

MOVING UP HIGHER

with *Joyce Meyer*



For most of us, the beginning of the New Year is a good time to reevaluate our lives and set goals for ways we can improve ourselves. Whether we make resolutions or not, we all tend to reflect on various issues we'd like to see change in some way. But there is one area of life that we always need to address—the mouth.

I remember when my grandson, who was three years old at the time, got ahold of a sheet of paper that had pictures of me on it, and he decorated it with all sorts of colorful stickers. When he came over to my house to surprise me with it, I couldn't help but notice that in just about every picture, there was a sticker over my mouth. I thought: Well, God, are You trying to tell me something?

It actually made me pay attention to the way I was talking. And that's something we all should do, because there is no part of us that's harder to control than the mouth.

The Bible says that no man can tame the tongue (see James 3:8). But that doesn't mean we can never improve the way we speak. We just need to partner with God to bring about the change we want to see.

The words we say are so important because they impact the anointing of the Holy Spirit that is, the power and presence of God—in our lives. The power of God is the most precious thing we have, and it's something we need to know how to protect.

One of the ways we can do damage to God's anointing is by speaking with a mixture of faith and doubt. When we say a few positive, faith-filled words here, and a few negative, doubtful words there, it weakens God's anointing on our lives.

Without the anointing, everything is hard. And that's not what God wants for us. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy [to bear] and My burden is light" (see Matthew 11:30, AMP).

God will never ask us to do anything without giving us the ability to do it, and He has equipped us with everything we need to live a powerful, victorious life. Acts 1:8 (NIV) says, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth."

Ask God to help you form a habit of speaking positive words of faith every day. Words like, "I love my life and I have a great future. I can do whatever I need to do through Christ who strengthens me. And something good is going to happen to me and through me today!"

Even when you're struggling to believe it, say it anyway. Because your words have the power to change your mind and your attitude when they agree with the truth in God's Word.

You'll also find that you have the joy and peace that come through simply believing the promises of God.

Have you ever let your words create a barrier against God's blessings in your life? I certainly have. Thankfully, we can change that when we decide to change our words.

If you want to live in the fullness of God's anointing, fill your mouth with His Word. Don't just carelessly speak what you think or feel or what other people say. You can have the promises of God fulfilled in your life if you will learn to come into agreement with Him, do what He tells you to do, and say what He says.

Service notice: A graveside memorial service for John Storts will be held at Sears Cemetery off of Row River Road on June 17 at 3 p.m.



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IN MEMORIAM



Ashley Mathews 1991-2017

Ashley Michelle Mathews, 26, of Greenville, S.C. died May 15, 2017 from a car accident.

She was born March 28, 1991 in Eugene, Oregon to Robert Mathews and Shawnee "Lane".

She graduated high school and worked as a house cleaner. She enjoyed horses, camping, friends and family.

She is survived by her mother of Las Vegas, Nev. and her father of Junction City, Ore., grandparents, Don and Jane Mathews of Cottage Grove, and four siblings, Sarah Tierce of Albany, Ore., Amanda Patton, Amber Mathews and Candice Parsons, all of Cottage Grove.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Jeremiah Mathews, on May 6, 2017 and an uncle, Randy Mathews.

Arrangements under the care of Cremation Services of Denver, Colorado.

Lavern Weeks 1939-2017

Lavern Henrietta Weeks, 78, of Cottage Grove passed away on June 05, 2017.

She was born Feb. 24, 1939 to Henry and Elizabeth (Jasey) Bernard.

On April 8, 1988, she and Larry Weeks were married. They enjoyed 29 years of marriage.

Lavern had a longtime career as a housekeeper. She enjoyed cross-stitching, crocheting, and other crafts.

She is survived by her husband, Larry, brother, Paul Bernard of Anaheim, Calif., two sons, Roy Mehan of Cottage Grove and Bob Mehan of Bend, a daughter Rhonda Wiltermoord of Cottage Grove, a step-son, Larry Weeks Jr. of Rogerville, Mo., eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove

Death Notice

Dennis Charles Kreeber, 67, of Dorena, OR passed away June 3, 2017. Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.



Alan Boslaugh 1949-2017

Alan Ralph Boslaugh passed away in his home in Springfield on March 17, 2017 from natural causes, at the age of 68.

He is survived by his brother Bill Boslaugh of Springfield, and his sister Ann Brightwell of Bandon. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Bernice and Ralph Boslaugh.

Alan was born in Cottage Grove on December 5, 1949 and lived there until moving to Eugene during his Senior year of high school, graduating from Sheldon High School.

Alan was proud to have been a long-time University of Oregon employee, retiring from the University after accruing more than 25 years. Although he appreciated his job, his first love was the U of O men's Basketball program.

His memory for basketball statistics was legendary among fellow Duck fans. As a long-time season ticket holder, he would have as little difficulty citing obscure free throw statistics from a 1970's game as from a game the previous week.

