

NEWSLETTER TO THE 

# Women of the Restoration

FROM THE RESTORATION WOMEN'S COUNCIL, CONFERENCE OF RESTORATION ELDERS

## THEME: "SERVANT OF ALL"

TITUS 2:3-4, MATTHEW 20:28, GALATIANS 5:13, MOSIAH 2:27, 1:49

### Equipped to Serve

By Kristin Barrett



"Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, If You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart." How does the Lord equip us so we are ready to say, "I will go Lord"? The simplest thing I can say about being equipped to serve comes from the scripture of the branch being tied to the vine.

A few years ago, we decided to trim all our bushes and trees. We had a huge brush pile. My husband piled them up and said wait. Just wait. Within a couple weeks that giant pile had been reduced to less than a third of its size. All the living leaves wilted and crumbled and died. We waited and waited and then easily stripped them and used the wood for kindling. The leaves turned to dust and blew away in the wind.

It was a great picture of what happens to us if we are not tied to the vine. John 15 says "no branch can bear fruit unless it is tied to the vine." What a simple story. As soon as you remove the branch, it dies, even though it may remain green for a time. Taking up lots of space. Appearing lush and fruitful. But in time it dies.

Over and over and over again, we as a people move out in our own strength. Not being tied to the vine. Sometimes it is out of pride to feel better about ourselves. But to do anything good, to do anything that lasts, that is of worth, we must be tied to the vine.

So, what does this mean? The spirit must be flowing into our lives. Giving us life. Such a simple concept, but so hard to do. Whatever is beautiful, holy, just, true, think on these things.

How do we become "Equipped to serve"? Spend time with the greatest servant. Meditate on his words. Pray to him. Listen to his word. Connect. Connect. Connect. The branch connected to the vine. The only way to serve, is to be tied to the vine.



## CRE Reunion Women's Classes

By Nicole Capps

The Restoration Women's Council was blessed to have classes Monday through Friday during the virtual conference this year. Each woman who taught, centered her class on the daily theme. On Monday, the theme was *Take Up Your Cross Daily & Follow Me*. Julie Anderson shared how preparing our hearts was a vital part of that process. Angie Goff and Bethany Eggenberger taught Tuesday on the theme, *Follow Me & Feed My Sheep*. They shared how we can Ask, Seek (Look- which is the result of expecting), and Knock. Wednesday's theme was *Fear Not to Share Your Testimony at a Moment's Notice* taught by Barb Capps. She shared personal testimonies and the testimonies of others and reminded us to not hide our lights under a bushel. Sheila Schrunk taught Thursday's class on *Humble Yourselves Under the Mighty Hand of God, That He May Exalt You*. Her testimonies of learning to be humble and walking in humility encouraged me to check my own heart to see what areas I was not walking in humility. Our final class on Friday was taught by Lauren Nixon. The theme was *Come Unto Christ and Be Perfected in Him*. Lauren emphasized the important role our minds take in the process of becoming perfected in Christ.

Overall, the week was such a blessing and I know so many of you joined us for the classes online. If you missed any of the classes, you can search the link below.

[bit.ly/RWCreunionclasses](http://bit.ly/RWCreunionclasses)



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## Solemn Assembly

By Karen Parker

We are tired of brokenness. We are longing for God to make something out of all the broken pieces and we are ready to get out of the way and yield to Him do it His way. How about you? Are you separated from anyone because of differing beliefs? Is it time to find common ground? Are we able to agree that we all need to repent? We have a wonderful opportunity as Saints to be able to be of one accord for sixty days.

We would like to extend to you an invitation to a Solemn Assembly called by the Coordinating Council of the Conference of Restoration Elders. If you don't already have access to the materials that the Council has published concerning the call to a Solemn Assembly, you can find them here: <http://www.eldersconference.org/Solemn-Assembly.php>

As we contemplated what we could say about the Solemn Assembly that has not already been said, a couple of phrases from the scriptures came to mind - touch one thing and be of one accord. Studying together the preparation guide that the Coordinating Council has made available, encourages us all to focus on the

same scriptures for sixty days. We will all be touching one thing as we open our scriptures in preparation to gather together. What a beautiful promise we find in D & C 6:15b “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, as touching one thing, behold there will I be in the midst of them...” How we long for Him to be with us. A body coming together to singularly express its repentance, as a whole and as members, is promised to be in the presence of the Lord – to whatever degree He would choose to manifest Himself. Could you use a heavenly visit about now?



