



# The Sparrow

Even the sparrow finds a home...at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Psalm 84:3

Just a little bird encouraging you to fly...

VOLUME 15

## POETRY HIGHLIGHT

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## EVENT SCHEDULE

Find the calendar for our meetings, support groups, and mentoring by visiting [www.shellywilsonministries.org](http://www.shellywilsonministries.org).

## EDITOR'S PICK

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### It Wasn't Him

I waited on this issue of our newspaper because I felt the front page article was needing a whisper from the Lord's heart on something very specific. So I waited until most of the other pieces were in place. Then one morning in prayer I heard the Lord instruct me to "Tell them, it wasn't Me."

Some of you have been abused and harmed by people. Violated as a little child. Hurt by those who were even supposed to protect you. The abuses seemed to follow you throughout your life into other relationships. You've wondered if you can even trust the Lord because you've been asking all your life, "Where was He?"

When your husband should have loved and cherished you, he drove you nearly to a mental hospital. For some of you, your father was anything but protective and loving. Even some of your sweet hearts have had mothers tell you how you'll never amount to anything. You've known nothing but harsh words instead of kindness. Others of you fell prey to wolves in sheep's clothing. People who were placed in leadership roles who used their power and position to take advantage of you and when you blew the whistle, no one would listen. But the Lord wants you to know that this was never His will for you. He formed you in the womb with a perfect love fully committed to you. What hurt you has also hurt Him. The freewill of mankind seems good until it's used for the wickedness that you endured. Yet, Jesus was there bottling every tear, weeping with you, mourning with you, and

grieving over all the pain. His justice is sure even when you do not yet see it. Nothing will go without consequence, dear one, for righteousness and justice are the very foundations of His throne.

What He does want to do now is heal you. He will take all of those broken pieces and make something beautiful. He has never once left you. You've never been unseen by Him. You were never abandoned. He quietly kept you. He even sang over you while you slept. The enemy came for you because he knows how much Christ adores you. The kingdom of darkness is very real and it sees who, to a measure, you will become should you take Christ up on His healing. The enemy fears your healing process because it will one day pour wisdom into other hearts in need. All of your pain will become a salve for broken-hearts and the devil trembles over you finding out who you are in Christ.

God knows there is a breach in your relationship with Him but He is fully willing to prove His love to you again and again. He is not offended by your heart cries, "I don't know if I can trust even you, Lord." He is not dismissive over your trauma either. Each trigger He

plans on helping to heal. Every memory He wants to fully talk through so that you can safely process all the pain that's been unspoken. "It wasn't Him" that sent the abuse and misuse. It wasn't Him that abandoned or rejected you. It wasn't Him that caused the wickedness of those who should have safeguarded you. It was the agenda of Hell.

Christ wants to reintroduce Himself to you. Will you let Him? He is a good Father and a good Shepherd. The enemy has used your pain to distort your view of the Lord. But Christ wants you to know "It wasn't Him." It was the enemy of your soul, the father of lies, the master of deception, the accuser of the brethren. But the Light of the World wants to come into those darkened places locked away in your heart and heal your wounds. Can you take that step now and place all of your pain into His hands? What could it hurt? Perhaps you will see for yourself the truth His heart is longing for you to know.

*It wasn't Him.*

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# Who we are...

# Editor Letters

Nestled in Troup, Texas is an equipping ministry, founded by Shelly Wilson, mobilizing women for Kingdom purpose. Within the walls are intimate classes to dig deep into the Word of God, support groups to heal broken hearts, prayer for healing and deliverance, as well as a global print magazine and radio station releasing women and girls who proclaim Christ around the world.

Shelly's music and publications are tools to share Christ in a world in need of Him. Her magazines have been used as letters of encouragement to many a stranger. She delights in sharing her life with Christ with others through music, poetry, Love Letters by Mail and God's Word. She has a tenderness of heart for the broken and a desire to set captives free. She is known to be a champion for those who have lost their voice.

For mentoring, appointments, and class schedules please go to our website or call 903-969-5406.

