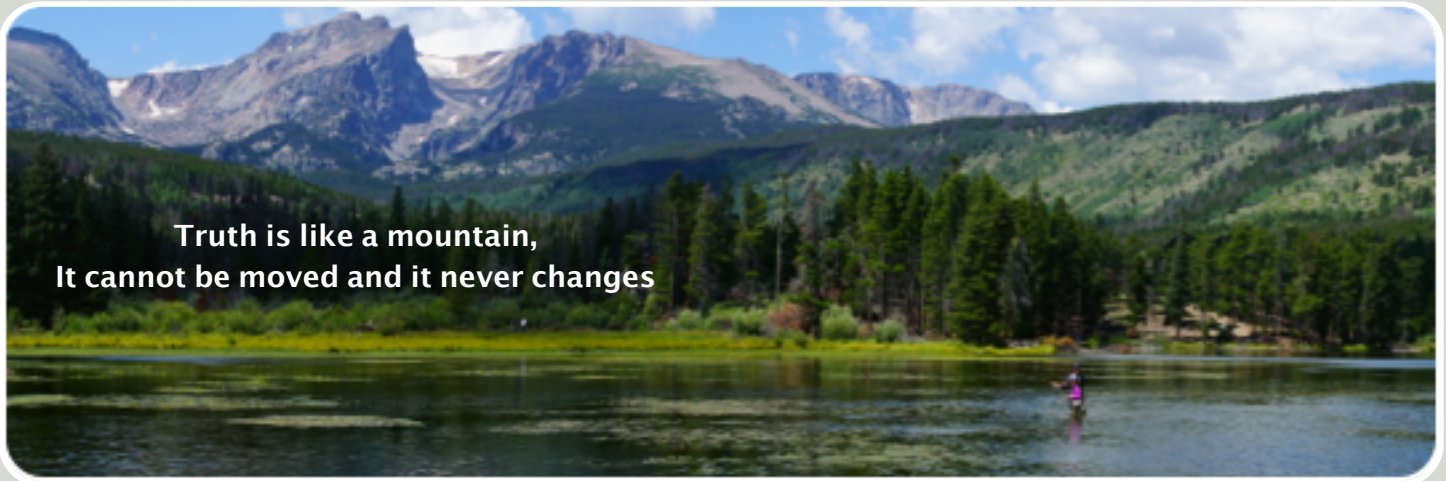


JULY 2022

"TRUTH"

**A SURE WORD
FOR TODAY**



**Truth is like a mountain,
It cannot be moved and it never changes**

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UPDATE

This month we want to give you a personal update on what has been happening with our family. In July we had two grandsons get married. One wedding was here in Colorado and the other was in Dallas. One couple will be living in Tulsa and the other will be in Wisconsin.

The other big news is that in June we became Great-grandparents. Our grandson John and his wife Olivia had a baby boy they named Jaxson. They had gotten married last May and are living in Eastern Nebraska, but are hoping to move closer to family in the near future.

Speaking of moving, we are so excited to have Jack and Dionne moving back to the Greeley area. As soon as their house in Parker sells they will be making the move. We are so excited about once again having them closer.

Life goes on and through it all, we are made aware of God's unfailing love and care for His children. He is so good!

FEATURE ARTICLE: "A Big Problem Solved"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness.

You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

We would all like to believe that our status as children of the King should mean that our life will always be blue skies and puppy dogs, but that is not how life works. We do not have immunity from trials and tests and no matter how great our faith, sooner or later we all battle sickness, disease, and death.

While pastoring we were often called upon to help people who were going through these difficult situations. As we walked with them they often expressed that during their greatest trial they couldn't seem to sense the presence of God and felt like their prayers were bouncing off the ceiling. Some even said that they felt abandoned by God. This was troubling so I set out to try and find out why people experience such feelings and how to fix the problem.

I made very little progress until I personally faced a very dark situation. Like everyone else, the first thing I did was cry out for God's help. I wasn't even sure what His help would look like; I just knew I needed Him. Then one morning in my quiet time I clearly heard the Lord impress on me these words, "**Stay under the shadow of my wings.**" That was all He said. He didn't tell me to, "**Get under the shadow of His wings.**" He just said, "**Stay under the shadow of my wings.**" Immediately I was reminded of Psalm 91.