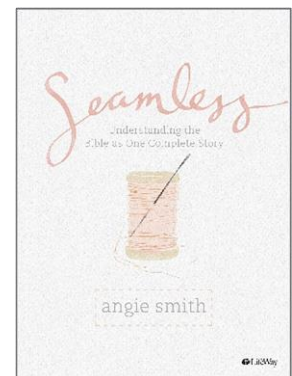
We ask that you consider joining in the preparation for the Solemn Assembly. In a season where there is so much that we can disagree about, we can agree to be in the Word and fast and pray. As Paul said in Philippians 2:2 - “Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.” We will change individually and as a body if we devote the time to do so. When we are humbly partaking of the same heavenly diet, our minds are all focused on the same thing – applying the same passage of God's word to our lives and willingly changing where the Spirit shows us we are not inline. Let us take this opportunity to put in action the words of a hymn; “Turn our eyes upon Jesus and look full in His wonderful face so the things of earth with grow strangely dim.” We can trade the distractions of this world for a step closer to having Zion conditions today. Will you join us?

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## **Seamless** by Angie Smith

Reviewed by Angela Goff

In seven sessions, Seamless covers the people, places and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Participants will gain an overarching understanding of the fundamental layout and meaning of God's Word. Seamless helps replace insecurity that holds participants back with clarity and helping them move forward with confidence in their understanding of Scripture. Each week of study features key information that ties all of scripture together into the seamless truth of the gospel message and is accompanied by maps, general Bible facts, and word studies.



I recently completed this book study with friends. It was a fantastic study! I now have a wonderful resource to use alongside my Bible. The depth of history and timelines brought to life the Old and New Testament for me. Angie Smith is the wife of lead singer, Todd Smith of the Christian group Selah. She does a fabulous job (along with a bit of humor) sharing the message of Christ through scripture.

# Testimonies:

## Servanthood

By Jessica Tandy

This summer I had the opportunity to participate in the Book of Mormon Internship, which was a blessed experience of learning and growth. One theme that impacted me during our six weeks was that of servanthood, which we studied in scripture and put into practice. For our first service project together, we visited Team Jesus in Independence, MO. This ministry strives to meet the needs of the homeless community, whom they call the “Beloveds” as a reminder that each person is treasured by God. Our offering was small in light of their everyday efforts, but we worked outside for a couple hours, trimming trees, weed whacking, edging the sidewalk, and so on. The time we spent serving side by side bonded our group closer together, which is an important lesson I have learned anew.

After we worked, we were blessed further as the pastor served us an unexpected lunch, then gave a tour of the facility. Pastor Brian testified of God’s goodness and the vision the Lord has given them for future projects. Also, he emphasized to us that first you must meet people’s physical and mental needs, and then you can testify of Christ more effectively because you have shown them who He is by your deeds. That statement stayed with me—meet people’s needs first.



This concept came full circle later, as our final class was all about servanthood. The Book of Mormon holds many examples of the church both in righteous and unrighteous states. We studied how when the people were truly righteous, they fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and supported the poor and needy—inside and outside of the church. When the people fell into pride, they ceased doing these things, and it says that the work of the church was hindered because of it. Learning this amazed me. The scriptures consistently represent who Christ is, and our call to show His love is crystal clear.

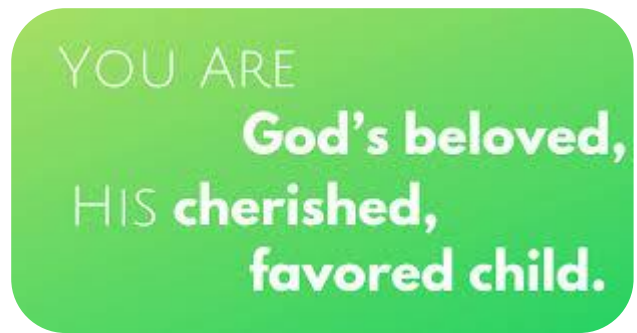
I wish I could end with a story of putting this knowledge into action, but I am still learning how to hear God’s leading in spontaneous situations and figuring out how best to serve in this phase of life. However, through these experiences and studies, the Lord has convicted me to prioritize servanthood; to be intentional about putting love into action, so that my life will witness of Christ and the doors might be opened to share the gospel with others.