## MINISTRY MISSION

*To see women healed and set free to fulfill their ministries. To equip women to walk in their ordained gifts freely and confidently with Christ. To release the voices of women proclaiming Christ through music, publishing, and radio media.*

*Dear Reader,*

I pray so much The Sparrow newspaper will be an encouragement to your heart in this season. We would like to offer to you an opportunity to write to us and let us know what may have encouraged you in this particular issue. Jesus has a beautiful way of speaking to everyone uniquely and knows exactly what every heart needs. We trust that He has helped compile this set of writings for you in this hour with a right-on-time word. It is my most heartfelt prayer that every word written gives weary hearts strength, doubting hearts hope, and sleeping hearts the call to awaken to the King of Glory.

To write a Letter to the Editor you may either email us at [info@shellywilson.com](mailto:info@shellywilson.com) or by snail mail to P.O. Box 220 Troup, Texas 75789

We look forward to hearing from your heart.

Love Much,



SHELLY WILSON  
MINISTRIES  
INTERNATIONAL

*equipping women & girls to take their unique place in the Kingdom.*





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## Open Heart Surgery

Sometimes God comes unexpectedly to tenderly peel back an unseen layer in need of a healing because the place is so deep it's even hidden from you. Yet, it has had a voice over you that now needs to be removed.

You're about to move into a higher place with the Lord and that which has been entrusted to you so that wound must now be addressed so it can no longer hinder your destiny and Kingdom assignments.

The heart has a tendency to shut off compartments going into a self-protection mode. It can look like self-sabotaging yourself from receiving intimate relationships. You'll find yourself shrinking back from anyone getting too close. You'll retreat to protect. But while you do, you're also keeping out the wondrous possibilities of love and life.

Skepticism becomes a "thing" because you're waiting for a shoe to drop at all times and your ability to trust is, well, impaired.

But the whole time your heart is hurting and crying out for love and belonging.

"Is there anywhere that I fit?" "Anywhere that will accept me for who I am?" "Can I ever feel safe sharing my heart with someone again?"

So the Lord takes you on a journey into His heart and His nature. He reintroduces Himself to you to unravel all the distortion of the enemy.

While in all the pain a twisting of the heart of God has happened and ultimately you no longer trust Him fully.

It wasn't evident. But He knew there was a breach.

You've taken matters into your own hands so you never would get hurt like "that" again. It's not in your words but in your behaviors that it can be subtly seen.

You can see, now, the beauty of Christ knowing He would walk through such judgement, such rejection, and such betrayal. Yet, His heart never closed off, it remained in the fullness of love. Not without boundaries, but without fear.



And you find yourself in the middle of a much needed surgery where God begins to open up those places and spaces in your heart that have been quietly locked away.

Then He pours more of Himself in so that those places come alive again. There is now courage to love again and courage to be loved again. Courage to fear no evil. For His rod and staff will surely comfort me. You'll notice He has led you to pastures of green now and still waters of peace. And as He reminds you of the table He has set, your enemies can even be seen differently through your own eyes.

Eyes of understanding of their own pain and you no longer need to judge them but pray for them.

And as the Lord closes up your surgery removing every root of bitterness, there is a newness of life that begins to sprout up. And when He looks down at you He sees a place in your garden that is no longer dead, but beginning to flourish with vivid colors and lovely blooms.

And you will not be able but to gently smile at His pursuit of you and you'll find the awe-filled truth that goodness and lovingkindness really do follow you all the days of your life.

And what once was closed He has now opened because He is, indeed, the Good Shepherd.

## Wherever the Wind Blows

Wherever the wind blows  
I must now go  
So my seeds can plant  
And others may grow.

For I play a part  
In God's kingdom plan  
I'm like a Dandelion  
Blown by His wind.

So next time you pick  
A Dandelion so sweet  
Blow and blow hard  
And watch flying seeds.

Remember you, too,  
Are blown by God's wind  
And when He calls you  
You must follow Him.



Join us to become stronger in Christ through healthy boundaries.

Learn how to use your voice and say goodbye to people-pleasing, codependency, and toxic behaviors.

Protect what Jesus has placed inside of you and fulfill your calling with confidence.

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## The Mourning Dove

There once was a sorrowed bird  
Known by the Lord  
She carried many griefs  
Entrusted with many thorns.

Yet on a day when heaviness  
Weighed too strong  
The Lord bent low  
to whisper a song.

My little mourning dove  
Made by My hands  
Feel you do strong  
The pain in the land.

But when your tears fall  
The loveliest of coos  
Rise to My throne  
In a beautiful tune.

Your gifting you see  
Feels the joys and the pains  
The sunshine and rainbows  
And yes, too, the rain.

