



PASTOR'S WIVES EMPOWERMENT



PASTOR'S WIVES ENPOWERMENT
P.O. Box 285, Wilmington NC 28402
www.pastors-wives-empowerment.com



PWE PRESIDENT: Lady Sylvia B. Hooper



PWE VICE-PRESIDENT: Lady Theresa Robinson

Happy Mother's Day

God could not be in every place
With loving hands to help erase
The teardrops from each baby's face,
And so He thought of mother.

And when our childhood days began,
He simply could not take command.
That's why He placed our tiny hand
Securely into mother's.

He could not send us here alone
And leave us to a fate unknown;
Without providing for His own,
The outstretched arms of mother.

God could not watch us night and day
And kneel beside our crib to pray,
Or kiss our little aches away;
And so He sent us mother.



Editor: First Lady
Teresa Pickett

Newsletter Date **May 2010**

Special points of interest:

PWE CONFERENCE 2010

AUGUST 13th.- 14th.

Theme:

"This Battle is the Lord's"

**"Ye shall not need to fight in
this battle."**

II Chron. 20:17 a



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SAVE THE DATE: CONFERENCE 2010
AUGUST 13th. & 14th.—Location Wilmington, N.C.

August 13th services will be held at New Covenant Holiness Church at 7:00 pm
1020 Dawson St. Wilmington, NC 28401-5938

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August 14th workshops will be held at First Baptist Activity Center (Time to be announced)
1939 Independence Blvd Wilmington, NC 28403



PWE Conference Testimonials



The Pastors' and Ministers' wives 2009 conference was awesome. It was my first time attending but will not be my last. It gave me the opportunity as a minister's wife to be ministered to in an area that quite often gets overlooked. Each session was taught by powerful speakers that seemed to have experienced everything that they were teaching. Furthermore, not only was my spirit man ministered to but I was able to meet and network with other minister wives. I really left the conference with weights being lifted and knowing that I was not alone in this walk as a minister's wife. I highly recommend this conference to all Pastors' and Ministers' wives even if your husband has been in the ministry for years there is still something that you can take away from this conference.

**Mrs. LM
Wilmington, NC**

"Thanks for giving me the opportunity to share my testimony about the conference held last year. It was truly a blessing for me, the conference was very informative, organized and rewarding, the facilitator were great. I left there with knowledge and understanding of how to be a better preacher's wife

**Mrs. AE
Wilmington, NC**

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I've attended the PWE conferences for the past 3 years and I must say every time the Lord has truly blessed me to be an encouraged, more productive and supportive Elder's Wife. The teacher's ministered to my every need and concern through the precious Holy Spirit. I was comforted and encouraged.

The most amazing and uplifting occurrence is that you're not alone in your spiritual growth and encounters. The other Elder and Minister wives shared their experiences and concerns as well, which lifted the entire group and drew us closer together as sister's in Christ. I've also developed lasting relationships with some of the ladies that attended. To top it off, the staff really pampers you as well with gifts, food, hugs and most importantly love, love, love. You don't want to miss it!

Mrs. DB, Jacksonville, NC

Love Yourself More!

By Lady Judy Pierce

Women's Health

The major health issues for African American women include cancer, diabetes, vision loss, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Leading the pack for death among African American women are heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. Statistics say African Americans are about twice as likely to have diabetes as whites of the same age. We are more likely to have related health problems caused by diabetes.

There are various reasons why these differences exist in African American women including but not limited to racism, poverty, lack of knowledge, inability to get to the doctor and even lack of trust in the medical system. Let's love ourselves enough to do all that we can to promote health and wellness. Love your self more...read about health

issues that are attached to your family tree.

Faith with out works is dead. Love your self more... exercise, walk, bike, etc...do something today to burn more calories than you did yesterday. Love your self more...save for that Dr's visit like you would do for anything else that you really want. Love your self more...take time (5-10 minutes- quite, alone time) to cast off the cares of the moment, day, week and life. Love your self more, purpose to park further away from your intended destination. Love yourself more...eat an apple rather than a candy bar. Love your self more drink water rather than that soda.

**Just love your self more so you may
serve HIM more and longer!**



A WOMAN AND A FORK Submitted by: Sis. Frenetta Holman

There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things 'in order,' she contacted her Pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.

She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in.

Everything was in order and the Pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

"There's one more thing," she said excitedly. 'What's that?' came the Pastor's reply. 'This is very important,' the young woman continued. 'I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.'

The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. That surprises you, doesn't it?' the young woman asked.

'Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request,' said the Pastor. In all my years of attending socials and

'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!'

So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them: 'Keep your fork, the best is yet to come.'

The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman goodbye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death.

She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, 'What's with the fork?' And over and over he smiled.

During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died.

He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come.