A celebration of life is scheduled for June 24th, 2017, at Shady Oaks Plants & Produce, 77380 Highway 99, just 3 miles south of Cottage Grove, from 2-4 pm.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Alan's life.

Robert "Bob" Alfred Naish 1929-2017



Long time Warren resident Robert A. Naish, age 88, passed away peacefully with his family by his side, Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at Mercy Medical Center in Roseburg, Oregon after prolonged heart complications.

Born March 3, 1929 in Los Angeles, California to Launcelot Alfred Naish and Anna Helen (Elwell) Naish, Bob moved to Cottage Grove, Oregon at the age of 13. He attended Cottage Grove High School graduating in 1947 and in 1953, graduated from Oregon State University in Forest Management

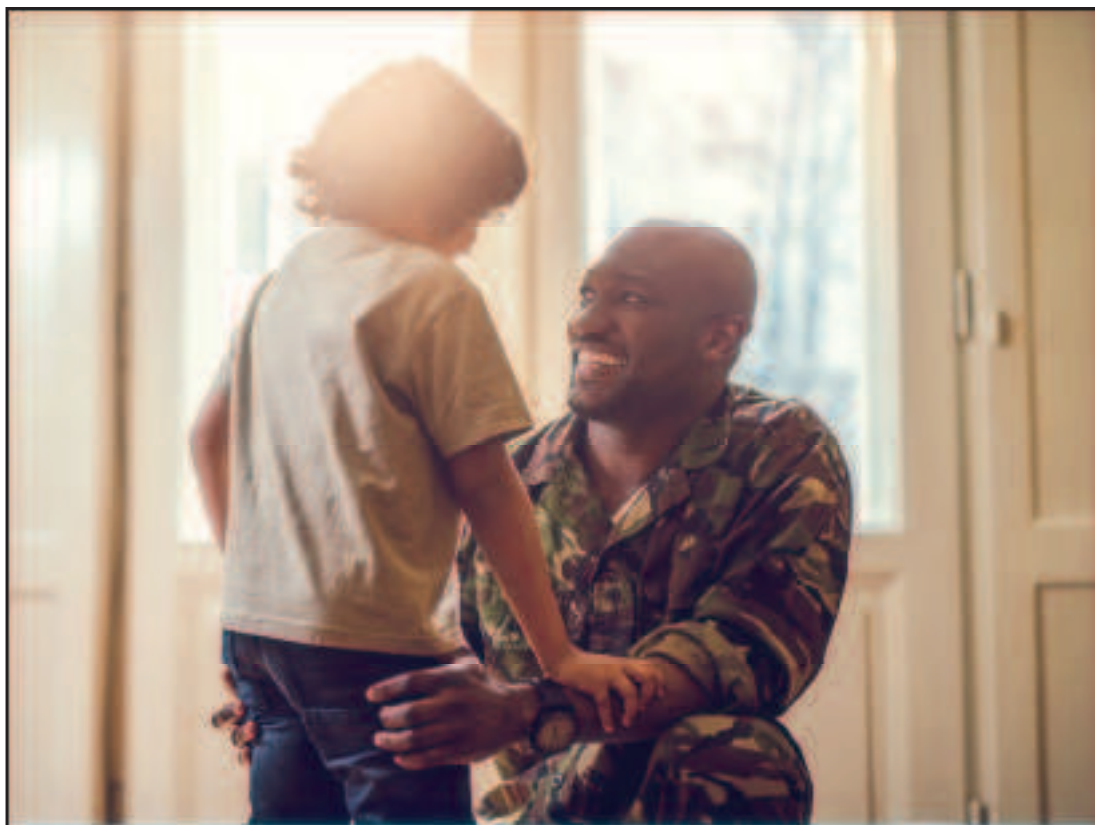
In 1951, Bob married Dorothy Enola Ray in Medford, Oregon. They were divorced in 1972. In 1983, Bob married the love of his life, Jean Livengood-Wilson in St. Helens, Oregon who preceded him in death in 2013.

Bob leaves behind his two children, Vicki Murray (Perry) of Roseburg, Bob Naish (Sue) of San Jose, CA; stepsons, Doug Wilson (Leslie) of St. Helens, Frank Wilson (Marcia) of Madison, WI, Tim Wilson (Cheri) of Los Angeles, CA, Bryan Wilson (WynDee) of Scappoose and Matt Wilson (Rhonda) of Warren; sister, Carol Hutchinson (Ron) of Warner, Alberta, Canada; brothers, Wesley (Marilyn deceased) of Warren, Michael Naish of Eugene. In addition, Bob leaves behind 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held 2 pm Friday, June 9, at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 17435 NW West Union Rd., Portland. Donations may be made to St. Gabriel's or the Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley (bgcuv.org).

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