Entrusted I have My heart unto you  
For sweetness of fellowship  
I'm One now with you.

For how special, dear, are you now to me  
To be a mourning dove  
Who shares in my griefs  
Consider that when those tears start to cry  
It's Heaven that's weeping and Me who's inside.

## Christ in You

When Christ lives in you the above poem makes more sense. Yet, we can still not understand fully that God shares His mysteries with us.

We may at times feel His joy while at other times feel His sorrow. The Lord is emotional and He also made us that way. Emotions are not bad. They actually can be very good and a beautiful way to know the heart of God in a moment.

There was a time that I noticed a woman walking quickly towards the back door after church. I knew instantly she was in pain and trying to make a quick exit before anyone saw her. I could feel the weight of her grief. This was the Lord sharing



His heart for her with me. The grief I was feeling was not mine but hers. God was directing me to go check on her. As I ran out the back door I hollered for her. She turned around wiping tears from her eyes. I explained I remember being in such pain once trying to get out of the public's eye before I broke down. She nodded. I asked if something was wrong. She began to explain a family member has attempted suicide. She was brokenhearted. But look at how lovely it is to have Christ in us willing to move within us with all measures of emotions, even grief, to be able to help someone else in need. This is a perfect example of God being "El ROI, The God who sees me."

Learn to hear, and feel, Him speaking. He is always willing to use us for the sake of others to see that He deeply cares for them. The Holy Spirit leads, guides, and directs. How beautiful it is to trust in Jesus.

## And They Marveled

"And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman..." John 4:27

From one end of the Bible to the other is Jesus overturning the religious mindsets and traditions of a culture rooted in ways soon to be deemed old and finished. It doesn't mean there is no value in what once was but something new was brewing and Jesus was now declaring the past to become the past. Even Isaiah foreshadowed the Messiah and His coming to birth a new thing. But the culture was steeped in law and few could see past it. Something new was on the horizon and His intentional actions beforehand set a new tone for those born of the Spirit. He began to do the unthinkable mirroring the heart of the Kingdom of Heaven. Doing what He saw the Father do. Freeing captives from religious bondage and generations of

oppression. They weren't in Egypt anymore but Egypt was still in them. The religious institutions and its leaders were stunned and offended and even the disciples were "marveling" over Christ and His ways. He was doing something "out of the ordinary." They simply could not understand it. It opposed all they had ever known.

Today our head knowledge is not lacking but our heart knowledge and divine revelation of Jesus is left, at times, wanting. Much like those in Bible days, we have a picture of Christ that's not entirely accurate and the body is suffering because of it. Seminaries and denominations have influenced our thinking with theologies that make no biblical sense. We've accepted lies for truth and partnered with the lording of it over God's people. Today we seem to be still marveling over Christ using women. Yet throughout the ages He has done so. Evidence is consistent with scripture while some of our preaching still is not. I've had some that clearly let me know "I'm not listening to a woman." Ok. So the Word of God changes based on the gender of the one delivering it? Hmmm. Again, no common, or biblical, sense.

Some of us haven't received the blessings we could have had because Jesus sent them through a woman we in turn rejected or refused to hear.

Some of us women have fallen prey to many lies where the scriptures have been used against us and our rights in the Kingdom. The devil has twisted scripture for generations. Many have lacked courage to re-look at the scriptures for fear of being noted as "rebellious." So the approval of man has become more important to us than the truth that sets folks free?

Think it not an important topic to Christ. Think not too lofty of yourself and your dying loyalty to a deeply rooted untruth. Humility is paramount in the Kingdom of God and pride still comes before a fall.

There is nothing as beautiful as letting God unearth a lie. In that very moment where truth is revealed, we see more of the nature of Jesus.

And we, too, will be found marveling at the lovely ways Christ works, perhaps in ways, and with those, we never thought possible.



## The Orphans

I know in our minds we have a certain idea of what an orphan looks like. We reflect on an image of little children and that is surely the case also. A devastating fact. Yet, we have orphans among us.

The Lord has been speaking to me about another kind of orphan. Many are grown. Fatherless. Motherless. Without a secure family. They need safety. Nurturing. Love.

They are walking around hopeless and homeless. Helpless and hurt. With a longing to have spiritual parents who are looking out for them. Helping them grow in Christ. Answering their questions, gently. Those willing to be long-suffering, patient, and kind.

