United Arab Emirates where they pastor Abundant Life Church. They have two children, Jaden, age 10 and Elias, age 3. Vercinia has a BHS and MHS in Communication Sciences & Disorders and worked as a speech-language pathologist prior to moving to the UAE in 2003.

Peace in the Storm

By Rhonda Hurst



"Pastor, I need you to pray a covering of protection over me," were the words I heard from a dear lady in our congregation who works in a home for severely abused children. Vanessa went on to tell us of just how abused these children are, and with the coming of a new resident, an eight year old little girl, there also came demonic oppression and activity.

We began to pray for Vanessa, and a few days later her supervisor asked for my husband to come to the home and pray. The day he went it was storming on the outside; and when he walked into the home, you could feel the storm that was raging on the inside as well.

My husband spoke with the staff for a few minutes, explaining to them how he would pray and that there is power in the name of Jesus (Matthew 10:1, 8). He spoke to them of just how much Jesus loves children. In Luke 18:16 Jesus says, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

After a short time of explaining, my husband asked that they all hold hands and he began to pray. "Lord, we come to this house in the name of Jesus Christ. There is no name that can deliver us from the torment of the enemy other than the name of Jesus. I plead the blood of Jesus over this home that the evil spirits tormenting these children and this staff will be made to leave. I pray for your peace to reign in this home." As he prayed, the power of the Holy Ghost came into that prayer meeting. Some of the staff began to shake under the power of the Holy Ghost. After he left the home, Vanessa sent him a text saying all of the staff wanted to know what it was that they had felt. "We have never felt anything like that in our life," they told her.

Vanessa has told us that since that prayer the spirit of peace has been in the home. The staff goes from room to room and calls out to one another, "Hey! I can feel that peace back here." Through this home, the Lord has opened doors for us to pray for the children of our community. Indeed, there is no greater power than that of Jesus Christ and His blood. We never need fear the enemy! The name of Jesus is higher than all names.

Note: Rhonda Hurst is married to Nathan J. Hurst, who pastors in Hollister, CA. She is Western District Ladies Ministries president, a mother, grandmother, singer, songwriter, and teacher.

Fruit of the Spirit

By Vickie Oliver



"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23). I am so glad that the vintage plastic fruit that filled beautiful glass bowls are back in style! Most of us remember the red plastic apples and yellow bananas and rubber grapes that adorned the dining table. I have fond memories of early breakfast with the family when my dad, a practical joker, placed the fake fruit in my cereal bowl.

Because this happened often, I learned to look for it and squeal with dismay, "Not again!" My dad would explain the reasons why I should eat that fruit while I protested with laughter. Yes, that was fake fruit, but the fruit of the Spirit is real fruit-fruit that grows in our lives by the working of the Holy Spirit in us. You cannot force the seed to grow into a plant, and then a tree, ultimately resulting in fruit. You must walk through life experiences allowing the Spirit of God to help you grow and become more like Him.

I grew a little more LOVE by forgiving and loving someone not so lovable. I grew LONG SUFFERING by holding my temper in traffic or while dealing with a difficult child. I grew a little TEMPERANCE when I pushed away from the table and lost a few pounds. I developed PEACE when I had to trust Jesus through the storm. I learned GENTLENESS by receiving undeserved gentleness from others. JOY came sprouting up when I had to have the joy of the Lord for strength to even get through the day. MEEKNESS budded in times of correction from a gentle leader and I am so thankful for experiences that caused FAITH fruit to develop.

We all grow fruit of the Spirit as we walk with Jesus. The closer we get to Him, the more like Him we become. I want to have bright, healthy, mature fruit on my tree. This takes a lifetime. I recently bought a beautiful antique bowl like grandma had on her table. It was filled with little red plastic apples and rubber grapes. I started to throw away that outdated fruit when nostalgia got the better of me. Yes, it adorns my table in splendor. I can't get my grandchildren to eat that fake fruit either, but I sure enjoy the giggles!

Note: Vickie Oliver has traveled for twenty-five years across our fellowship doing children's/family ministry, junior youth camps and teacher training seminars. During the last few years, the Lord has opened doors for her to speak in ladies conferences and overseas. She is a wife, mother, and grandmother with a love for souls and a desire to please the Lord.

Praise Reports

Pastor Timothy Lee of the Tabernacle of Joy in Singapore, blessed the 'Family On A Mission' program at the Bacolod Youth Camp in the Philippines where 337 received the Holy Ghost and 43 were baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ according to the book of the Acts of the Apostles. Prayer works! -Submitted by Gwyn Oakes, UPCI LM President

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EME prayer group singing.

Our team of people from around Europe blended together beautifully and God's Spirit united us into a powerful prayer force.

At the Brandenburg Gate, the team began spontaneously singing. We prayed in many places and sang in train stations, on trains, on the streets and most dramatically in a large cathedral.

Because of the singing, there were many opportunities to invite people to church. In the Sunday service, there were 15 first-time visitors. A beautiful Spirit permeated the service and the hall was filled with people. One received the Holy Ghost and was baptized. -Jerolyn Kelley, EME Missionary and Prayer Commission Director

## From the Mailbox

- Thank you Sis Akers! It (newsletter) looks wonderful and I've enjoyed reading it. Many blessings, -Vani Marshall, Christian Counselor, MA, BCPC, Prayer Coordinator Pentecostals of Alexandria
- Bendiciones Hna gracias por enviar el boletín de oración... Es de tremenda bendición... Saludos desde El Salvador (Blessings and thanks for sending the bulletin of prayer... It is of tremendous blessing. Greetings from El Salvador)

## 31 Biblical Virtues to Pray for Your Children (7-9)

7. Justice -- "God, help my children to love justice as You do and act justly in all they do."

(Ps. 11:7; Mic. 6:8)

8. Mercy -- "May my children always be merciful, just as their Father is merciful." (Luke 6:36)

9. Respect (for self, others, and authority) -- "Father, grant that my children may show proper respect to everyone, as Your Word commands." (1 Pet. 2:17)

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## From the Editor



Debbie Akers

### God is doing mighty things!

It has been my goal and vision since I was first asked to start this newsletter that it be available in various languages. 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, and Hungarian. Special thanks to Sisters Dianna Tuttle and Jerolyn Kelley and the team of translators that make this happen each month! Also, Reverend Don Hanscom is working to translate into Urdu, Hindi, Thai, Tamil, Sinhalese and Laotian! So under the direction of Sister Gwyn Oakes, UPCI Ladies Ministries President, to better represent our mission of prayer for our children around the world, going forward we will be known as Mothers of Prayer Intl. We are rejoicing and ask God to continue to bless this prayer ministry. -Debbie Akers, UPCI, Mothers of Prayer Intl, Coordinator and Editor

Please send Praise Reports and Prayer Meeting Ideas to:

[MothersOfPrayerIntl@aol.com](mailto:MothersOfPrayerIntl@aol.com) or [debiakers@aol.com](mailto:debiakers@aol.com)

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