## Serving the Beloved

By Anna Burford

For our first service project, we went to Team Jesus to clean up the outside of their building. Team Jesus' goal is to bring ministry to the Beloved homeless. After we did our work, the pastor took us on a tour of the building and explained how they help the homeless. One thing that the pastor kept saying to us was, "Meet their needs and then you can share with them about Jesus." One of the places that particularly caught my interest was the two rooms which he said they were going to make into clinics for doctors to work in and provide the much-needed care for the Beloved. I felt this nudge in my heart saying, "You could help." I thought that was an interesting thought. I am going to start school this fall to become a dental hygienist. After I had that thought placed in my head, I mentioned to one of the interns standing next to me that it would be cool if I could volunteer to help there. The nudge became stronger as we went through the tour. I said to our female staff that I would like to volunteer my time. But then I felt this incredible push to tell the pastor of this desire in my heart. I heard the voice in my head tell me that it was not enough to tell my friends but that I needed to tell the pastor. Just before we left, I was able to talk to the pastor and I told him about my dental hygiene schooling and how I wanted to, if possible, volunteer my time to clean the Beloved's teeth. He got so excited; his face just glowed. He said, "I am going to hold you to that! I am going to be looking for you!" Then as we were leaving, the pastor prayed. The last thing that he prayed for was for me, "asking the Lord to bless me and thanked the Lord for me." That was pretty overwhelming as I was having questions run through my head of how I would even be able to provide this help. But I was reminded of my Patriarchal Blessing in which I was told that many are crying, hurting, and losing hope and that I am to bring that hope to them and to share the love of God with them. I do not know what the Lord has planned for the future, but I do know that He will provide the way for me to do His will and I am so glad that I did listen to the nudging in my heart and that I took that step of faith.



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## Gathering In

By Priest Pete Peterson and Dawn Peterson

Pete and I knew we would one day live in the land called Zion. But it took a while to get here and it took sacrifice and still does.

Fourteen years ago, we were at a wedding for my cousin, in Atherton, MO. After the wedding, we drove around to see the sights being that we had not been to in Missouri before. Pete was a convert to the church, so it was something new and special.

As we drove around, we thought we would really like to settle here in this area. But it was not to happen yet. The Lord spoke to each of us with that small voice and said, “not yet.” Okay not yet, but that is not a “no.”

Through the years after that experience we would think of gathering and again would receive the, “not yet” however, “not yet” changed to “soon” I believe back in 2012. This got us excited. However, the Lord’s “soon” and our understanding of “soon” are two different “soons.”

We had things in our lives and home that we needed to purge and to repent for before we were going to be ready to receive the call to gather. Things of this world that were getting in the way of our spiritual walk with God.



One of the things we should have been doing, but wasn’t preparing to move, was fixing the house and the deck up. These two things came back to bite us in the end. You know the story about the Ant and the Grasshopper. We were being the grasshopper.

When the Lord gave us the, “Move, Move Quickly,” in July of 2020, we were actually surprised and caught off guard. The Lord needed to tell us three more times for it to sink in that it was time and we needed to get a move on. We didn’t know it at the time, but we only had seven months.

We started looking for jobs in Missouri after this and housing. We were not having much luck with finding jobs and housing 800 miles away. We were in a hard place. So, one-night Pete prayed for help, asking the Lord to find the job and housing for us, because we could not do it on our own. I was struggling at this time with the thoughts of leaving my parents who have always been a constant source of comfort and strength for me. So, my prayer to the Lord was for peace of mind and coming to terms with leaving everyone and everything I knew for a different life serving the Lord.

The next day we received a call from a company in Missouri that was interested in Pete. The interesting thing about this company is that Peter never finished this application. Well, three interviews later, Pete had a job in Missouri, and we had a leaving date, we had three weeks.

At this same time, my friend Monica called me; she had found a house that she thought would work for us. Pete and I got with the owner and looked over the house. It was everything we were looking for. It was perfect. We made an agreement with the owner and now we had a place to live.