Christian Humor

The Sermon

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "**Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"**

Christian Humor

Instruction About Church

A Sunday school teacher asked the children just before she dismissed them to go to church, "**And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"** Annie replied, "**Because people are sleeping."**

Christian Humor

Money for the Pastor

A little boy was given a five dollar bill to put in the collection plate. When the offering came around, he wouldn't put it in. But after the end of the service, when he went to shake the pastor's hand, he pulled out the five dollar bill and gave it to the pastor. The pastor asked him, "**Why are you giving me this money? Why didn't you put it in the offering plate?"** And the boy answered, "**Because my mommy told me you're the poorest pastor we've ever had!"**



Debt Free Living Part 2

By Lady Debarah Blackwell

Debt Free Living was established in my household before I married in 1992.

Before I said "I do" to my fiancé, who is now my husband, asked me one question, "How much debt do you have?" I thought that was a strange and usual question but I realize he wanted to know how much debt he was about to incur. He was surprised to hear me say that I had no credit card debt but I had acquired a student loan debt.

He paused, took a deep breath, and said that was manageable. From that point, the loan became a "state of emergency" and our primary objective. We buckled down and in three years we were debt-free. Of course debt-free. Of course, this was after we said, "I do."

"What Happens When We Pray?"

By Editor: Lady Teresa Pickett

Luke 18:1-2 "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

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LACK OF PRAYER IS A NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF FAINTING!!!

Why is it every time it is time to pray, the phone rings, there is a knock at the door, you fall asleep? Well, because prayer is one of our most valuable weapons against the enemy. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood." Ephes.6:12a

The bible tells us not to be ignorant to Satan devices. These are Satan devices to keep us from one of the weapons that hurts the enemy army, prayer.

In warfare you must use the right weapons

Today, we have committed to teaching debt-free living ministry in order to help families gain **financial independence** through careful planning and the development of sound financial skills. Our focus is to **empower people to achieve their dreams** by building **immediate financial stability**.

For many 2010 has been a financially difficult year and many are struggling to just make it from day to day. But, what does God have to say about our finances and our future?

1. Don't Make Decisions Based on Fear

Fear is a bad state of mind to be in when needing to make a financial decision. Immediate or sudden decisions can result in a big life-altering of pain and hardship. Psalm 25:12; 32:8 / Proverbs 11:14; 15:22

to win the battle. The same thing goes with this spiritual war that we are in.

It is through prayer we communicate with the Father and He communicate back. So, what happens when we pray? It is through prayer we are strengthen, receive revelation, receive power, etc. Prayer is necessary for us to be effective in the Kingdom of God. When we stop praying we become weak (in the faith) , weak (in our witness), and weak (in our homes). When we stop praying, the enemy gains an advantage over us. When we do not pray, we leave our children, family members, and other friends, that are not saved. vulnerable to the attacks of the enemy. Fervent prayer of the righteous will keep the enemy out of the churches and our homes

Our prayers have to be in line with God's word and we must believe that when we pray, God is faithful to answer. God watches over His word to perform it.

PRAY

UNTIL

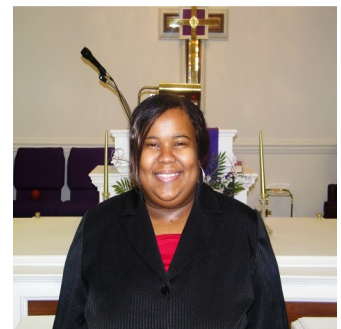
SOMETHING

HAPPEN



2. Recognize Your Source

God is the One who provides our finances; our jobs are not our source— God is. So when positions disappear, we don't have to feel hopeless, because God is not limited. He can provide for us through other means, in ways we may not have imagined or are able to figure out ahead of time. 2 Corinthians 9:10 / Matthew 6:26



The theme for PWE 2010 is "This Battle is the Lords Spiritual Warfare"

We solicit your prayers as we prepare to make this the best conference ever. We ask that you keep our PWE president, vice-president, and the committee members uplifted. Tuesday and Wednesday are P.W.E. fast and prayer days. Please remember us in your prayers.

Thank You



Confessions of a Survivor of Clinical Depression

I'm a survivor

No, I didn't win a million dollars by out-playing, outlasting and outwitting contestants on a *reality* TV show. A decade ago I survived a different jungle: clinical depression. My **pastoral ministry** at Crossroads Covenant Church in Concord, Calif., was thriving. Attendance was up. Complaints were down. Then, without warning, I lost my balance and fell into a dark emotional basement. Years of workaholic tendencies led me to the top of the stairs, but a couple of unexpected events tripped me up:

It was more than I could handle. One day life seemed meaningless. The next day I felt the same. I was continuously sad. No matter how I tried, I couldn't concentrate for any length of time. I saw the blue sky and green hills surrounding the church as black and white (mostly black). I'll never forget the emotional paralysis I felt standing before the congregation on Easter Sunday. They were expecting good news about the power of the living Christ made possible by the empty tomb. As far as I was concerned, it was still Good Friday. I felt like a hypocrite.

