

MOVING UP HIGHER

with *Joyce Meyer*



You can get to the Promised Land God has for you

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are joint heirs with Him. This means that everything that is His also belongs to us, and every promise God gives in His Word is for us (Romans 8:17). But I've learned that it's one thing to take God's promises by faith and another to actually experience them.

The story of the Israelites in the wilderness is a good example for us regarding this principle. They were slaves in Egypt when God sent Moses to deliver them from Pharaoh and lead them to the Promised Land He had for them. They had to go through a wilderness to get there, and Deuteronomy 1:2 (AMPC) says, "It is [only] eleven days' journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea [on Canaan's border; yet Israel took forty years to get beyond it]."

It's tragic that it took the Israelites 40 long, miserable, painful years to reach their destination, and even sadder that in the end, only a small number entered in to the land, along with Joshua and Caleb.

It's easy to shake our heads and wonder how it could have taken them so long to get to their desired destination. But the truth is many of us have wandered around in our own wilderness, going around the same mountains over and over for far too long.

Just like the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, we were slaves to sin before we accepted Christ as our Savior. And just like the Israelites were stuck in the wilderness after they were delivered from slavery, many Christians are still living as if they've not been delivered from their sin, even though Christ has done everything that was needed to set them free from it once and for all (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

Now the Israelites had enemies—the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and the Jebusites—and they thought they were the problem. But we see in Scripture that in reality, it was not the Israelites' enemies that kept them from the Promised Land because God was on their side. If God is for us, who can be against us? (See Romans 8:31-39.)

The problem was their wrong mindsets and attitudes. They were often negative and complained, and they focused on their circumstances instead of God. The same principle is true for us. We can't have victory over sin while we think we are still in bondage to it. No matter what our "bondage" may be—an addiction, insecurity, fear, overeating, etc.—Jesus' blood cleanses us and sets us free from it all. That doesn't mean we won't have to walk through a process to experience total deliverance sometimes, but it does mean that in Christ, we have everything we need to do our part to walk it out.

Romans 6:2 says, "How can we who died to sin live in it any longer?" This verse is talking about how through faith in Christ, we become dead to sin and alive to God's righteousness. The key to this process is found in Romans 6:11, which says, "Consider yourselves also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God

[living in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus." I love that this says "consider," because this term indicates a process of your mind.

We must see ourselves as dead to sin and believe it, not because of what we've done or can do but because of who Jesus is and what He has done for us!

We tend to be afraid of sin or just think that it's too hard to overcome it, so we stay trapped in it. But through Christ, we CAN control our thinking and shake off the "wilderness mindsets" that hold us back from the promised land God has for us.

Start by taking an inventory of your thoughts. Think about what you're thinking about, because where the mind goes, the man follows (Proverbs 23:7). Pray and ask God to help you identify thoughts that don't line up with His Word. Then study scriptures that will refute them and renew your mind with Truth.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 says, "For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, [inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God..." And Romans 12:2 says we are "transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of [our] mind..."

The battle to live the life God created you to live is fought in your mind, through arguments, reasonings and theories that don't agree with Him. But if you will be a diligent student of God's Word, studying and meditating on the Truth it reveals, you'll begin to think a completely different way. And you'll make progress little by little each day that gets you closer to your Promised Land.

IN MEMORIAM

Elizabeth Bruni

1924-2017

Elizabeth "Betty" Bruni, 92, of Cottage Grove passed away Jan. 4, 2017.



She was born Dec. 31, 1924 in Poughkeepsie, NY to Paul and Agnes (Ten Eyck) Harrison.

On Feb. 10, 1943 in Walden, NY, she married Oreste "Art" Bruni. He passed away in 1993.

Betty was a business owner and bookkeeper of the Video Station, an antiques dealer and worked in real estate.

She enjoyed interior decorating, indoor/outdoor architecture, was a self-taught pianist, and enjoyed sewing, crocheting, reading and gardening. Betty was a part of the Cottage Grove Hospital Women's Auxiliary.

Betty is survived by her son, Ronald (Nela Ladd) -Bruni, and daughter, Susan (Dennis) Deere, both of Cottage Grove, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017 at Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, 123 S. 7th St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424. Interment will be at Crestlawn Memorial Park, Riverside, CA. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cottage Grove Humane Society. Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel.

Mary Rose Hansen

1932-2017

Mary Rose Hansen, 84, longtime Cottage Grove resident, died peacefully at home surrounded by family, on Jan. 5, 2017.