Everything was falling into place and moving quickly. I was however, still struggling with leaving my parents and dishonoring them by leaving, our congregation is small and all the members we had are mainly family. I asked the Lord to help me in understanding what I needed to do. As I read in Matthew a scripture jumped out to me. Matthew 10:32 “He who loveth father and mother more than me is not worthy of me;” Well there it was, I had to make my choice. I went to my mom that Sunday and told her everything. I showed her the scripture and told her I was choosing the Lord and to gather as he has directed us to do. It was not easy and there was a lot of emotions that day. My mom hugged me and said she knew this day would come. I thanked her for her understanding and asked her to help me tell Dad which she did. I love these two people, and this was the hardest sacrifice I had to make leaving them. Material possessions are nothing compared to them. Not only did I leave my parents behind, but I left my eldest son and his new wife and all my sisters, brothers, cousins and their families.

The day of moving had come. My friend from Missouri had flown in to help with packing and driving. We ended up purging close to 75% of our material possessions to make it to the Center Place. We felt like we were truly fleeing to Zion.

We made it to Independence, Missouri on March 11, 2020 just a week before the lockdown because of the COVID-19 that struck the United States.

We had struggles along the way, and we continue too. We are fighting on the frontlines and this is not Zion yet. God is calling His people home to work and work hard. Every day we are met with a new challenge and we get through it with the help of God. With Faith and knowing our Heavenly Father will not let us down. He is always here, and he wants to bless us and provide for us. We need to also do our part and be on our knees praying, fasting, studying, and reading. Praising His name from whom all blessings flow.



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## Mounds

By Rachel Mann



This year, the 2020 Book of Mormon interns visited the two Native American mound sites as part of their trip. They began their experience by visiting the Cahokia Mounds near Saint Louis and they ended their trip by visiting the Great Serpent Mound in Adams County, Ohio. Cahokia is one of the most sophisticated North American settlements known to archaeologists. The site features several burial mounds, replicas of the former city's defensive walls, and Monk's Mound, one of the largest Native American mounds in North America. The interns arrived at the Cahokia Mounds on a very warm July day. They read the informational signs, observed the replica city walls, and then climbed up to the top of Monk's Mound. From the top of the Mound, many miles of the surrounding land became visible. The St. Louis Arch can be seen from this spot. It is here that a real sense of the vastness of this city can be imagined. Each mound was built by piling basket-loads of dirt on top of one another.

It is incredible to think about the ancient societies that once lived in the same lands that we do today. The Great Serpent Mound is one large, winding mound in the shape of a snake. The site includes a viewing platform that visitors can climb to get an aerial view of the mass. While there, the interns were able to walk around the area and to read various informational signs about the mound. Each of these historic sites had informational centers that visitors could look through. In each facility, there were various displays about ancient cultures and how they lived. Although each of these centers featured information about relics and artifacts found in the areas, there is still a lot of knowledge presented that is highly based on speculation. There is no clear understanding of the dynamics of the Cahokia culture, and there is also no fully understood explanation for the purpose of the Serpent Mound.

Even though these people may not have been the people we read about in the Book of Mormon, they were still people that the Lord directed and worked with. Man does not have a full understanding of all the ways that God has worked with people over the course of time. He is beyond our comprehension, and we only have small glimpses into the ways He has worked throughout history. The Book of Mormon interns were very blessed to have been able to visit these sites. We all learned more about the vastness and complexities of ancient cultures and were able to better picture the lives of the people in the Book of Mormon. It was a very worthwhile trip, and I praise God for allowing us to participate in the internship this year.

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## The Wyoming Church

By Monica Rush

My family and I were vacationing in the breathtaking state of Wyoming. We stopped at a grocery store and bought lunch with hopes of stopping at a roadside park to enjoy the scenery and get a break from driving in the car. We kept driving and driving with no options to enjoy our lunch. As I was driving and looking for a spot to stop, I said a short prayer asking the Lord for a church with a tree over the driveway or parking lot to park the car, stretch and eat. Within a mile I came around a curve between the mountains and saw the perfect place. There sat a church with a gravel u-shaped driveway out front with one huge tree shadowing part of that driveway. PERFECT! I slowed down quickly with everyone in the car asking me what I was doing stopping in the middle of nowhere. I told them stopping for lunch as I pointed towards our country church parking lot respite. We all agreed it was a great choice. After we settled in and were eating, I told them what I prayed. Everyone agreed God was generous in answering my prayer and meeting our needs. God even met a need we did not know we needed. The church had no running water but had two outhouses in which we could use (and I do NOT use outhouses!!).