Psalm 91:1 KJV

1 **He that dwelleth** in the secret place of the most High **shall abide** under the shadow of the Almighty.

As I meditated on this I began to get some insight into why people going through a dark trial often feel like God is a million miles away. They feel this way because at some point they stopped

"**living**" under the shadow of His wings, so naturally, when the storms came they felt uncovered, unprotected, and abandoned. God did not abandon them, but they failed to live every day under the shadow of the Almighty.

Everything feels so different when we live under the shadow of His wings.

Psalm 91:2-7 KJV

2 **I will say of the LORD**, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3 **Surely he shall deliver thee** from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4 **He shall cover thee** with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5 **Thou shalt not be afraid** for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; **but it shall not come nigh thee.**

This is what dwelling under the shadow of His wings looks and feels like. There is complete trust and confidence and there is absolutely no fear! Fear is a sure sign you have moved out from under the shadow of His wings.

So often Miss Linda and I have seen the truth of scripture clearly displayed in nature. On the next page is a photo we took when a torrential rain storm caught a Mallard duck and her babies beside a lake late one afternoon. It was fantastic to see her sit down, spread her wings, and have her chicks run to her for protection. She didn't need to go looking for her chicks, they were close and instinctively came running.

"A Big Problem Solved"
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This all seems so natural, and yet what birds do naturally, we humans find so difficult. Why? Could it be that we have a relationship problem? In nature, we have observed that baby birds **always** try to stay as close to their mother as possible. When a storm comes they are close enough that within seconds they are able to get under her wings.

By contrast, when things are sunshine and roses, we tend to feel no need to stay close to our God. Then when the storm arises we frantically are left searching for Him. We feel abandoned and fail to understand that we are the ones who created this situation and that the only way this can be changed is for us to learn to **dwell** in the secret place of the most high.

What I am trying to say is that God never intended for us to view Him as an emergency option. God does not live in a red box that says, "**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY BREAK GLASS.**" Get close to Him when the sun is shining and you will find it much easier to get under the shadow of His wings when the storm breaks.



**Never forget..
You are safe under the shadow of His wings!**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH!



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



“How God Speaks To Us”

Does God speak to us? Are those who say that God speaks to them total nut jobs? Let's look into this and try to find some help for those

who want to hear the voice of God but struggle to do so.

First, we need to start by coming into agreement with God about this. The Bible makes it very clear that God does speak to us and we are not weird if we believe this.

John 10:27 KJV

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me...

John 16:13 KJV

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, **that shall he speak...**

Second, if you want to hear God's voice you need to get still before the Lord. Most of us would agree that our lives have become very busy and cluttered. Some of this is unavoidable, but we need to understand that this hinders our ability to hear God

when He is speaking because He doesn't shout. (More on this later) This is why it is good to find some time each day to be still before the Lord. My husband calls it his, "quiet time".

Next, we need to understand how God speaks. People often struggle because they think if God speaks it will be in an audible voice. I am not sure if this was how God spoke to His servants in the Old Testament, but it is not how He speaks to us today. **Today we have the Holy Spirit living inside of us and because of this, the voice of God comes not as an external voice, but as an internal feeling or impression.** If you are waiting to hear the audible voice of God you will probably have to wait until you get to heaven.

Another mistake people make is to follow a popular teaching that says we should ask the Lord to speak and then the first thought that pops into our mind will be God speaking. This terrifying teaching cannot be supported by scripture and my husband says that if he had followed this teaching he would probably be in jail! I personally believe that many times this is why the 'words' people claim God gave them seem so bizarre. They are not true words from God but rather thoughts that people conjure up in their own minds.

To help you sort this all out and begin to understand how to determine if God is speaking, I am going to start using some different terminology.

"How God Speaks To Us"
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Words like, "**speak**" or "**hear**" are things we do every day in the natural realm, but when God speaks it is different. God speaks to our spirit and not our flesh. So, I am going to start using words like, "**nudge**" or "**feel**" because this best describes how God speaks to us. As an example, instead of saying, "God said" I will say, "I felt". Hopefully, this will make hearing God's voice more understandable. Let me give you some examples.