They often go from place to place unseen and unheard. The body seems to neglect them, or even reject them. Thus we've created an environment for an orphan spirit to wander aimlessly.

I believe the heart of God loves preaching but we also need pastoring that includes fathering and mothering.

Two ears to listen.  
One mouth to speak.

Jesus is the good shepherd but for some reason we've no real inclination at times to shepherd. To tend or mend the hearts of men. Yet it is part

of the gospel of Jesus.

Many need to belong to a family and the family of God ought to be the safest place there is. A place where insecurities are quickly put to rest. A place where gifting is encouraged. A place where pain is processed and long-suffering is an active fruit of the Spirit. A place where hearing God is cultivated and uniqueness is celebrated.

Where are the mothers and the fathers of the faith? Those who will stay steady in the lives of those who are anything but. Those who Jesus has designed who refuse to let another live below their birthright. Competition doesn't even enter into their minds. Nor does envy. We have many little orphans and that breaks my heart. But, listen, you've likely got one sitting on your pew. Do you even know it? Who are you pouring into, nurturing, weeping with, or cheering on? Because preaching is necessary but preaching only, well, leaves some things undone. The gospel needs the fullness of the body operating. It is the way God designed it.

It's time to look for the orphans. They might look a bit different than you would expect. They are a little lost. Usually have suffered abuses or misuses. Been neglected or overlooked. Often forgotten. But Jesus sees them and so should we.

One of God's greatest gifts is that He loves to put the lonely in families.

## Patterns

We, each, often have patterns that need to be broken. Places that are not mere personality or designs by God but more of a dysfunction meant to dim, or destroy, what God has planned for us. It is a process of an open heart willing to sit before Jesus and say, "Change this in me."

Some of our ways were never meant to be accepted or celebrated. They were meant to be crucified. The enemy loves our language of "It's just how I am." This cannot be once it is Christ who lives in me. For I must continue to decrease so He might increase. The smallest of patterns keep us in chaos, drains us of divine effectiveness, and leaves a legacy less than God ever intended. Let Him sift us in this season. Rid us of selective hearing. Help us to come into agreement with His heart and mind. His nature is one of freedom rather than bondage.

I recognized in prayer that the Lord placed His gaze upon a pattern in my own life. I had to shake my head: "I see it too, Lord. What shall we do about it?" Because at this point I am now responsible for the work of changing that pattern. He has now revealed it and is beckoning me to partner in the healing of it. It is where I must set my face like flint because in this, too, is the following of Jesus as critical as my days in ministry to broken hearts.

How can that be?

Because that pattern leads me astray even if it's just a little off course. It keeps me bound to a way not designed by God. That pattern will always have a say in how I operate and what I do. It will gain a voice in my life that breeds a confusion I cannot afford to carry into my work and the lives of others.

So, "Change me Lord. Heal me." This must be the cry of our hearts. Let's get to it rather than avoid it.

Let us come humbly into agreement with Christ. Bowing to His loving stare into hidden places within our own hearts.

May every leader let Him take a personal inventory so that we might be effective in the call of Christ Jesus. For the only patterns we want are those that the Lord formed in us that were meant to give life, and carry the life of Christ, to others.



## Stand Ready

I had a phrase come into my heart while in prayer one morning. "Stand ready."

The passage of scripture that came to mind was 1 Peter 3:15:

...but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence...

That phrase "being ready" means to be "ready at hand." "Opportune," "Seasonable." "Ready to do something." This one I love, "Ready to receive one coming."

Are you ready to "receive one coming?" Are you ready for the "opportune" moment?

The word, "seasonable" reminds me also of the scripture that says to "be ready in season and out of season."

I feel some of us need to open our mouths. The enemy has silenced you. You carry wisdom yet you won't speak. Is it fear? Is it insecurity? Is it intimidation?

If it is either of those, know that the enemy knows something you do not.

Power is in your tongue and Christ is awaiting you to shatter the glass with it.

Even gentleness comes with the power of Christ Jesus. It is the anointing that breaks the yoke, not the volume or eloquence.

A whisper can still cause demons to flee.

Fear must not stay.  
Insecurity must bow.  
Use your voice and let the Lion out.

The gospel requires us to stand ready.

Stand ready to testify of His movement in your life.

Stand ready to share how He kept you in a suffering season.

Stand ready to pour out His mercy on other hearts in need.