Make me a servant,  
humble and meek



## Hymn History:

### I Will Go Where You Want Me to Go

A hymn which encourages us to do the Lord's will with a sincere heart in various areas of service such as going wherever He sends us is "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go" (#238 in the blue hymnal). The text of stanza 1 is attributed to Mary Brown (1856-1918). There may have been a Mary Brown who lived in Jewett City, CN, during the last decades of the 19th century, although some authorities now think that perhaps the first stanza was possibly written under that pseudonym by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel (1856-1932). The tune (Manchester) was composed by Carrie Esther Rounsefell (1861-1930). Born in Merrimack, NH, the daughter of James A. and Clara A. Parker, she moved with her family to Manchester, NH, while still a child. There she married William E. Rounsefell, a bookkeeper.



In 1894 when Mrs. Rounsefell visiting at Lynn, MA, and the minister at the local Baptist Church gave her a copy of the first stanza, which must have been penned about or before that time, attributed to Mary Brown, and asked her to provide a tune for it. First sung in a revival service there and then printed in song sheet form for use at the Bowdoin Square Church in Boston, MA, the song's earliest appearance in a hymnbook was in *Best Hymns No. 2*, compiled by Harold F. Sayles and Elisha A. Hoffman, published in 1895 by the Evangelical Publishing Co. of Chicago, IL.

The song suggests some things that we can do in the Lord's service.

- I. The first stanza says that we should go where He wants us to go "It may not be on the mountain's height, Or over the stormy sea; It may not be at the battle's front My lord will have need of me; But if I am needed anywhere In paths that I do not know, I'll answer, dear Lord, with my hand in Thine, I'll go where You want me to go."
  - a. Wherever they go, be it on the mountain's height, over the stormy sea, or even at the battle's front, the Lord wants His people to go everywhere preaching the word: Acts 8:4
  - b. The original of stanza 1, line 5 was, "But if by a still, small voice He calls to paths that I do not know." If we understand this as the Lord speaking to each of us by His word, then we should be able to sing it with no problem. However, to avoid the possibility of thinking that this is talking about God speaking directly to us, some books changed it to, "But if I am needed anywhere in paths that I do not know." In any event, we need to go wherever we have the ability and opportunity to teach others-whether across borders and seas to foreign lands, or across the street to our neighbors: Matt 28:19-20
  - c. We know that Jesus wants His people to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature": Mk 16:15-16. Therefore, my attitude should be, "I'll go where You want me to go."
- II. The second stanza tells us that we should say what He wants us to say "Perhaps today there are loving words Which Jesus would have me speak; There may be now in the paths of sin Some wanderer whom I should seek; O Savior, if Thou wilt be my guide, Though dark and rugged the way, My voice shall echo Thy message sweet, I'll say what You want me to say."
  - a. Yes, there are loving words which Jesus would have us speak-they are found in the gospel of salvation: Rom 1:16

- b. Yes, there are now in the paths of sin some wanderers whom we should seek-cf.: Acts 18:9-10, 2 Cor. 5:10-21
  - c. Therefore, our voices need to echo His message sweet by teaching other also: 2 Tim 2:2. If Jesus is truly my guide, though dark and rugged the way, my attitude needs to be, "I'll say what You want me to say."
- III. The third stanza tells us that we should be what He wants us to be "There's surely somewhere a lowly place, In earth's harvest fields so wide, Where I may labor through life's short day For Jesus, the Crucified; so trusting my all to Thy tender care, And knowing Thou lovest me, I'll do Thy will with a heart sincere, I'll be what You want me to be."
- a. Surely these is a place for each of us in earth's harvest field so wide where we may labor: Matt 9:35-38
  - b. But to do so, we must trust our all to His tender care and remember the He loves us: Heb. 13:5-6, 1 Pet 5:7
  - c. And with this determination, we can do His will with a heart sincere, and His will is that we be good examples to the people of this world: Matt 5:14-16, 1 Tim 4:12. Hence, my attitude in the service of Christ is that "I'll be what You want me to be."