One evening I **felt** (God said) I needed to call a friend, so after several internal promptings, I obeyed. Imagine my shock when she told me that her mom had passed away the day before. She was so blest to know that God cared so much that He would have someone call who knew nothing about her mom's passing. God is amazing!

Another time the Lord **impressed me** (told me) to FB message a dear friend. I acted on what I felt impressed to do. She wrote back that she had just had a heart attack the day before and that the doctors were saying she would need to get some stents put in. She too was blown away by the timing of my message. Another time I **was "nudged"** (told) to message someone I had been praying for and found out their divorce had been finalized that very day.

I want to spend a moment talking about the word, "**nudged**". I like using that word because it best describes how gentle the Holy Spirit is. **He does not, "shove" you, He "nudges" you.** This is confirmed by Elijah's encounter with the Lord.

1 Kings 19:11-12 KJV

11....And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: **and after the fire a still small voice.**

God spoke to Elijah with a whisper and that is usually how He speaks to us. **He does not shove or shout, but gently nudges us internally.** This may not seem as exciting as hearing a loud booming voice, but every time it happens I am profoundly impacted because I find it amazing that the Holy Spirit actually dwells inside of me and leads me to those who need His loving touch.

I want to encourage you to begin looking for the gentle nudges God gives to you. As you act upon them you will be amazed at how often God speaks to you and uses you to bless those around you who desperately need His touch.



"MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE" (JESUS)

"Judgment Is Coming!"

July 4th is the day America celebrates the birth of our nation. On this great day, families get together to barbecue, play games, make homemade ice cream, and then end the day watching amazing displays of fireworks. This wonderful tradition became an official national holiday by an act of Congress in 1870, and I pray it never ceases to be observed.

While I love celebrating the birth of our nation, there are other celebrations I will never be a part of, and at the top of my list is Gay Pride Month. (June) This abomination was not created by an act of Congress, but rather by presidential decree when Bill Clinton proclaimed the entire month of June to be Gay Pride Month. Ever since, June has been used for the worldwide promotion of the gay agenda.

America needs to know that God has already passed judgment on the homosexual issue and that our nation will not escape His wrath if we continue to ignore Him and promote this perversion. There are six verses in the Bible that explicitly tell us exactly how God views homosexuality.

Leviticus 18:22 NCB

22 You shall not have sex with a man as you would with a woman. **It is an abomination.**

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 CEB

9 Don't you know that people who are unjust won't inherit God's kingdom? Don't be deceived. Those who are sexually **immoral**, those who worship false gods, adulterers, both participants in same-sex intercourse,

10 thieves, the greedy, drunks, abusive people, and swindlers won't inherit God's kingdom.

Romans 1:26-28 NCB

26 That is why **God abandoned them** to their **shameful** passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for **unnatural** practices.

27 Likewise, men gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed **shameful** acts with men and received in their own persons the fitting penalty for their **perversion**.

28 Furthermore, since these people did not see fit to acknowledge God, **he abandoned them** to their **depraved** way of thinking and to all types of **vile** behavior.

(I wonder what He really thinks!)

In these six verses, God calls homosexuality immoral, shameful, unnatural, depraved, vile, perversion, and an abomination. He also says something about this sin that He never says about any other. He says he "**abandons**" those who commit such acts. I ask you, how can churches be silent about a sin God has judged so harshly in the past and clearly promises to judge again in the future? Now more than ever we need preachers who will fearlessly proclaim that unless we repent judgment is coming. As sure as the people of Sodom were judged, so too shall this generation be judged. It is unavoidable!

Even though this message is disturbing, we must remember that before God destroyed Sodom He sent two angels who told Lot to get his family out. Likewise, today God will provide a way for the righteous to escape and that way will be the rapture of the church. As our world descends deeper and deeper into the abyss of moral depravity, I cannot help but believe that the rapture may be closer than any of us realize. Lot's wife and his married daughters failed to escape even though they had been warned.

You have been warned.

Be sure you do not suffer the same fate!