This is no time to shrink back. No time to remain silent. No time to pass up on any moment to testify.

Stand ready, Saints.

Break open the alabaster box and let out that fragrance of Christ.

Break the Bread of Life for those needing something to eat.

Your silence is bondage and the devil is well pleased.

Ministry requires courage. Step into it with Jesus. He will glorify Himself through your life.

But if you sit in a room silent while Jesus is longing to hear you testify of His goodness, something stays unsaid and perhaps undone.

Because what if it was your voice required at that moment? Your voice that God had prepared in the pressing? Your voice that carried the language of God someone needed to hear?

Will you stand ready?  
No matter the cost.

For your silence could cost another a much needed glimpse of the King. The cost of that missed readiness far outweighs any persecution or uneasiness of the flesh.

Let us be a people who STAND READY.

## The Wound

Some of our wounds are now becoming healed and whole.

The Lord has brought us from a sad seeping to a fragrant oil.

From sting to scar. From pain to purpose. From glory to glory.

Where the wound once spoke of unresolved trauma, The Good Shepherd has led you to greener pastures and beside the still waters He tended your every need.

While memories of the past might stir, still unforgotten, the Lord has repositioned them with power meant to break yokes.

All that the enemy sent to destroy you failed.

While you wept, He prepared your hands for war. While you slept, He wrought your fingers for battle. While you wondered if you'd ever be the same, He made you new and that newness now releases a fragrance of Christ that will be forever pouring out of your life.

From every pore will pour the oil of gladness traveling like a healing river to hearts who need what you have.

Your story preaches more deeply. Your life testifies more loudly. Your voice has become a roar that is full of power yet graced with a gentleness necessary for wounded sheep and lost lambs.

That wound you once despised has now made you wise.

It's nothing but a scar now that bears the marks of Christ. His hands carry nail-scars, and in some ways, dear friend, now so do yours.

Pick up your cross and follow, that wound is now working FOR you and the Kingdom of God.



You can now enjoy our free Shelly Wilson Ministries app to listen to Royalty4Real Radio for Women, The 320 Podcast, and the latest writings and events.

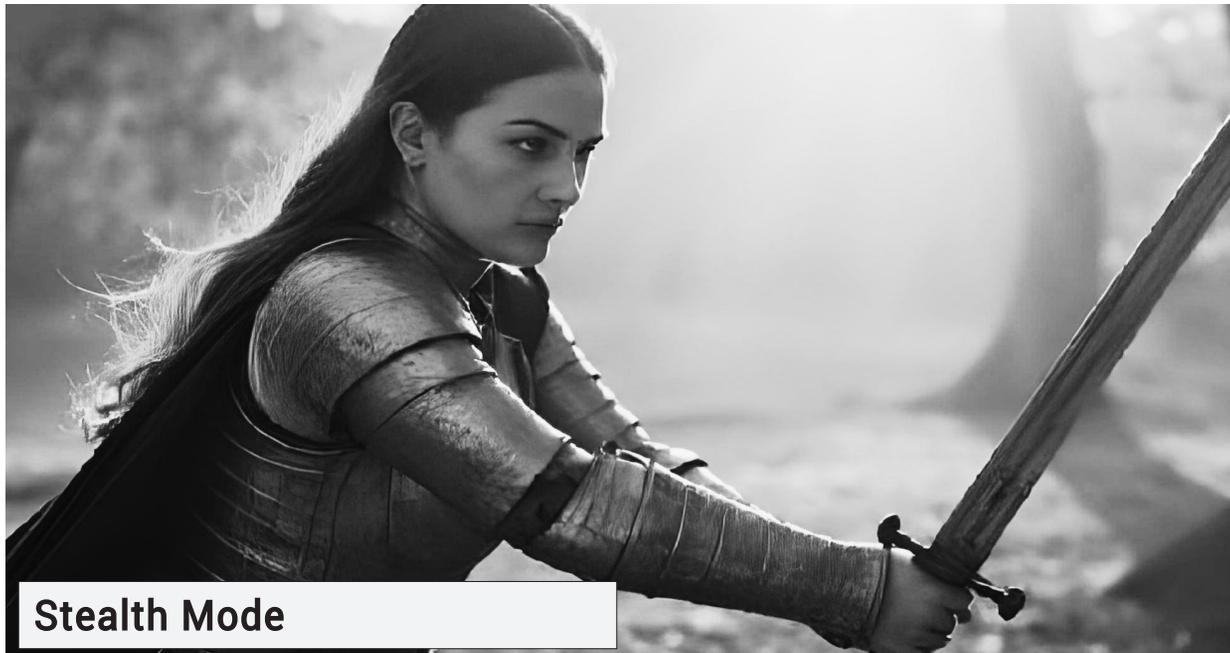


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## Stealth Mode

Often we see in the scriptures the disciples desiring Christ to reveal Himself sooner than He would like.

