

MOVING UP HIGHER

with *Joyce Meyer*



Give your battles to God

Do you spend time worrying about things in life that are beyond your control? Are you constantly trying to figure situations out? If that's you, I want to let you know that you can rest in God and trust Him to fight your battles for you.

It took years for me to learn that worry is useless. All it did was aggravate me, and it didn't change a thing. Worrying is like sitting in a rocking chair and rocking all day; it keeps you busy, but you get absolutely nowhere. At the end of the day, you're still sitting right where you were when you started.

God didn't create us to be under that kind of stress. Did you know that worrying can actually make you sick? In fact, one researcher found that 87 percent of all sickness is connected to wrong thinking. The truth is there is no need to worry. We can trust God completely.

The Bible says that we shouldn't worry about tomorrow; we shouldn't worry about what we're going to eat or drink or wear because tomorrow will have sufficient problems of its own (see Matthew 6:25-26). And God gives us the grace we need every day to handle whatever that day brings. We need to learn how to trust God one day at a time. Instead of trying to figure out tomorrow, we just need to thank God for today.

In 1 Peter 5:6, the Bible talks about humbling ourselves under the mighty hand of God that he may exalt us in due time. And the very next verse says, "Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully" (AMP). God wants to take care of us.

It amazes me that many times we believe that if we think about our problems long enough, we can actually figure them out. We would be so much better off if we would just wait on God to show us what we need to know about the situation.

I want to encourage you to get comfortable with not knowing. Part of trusting God is having unanswered questions. Many people have questions they want answers to, but when they get those answers, they don't feel the need to trust God anymore. You might not have the answers to your questions right now, but what you do have is the ability to trust God.

Proverbs 3:5 (AMP) says, "Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding." Trusting God is the greatest privilege that we have. No matter what kind of problem you have in your life, you get to trust the Lord. He doesn't want you to live in fear. He loves you so much, and He is on your side, working in your situation!

Second Corinthians 10:4-5

talks about one of the greatest weapons God has given us, and that is His Word. When you get overwhelmed by worry in your mind, take the problem and start attacking it with scriptures. When you speak the Word of God out loud, you're refuting "arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God..." (AMP). Take time to learn what the Word says so you can recognize the lies of Satan and overcome his attacks.

God operates through our faith, whereas worry prevents Him from working. When I need a breakthrough and I'm trying to figure everything out, I'll just say, "God, I thank You that You're working right now. I don't see any progress. I don't feel anything happening. But I've prayed, and the minute I prayed, I believe You started working, and I am going to see the victory."

In 2 Chronicles 20, King Jehoshaphat faced many enemies coming at him all at once. At first, the Bible says he felt fear, but then "he set himself [determinedly, as his vital need] to seek the Lord" (verse 3). Jehoshaphat had a big problem, but he didn't sit down and worry. Instead, he set himself to seek the Lord and hear what God had to say. Then in verse 15, God sent a prophet who told Jehoshaphat to "be not afraid or dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's" (AMP). Well, that is good news! Your battle is not yours to fight. The battle belongs to God!

In verse 17, he says, "You shall not need to fight in this battle; take your positions, stand still, and see the deliverance of the Lord [Who is] with you." So the position Jehoshaphat took was to get down on his knees and worship God. And he stayed there, worshipping God until he got a breakthrough. And in verse 22, when all the people began to sing and praise the Lord, their enemies got so confused that they killed each other! If you want to confuse the enemy, when problems are coming at you, instead of worrying, put your focus on God and worship, sing and give praise and thanks to Him. Allow God to deliver you. Trade your worry for worship, and watch God begin to work. Don't ever say again, "I'm just a worrier." Your new confession is, "I do not worry. I trust God!"

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored nearly 100 books, including Battlefield of the Mind and The Mind Connection (Hachette). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

IN MEMORIAM

Janis Elaine Hulsey
1952-2016

Janis Elaine Hulsey, 63, of Cottage Grove passed away Jan. 7, 2016.

She was born April 19, 1952 in Santa Ana, Calif. to Robert and Maree (Lambkin) Truesdell.



On Sept. 2, 1971 in San Diego, Calif., she and Roger Hulsey were married. Although they later divorced, they remained friends.

Jan attended college. She worked as a Certified Medical Assistant at Sacred Heart, retiring in 2004.

She enjoyed volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and for other organizations, camping, being with family and her wiener dog, Kitty. She was a member of the Cottage Grove Church of the Nazarene.

She is survived by two daughters, Veronica Hulsey of New Orleans and Lawan Taylor of Cottage Grove, a son, John Hulsey of Cottage Grove, a sister, Susan Lawn of Cottage Grove and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Neil Truesdell.

A memorial will be held at a later date at the Church of the Nazarene when her daughter returns from Louisiana this coming summer. Burial was at Fir Grove Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Cottage Grove. Arrangements under the care of Andreason's, Springfield.

Helen J. Foell
1928-2016

Helen J. Foell, 87, of Cottage Grove passed away Jan. 25, 2016.

She was born Feb. 27, 1928 in Winona, Minn. to Clarence and Martha (Leslie) Ford.

Helen graduated from Winona High School, received her teaching credentials at Winona State Teachers College and completed her bachelor's degree in teaching from California State University, Long Beach. Helen was a teacher of special education in Long Beach, Calif. for 17 years.



She married Leland "Jack" Foell on Aug. 26, 1950 in Winona, Minn.

Helen was an avid knitter who enjoyed traveling in their motor home along with her husband. She was a season-ticket holder for the theater in California, where she enjoyed shows like "The Sound of Music."

Helen is survived by her husband of 66 years, Jack Foell of Cottage Grove; son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Cindee Foell of Ladera Ranch, Calif.; sister and brother-in-law, Nell and George Wenzell of Winona, Minn.; sister-in-law, Karen Foell

of Bend; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her son, Paul Foell.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Joanne Fuller
1928-2016

Joanne Fuller, 87, of Lyons, Ore. passed away Jan. 23, 2016.

She was born Feb. 9, 1928 in Elsmore, Kansas to Rudolph and Ella Jane (Culver) Kamping.



On Nov. 27, 1944 in Klamath Falls, Ore., she and Jess Edward Fuller were married. He passed away Aug. 29, 2005.

Joanne received her Associate degree in accounting from Lane Community College. She worked as a bookkeeper for Bowser Brothers for two years.

She had a hand in raising more than 25 children, and she taught them the value of hard work. She enjoyed knitting, sewing, and cross-stitch. She often did her cooking and canning on a wood stove. Joanne was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Survivors include four sons, Wayne (Debbie) Fuller of Cottage Grove, Tony (LaVonnie) Fuller of Cottage Grove, Karl (Cathy) Fuller of Springfield, and Dale (Ellen) Fuller of Lyons, a daughter, Connie (Ted) McKillop of Lyons and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.



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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM

Joyce Lyne Green-Pelkey

aka "Sunny" or the Neck Kooler Lady and her dog Boots
Born Dec. 18, 1952 Passed Jan. 24, 2016

Survived by her sister Paula Ann Talbot of Cottage Grove and her brother Gary S. Green of Edwardville, Kansas

Boots, her service dog has been re-homed to a family who he knew well and loves him very much.

A memorial and celebration of life will be held at a later date when the rest of the family can attend.

Instead of flowers, please donate to the Cancer Society for a cure someday.

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