Conclusion: The chorus repeats the three main aspects of our service to Jesus Christ mentioned in the stanzas: "I'll go where You want me to go, dear Lord, Over mountain, or plain, or sea; I'll say what you want me to say, dear Lord, I'll be what you want me to be." As we strive to serve Christ in this life, each Christian should have the kind of attitude toward doing the Lord's will that he or she will always say to Him, "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go."

<https://hymnstudiesblog.wordpress.com/2008/07/15/quoti039ll-go-where-you-want-me-to-goquot/>





## Fall Classes:

The Restoration Women's Council is happy to announce that the Tuesday morning classes that were being taught by Pat Chadwick will be livestreamed from Oak Grove Restoration Branch beginning on September 8. Classes will be held each Tuesday from September 8 – November 24. Pat along with several amazing women have some wonderful classes lined up for us. At this time, the classes will be held virtually. Please watch the Restoration Women's Facebook page for more information. Below are the themes and speakers that we have at this time.



### **Making Righteous Judgments**

September 8 – Do I Make Righteous Judgments? – **Pat Chadwick**

September 15 – Following the leadings of the Holy Spirit – **Jill Etter**

September 22 – Speaking no Evil, Forgiving One Another and Being Kind and Tenderhearted – **Jill Etter**

September 29 – Becoming God's hands and feet upon the earth, witnessing of Him to others & ministering to others - **Sylvia Powell**

### **Being Without Guile**

October 6 – Am I Without Guile? – **Pat Chadwick**

October 13 – Walking in Jesus' Footsteps - TBD

October 20 – Developing the Fruits of the Spirit & Producing Good Fruit for Christ – **Emily Cain**

October 27 – Pressing forward, with unshaken faith and brightness of hope – **Susan Freeze**

### **Humility**

November 3 – Am I willing to enter into the depths of humility? – **Pat Chadwick**

November 10 – Trusting God and putting your hand in His hand allowing Him to lead you on your life's journey – **Judith Hawley**

November 17- Confessing God's hand in your life and obeying God's commandments – **Anita Brotherton**

November 24 – Yielding your heart to God – **Liz Smith**



# EQUIPPED TO SERVE

Send me forth

Please join us in a weekend of worship and fellowship with the ladies. In addition to our classes, we will be making lap blankets for the New Haven Living Center, visiting with nearby saints, and other fun activities. These weekends are always rejuvenating, and spirit filled. We would love for you to come and worship with us.

\*\*\*Lafayette County has issued a mask order through the end of September. With this order we will plan on holding the classes and activities outside at the tabernacle. If the weather does not permit this, we will be inside.

September 19-20

Registration begins at  
8:30

Odessa Hills  
Campground

6505 Odessa Hills Rd,  
Odessa, MO

Speakers:

Cara Smith

Zoey Gard



Please RSVP to:

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by September 12

## 2020-21 Women's Council Members

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Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

### Find us on facebook



**Restoration  
Women's Council**

Restoration Women's Council  
Conference of Restoration Elders  
P.O. Box 4085  
Independence, MO 64051

### Women's Leader Brunch

(for Branch women's leaders and  
their assistants)

October 17, 2020 (place to TBD)

Save  
the  
Date

**THE GREATEST**  
*is*  
**SERVANT**  
**OF ALL**

## **EIGHT** Promises of God to **count on** in **CRISIS**

### **ONE** He is working all for our good.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. **ROMANS 8:28**

### **TWO** He will complete his work.

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **PHILLIPIANS 1:6**

### **THREE** He carries us.

Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. **PSALM 68:19**

### **FOUR** He strengthens us.

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. **ISAIAH 40:31**

### **FIVE** His grace is sufficient for us.

So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:12**

### **SIX** His goodness is satisfying.

"I will satisfy the priests with abundance, and my people will be filled with my bounty," declares the Lord. **JEREMIAH 31:14**

### **SEVEN** He will not allow you to be tempted beyond your ability.

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. **1 CORINTHIANS 10:13**

### **EIGHT** He gives us rest.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. **MATTHEW 11:28-30**

[www.HeartsatHome.org](http://www.HeartsatHome.org)