My superintendent recommended a sabbatical, but the church board said it wasn't feasible financially. Ministry had to continue, and I had no choice but to gut it out and pack a survival kit. Here are several invaluable items that helped me continue to pastor while coming up from the basement of depression.

1. A Christian therapist

Though it was initially hard, I took the medicine I'd prescribed through the years to numerous couples: I sought a counselor. When he told me my condition had a name, I had reason to hope. My condition was curable. His capable insight and prayerful counsel gave me courage to admit my failures and face my fears.

2. Journal

One of my counselor's suggestions was to journal. Given my diagnosis, anger, apathy and confusion were to be expected. They were also worthy of being chronicled. Because my soul was parched, I wasn't motivated to spend

time with the Lord. Yet, I didn't mind writing Him notes that documented my dilemma. evaluate my thoughts.

3. Confession

I was in too much inner pain and turmoil to pretend. I candidly admitted to the congregation one Sunday that I was clinically depressed. I told them I was seeing a Christian counselor. I asked them to pray for me. In addition I asked them to be patient with me while I healed. My initial fear — that such an admission would result in rejection — was unfounded. The cards and letters (and even some grating telephone rings) reminded me I was loved.

4. Preaching aids

Thank God for the *50-Day Spiritual Adventure*, a preaching and worship resource. A pastor in depression is in survival mode. Thus, I was grateful for whatever resources I could find that saved time and energy. Then I cut back on non-essential tasks at church. General visitation was put on hold. Non-emergency calls were handled by other staff. Non-personal mail was sorted and distributed to members of the board, according to the committee hats they wore.

5. Pastoral care

For the first time, I consciously took care of the pastor. My wife got the kids to school while I slept in, drank coffee and watched "The Today Show." When I told the board I was bone weary and needed more rest, they didn't protest. . The more rest I got, the more energy returned.

6. Family time

As I came back to my senses, I recognized that my wife and children were members of my congregation with whom I hadn't spent much time ministering. So I took time to make up for that oversight. We went for walks, picnics, day trips on Saturdays to the beach. We watched television. Would you believe I even played dolls with my girls on the family room floor? My wife and daughters loved and accepted me simply for my presence — as fragile as it was. In the atmosphere of their unconditional love, the black clouds of despair eventually lifted.

It's been almost 11 years since my nine-month bout with depression. Interestingly, I can say that my life is richer for the experience. No, I didn't win a million dollars or become a television celebrity. But I did survive. And in the process I tasted flavors of God's grace and gained understanding of my own limits — limits I previously didn't know existed.

Excerpts from Parsonage.org
Greg Asimakopoulos



If you are a Pastor or Minister's wife and need prayer, please feel to contact us. Know that you are not alone and that God loves you and so do we.

First Lady Sylvia Hooper
1-910-762-6024

First Lady Teresa Pickett
1-910-789-0944





Married To A Pastor What Pastor's Wives Wish Their Husband's Knew About Them

By Barbera Milioni

My husband and I know that for us to have a good relationship, we need to understand each other's needs and expectations. Dr. James Dobson wrote a wonderful book called, *What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women*, Here are a few excerpts and additions-especially for pastors.

Love Me

I need to know I am more important to my husband than board meetings and men's gym night

Love Our Family

There are many ministers in , but our kids have only one dad.

Know My Limits

Contrary to popular belief, Pastor Wives are not Auditioning for the role of Super Woman.

Protect Me

Physically, spiritually, emotionally. When our ministry began, deacons wives would sometimes ask me about juicy tidbits of information their husbands had told them after a meeting. I had no clue as to what they were talking about. It wasn't that my husband was leaving me out; he was protecting me.

Laugh With me, Never At Me

There are some things I'd rather the congregation not know about. I don't want to be the subject of a sermon illustration or joke if it will hurt my

feelings or humiliate me. I never want my husband to use a story from our lives without first asking my permission.

Pray For Me

I struggle not only with my own battles, but also with the awareness of my husband's burden for the flock. So, I want Mark to pray that I will be sensitive to his needs, that I will be wise in my counsel, that I will be gentle with my tongue and that our home will always be one in which he is happy to return. And while he is at it, I want him to pray just for me, personally.

Taken from Pastor's Family Bulletine
March 1999
www.Parsonage.org

MOTHER'S DAY POEMS

Said A Mother's Prayer For You

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you to thank the Lord above for blessing me with a lifetime of your tenderhearted love. I thanked God for the caring you've shown me through the years, for the closeness we've enjoyed in time of laughter and of tears. And so, I thank you from the heart for all you've done for me and I bless the Lord for giving me the best mother there could be!