Mary was born in New Ulm, Minn. on Nov. 14, 1932 to Benjamin and Caroline Waibel.

She graduated from Holy Trinity High School in 1951. Shortly after, she and her friend Lois came to Oregon to visit family. Here, Mary met her future husband, Wesley. The two were married in New Ulm, Minn. on July 23, 1952.

Mary is survived by her husband Wesley D. Hansen, sons

Stuart (Debbie), Brian (Diane), and Rudy (Pamela) and daughters Mary Kay Hansen (Melinda), Gretchen Lindquist (Gary), and Paula Dalesky (Kevin). She is also survived by 14 grandchildren and their spouses, 11 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and a loving network of family and friends.

Mary was loved by many, and will always be remembered for her positive attitude and cheerful disposition.

At Mary's request, there will be no services. Any remembrances may be directed to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Cottage Grove or Signature Hospice Services.

BIRTHS

DEC. 27, 2016

Jayne M. Spink and Joshua David Osban gave birth to a baby girl at Sacred Heart Medical Center.

DEC. 28, 2016

Cynthia Poli and Chris Beers gave birth to a baby boy at Sacred Heart Medical Center.

DEC. 29, 2016

Ona Marie Secord and Tavis Stewart gave birth to a baby girl at Sacred Heart Medical Center.

Death Notices

Lavonne Annette Chaves, 77, of Cottage Grove died Dec. 25, 2016. No service is planned. Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Vernis Lee Stokesberry, 86, of Cottage Grove died Dec. 28, 2016. A celebration of life will be at a later date at the Cottage Grove Masonic Lodge. Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Andreason's
CREMATION
& Burial Services
Family Owned
\$693
"the affordable alternative."
24-HOUR PHONE 485-6659
320 N 6th Street, Springfield www.andreasons.com

GRANTS
HEARING CENTER
HEAR FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Call NOW for Free consultation
Grant's Hearing Centers
1498 E. Main St., CG
www.grantshearing.com 541-942-8444

Smith-Lund-Mills
FUNERAL CHAPEL • CREMATORIUM
People you know, people you trust.SM
Funeral & Memorial Planning
Cremation Options
Monuments & Memorials
Cemetery Options
123 South 7th, Cottage Grove, Oregon
541-942-0185 • www.smithlundmills.com



Barbar Lou Moss

1947-2017

Barbara Lou Moss, 69 of Cottage Grove, Oregon passed away January 5, 2017. She was born December 17, 1947, in Coalinga, CA to Richard and Bobbie (West) Harrell. Barbara was an advocate for Grandparents Rights with the state capital and helped pass grandparents rights law and was a bus driver for special education. She was #1 at being a grandmother and a wonderful mother of three children. Barbara enjoyed spending time with her family, crocheting doll dresses and crossword puzzles. She was recognized with a Good Samaritan Award. Barbara married Ronald Moss on May 7, 1963, in Earlimart, CA. She is survived by her husband Ronald Moss, Cottage Grove, OR, son Ronald (Shana) Moss, Marcola, OR, daughter Jaylynn (Doug) Metcalf, Redmond, OR, daughter Angelique Harper, Cottage Grove, OR, grandchildren; Robert and Casey Runion, Sundriya and Mickel Jones, Britnea and Talia Hagen, Jacob and Joshua Reece, Dale Harper, Kadra Bandey, Merrick Luellen and 8 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and granddaughter Amber Moss. A graveside service will be held at 1:00 PM on January 16, 2017, at Fir Grove Cemetery, Cottage Grove, OR. Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, 123 S. 7th St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

Customer Engagement 24/7
Web Design & Development



Ask us how we can help grow your business.



Cottage Grove Sentinel

Magnolia Gardens Assisted Living & Memory Care wishes you a Happy New Year!

You're invited to our upcoming events:

Bahamas Bingo Bash
Wednesday, January 18th at 2pm

Wear your tropical shirt for a day of sunshine fun.

Enjoy refreshing desserts, shirt contest prizes, and cash for bingo winners!



What is Hospice? Seminar
Thursday, January 26 at 2pm

Special guest speaker Rachel Dooley from Signature Hospice will educate and answer frequently asked questions about hospice care.

Its more than end-of-life care!



Magnolia Gardens
ASSISTED LIVING

1425 Daugherty Avenue
Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424
541.942.0054 | magnoliacampus.com