Author Unknown

My Mother Kept A Garden

My Mother kept a garden, a garden of the heart, She planted all the good things that gave my life it's start. She turned me to the sunshine and encouraged me to dream, Fostering and nurturing the seeds of self-esteem... And when the winds and rain came, she protected me enough

But not too much because she knew I'd need to stand up strong and tough. Her constant good example always taught me right from wrong- Markers for my pathway that will last a lifetime long. I am my Mother's garden. I am her legacy- And I hope today she feels the love reflected back from me

Author Unknown

Mother's Trivia Believe It Or Not

Mothers Day Trivia:

Youngest Mother

The youngest mother whose history is authenticated is Lina Medina, who delivered a 6½-pound boy by cesarean section in Lima, Peru in 1939, at an age of **5 years and 7 months**. The child was raised as her brother and only discovered that Lina was his mother when he was 10.

Mothers Day Trivia: **Oldest Mother**

On April 9, 2003, Satyabhama Mahapatra, a **65-year-old** retired schoolteacher in India, became the world's oldest mother when she gave birth to a baby boy. Satyabhama and her husband had been married 50 years, but this is their first child. The baby was conceived through artificial insemination using eggs from the woman's 26-year-old niece, Veenarani Mahapatra, and the sperm of Veenarani's husband.





**TELL SOME-
BODY**

BY
LADY SYLVIA B. HOOPER

“Honor Thy Mother”

“AND GOD SPAKE ALL THESE WORDS, SAYING I AM THE LORD THY GOD, WHICH HAVE BROUGHT THEE OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT, OUT OF THE HOUSE OF BONDAGE.” EXODUS 20:1
“HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER: THAT THY DAYS MAY BE LONG UPON THE LAND WHICH THE LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE.” EXODUS 20:12

Mother- One who gives birth to or raises and nurtures a child;

A female parent; A woman who holds a position of authority or responsibility

Honor – Recognition of one’s right to great respect

Mother’s Day is a national holiday observed on the second Sunday in May of each year for the appointment of honoring mothers. Looking at the history of Mother’s Day, we find that Mother’s Day was first proclaimed in 1870 in the United States. Julia Ward Howe called for it to be observed each year at the national level in 1872. The original idea behind Howe’s Mothers Day was a call for Pacifism and disarmament by all the women. Later, Anna Jarvis, followed by her daughter, launched a quest to get wider recognition for Mother’s Day. As the custom for Mothers Day celebration spread, its focus shifted from pacifism and reform movement to a general appreciation, and admirations of mothers. Later, on May 14, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill pro-

claiming Mother’s Day as a national holiday celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

Here we are today, still observing Mother’s Day on the second Sunday in May.

While commercialization has taken over the initial concept of Mother’s Day, many sons and daughters look forward to making phone calls, attending church with mothers, writing letters, and even sending gifts, cards, and flowers to their mothers to recognize their right to respect at this time of year.

While history credits both Julia Ward Howe and Anna Jarvis with initiating the concept of Mothers Day celebrations, we still must refer to the Word of God where we see the original concept of “motherhood” was and still is, God’s idea! In Genesis 3:20, scripture shows us that the first woman recorded in history biblically speaking is Mother Eve, because she was the mother of all living. In Genesis 4:1, after Eve conceived and bore her first child, a son named Cain, she said, **“I have gotten a man from the Lord.”** Being the first “mother”, we must take note of her knowledge, spiritual insight, and understanding, that while Adam, her husband, gave her the seed for that first baby, the Lord God, being the Creator and giver of Life, was the source of her blessing and the fruit of her womb.

When God created Eve, he gave her a womb, and built her with the capacity to conceive, carry to term, and give birth to a child, a living soul. He also embraced her

with enough strength, and courage to nurture, nourish, and love her child, as only a mother could do. Motherhood is one of the high callings of God, that comes straight from the heart of God.

When God gave his Law to his servant Moses for the people of God, in Exodus chapter 20, each and every law was given for their own good and posterity. When he referenced to bringing them out of the land of Egypt, and out of the house of bondage, today’s church can relate to our deliverance out of sin and bondage into the kingdom of His dear Son, Jesus Christ. In Exodus 20:12, God said, **“Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.”** God’s Word is eternal and His promise is true. Numbers 23:19 says, **“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”** We should all take heed to this commandment, that we may enjoy a long and fulfilled life. If God has placed a special woman in your life who has birthed, raised, or nurtured you, why not seize the opportunity to honor her in some special way? Life is short and in order to live and die with no regrets, we must seek to hear and obey God’s Word to the best of our ability. When your mother is dead and gone, God will remember what he promised and will bless **you** for your obedience to His **Word** and faithfulness to **Him**. He will make it good! Tell Somebody,

Happy Mother’s Day!!!