Yet, Jesus answers, "My time has not yet come."

We see it also mentioned again in John 8:

These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come. John 8:20

This lets me know that the orchestration of God is precise and on time. Sealed and seasoned. Protected for such a time as this.

Ecclesiastes 3 sits before us playing out on a kingdom calendar that is placed in the hands of God alone. "There is a time to..." are not just words on a page but Heaven's insight for us to understand the rhythms of God.

You, dear one, are not late for that very important date. God is keeping you well when "It is not yet your time."

Under His wings you're being formed and forged. Shielded and shored up. Trained and tried. Proven and positioned. Groomed for your royal destiny.

Our human bent is to stop short of divine positioning grabbing the "less than" seat but Christ has a heart intent to be sure you receive your full inheritance and all that is wrapped up in it.

He is unwrapping the gift called YOU.

You're more than you thought or imagined. Within you are giftings not yet seen. You are His mighty Masterpiece. Precious to His heart.

As I write this I can see a woman in full armor on a battlefield. She is fiercely waging war on the enemy. Her moves are mighty in God. She is full of vigor and stunning to watch. Her every move is intentional and she fights with confidence and authority knowing who, and whose, she is.

Her eyes are laser-focused and she wields a sword with precision and force. God is watching her every move, training her daily. Delighted with her progress. She often thinks she is unseen but she's being kept in God's stealth-mode under His wings in a bootcamp of sorts. She is quietly being readied and the enemy isn't even aware of how much wisdom she is gaining in every season.

She is quickly becoming one of God's secret weapons. Her voice on that battlefield carries a weight like never before. Every pain-filled season pulled out a once silenced voice and now, whew, she is heard across the land fighting for the oppressed and setting captives free.

She's not late and she won't be early but she is set to come onto the scene at precisely the right time. And that time is nearing for her to "show forth." She is like a stealth bomber flying under the enemy's radar undetected.

But the hands on Heaven's clock are ticking and very soon the hour will come when you, O Woman of God, will come out of stealth mode into full visibility.

And in that moment, Hell will gasp.

## Purpose

We've been talking, recently, about "purpose." Purpose can play a significant role in healing a heart. When purpose shows up, a heart can shift and hope can rise. Purpose is vital to a heart because it's the way of Jesus and has always been a part of His plan.

Salvation is beautiful but there is still more. Many stop right here never entering into the beautiful adventures with Christ. Oh, please keep pursuing Jesus. YOU were born for something, saved for something, and His desire is that you fulfill that "something." He is the first love, yes. Your first assignment is to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.

So many long for something they can't put into words. It's Jesus. Gently calling you into more. He placed eternity in our hearts so we will always long for Him. You might try to fill the hole in your heart in a thousand other ways but it'll never be filled apart from Christ. It is also true that you'll likely not be fulfilled in life if you're not fulfilling the mission God designed you for. This can lead to depression, hopelessness, a wandering heart, and more. Why? Because, you were designed to fulfill that "thing" on this side of Heaven. Eternity will always be calling you into the more God planned for you.

Your "purpose" will always be stirring, causing you to know deep inside your heart, "There is more to this life than what I'm living." And the truth is, there is. You're a puzzle piece that is a product of God's own making. You were designed to bring Him glory through your life. Purpose in the Kingdom can look like many things but whatever "thing(s)" you were created to accomplish, well, only you can do them. Are you fulfilling your revealed purpose woven into you by God?

I really do hope so because it is a place of great joy and likely healing for others in need. Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."





## The Secret

I've found a secret in this divine mission with the Lord. Often it is wrought with trial upon trial. Battle after battle. A war with a very real enemy who does nothing new under the sun but has distinct patterns of afflictions in our lives. You will find out what you're made of during these times.

Perhaps your health is in a season of struggle. Will you continue to obey the Lord or lay down your sword? God grabs hold of what the enemy sends and begins to forge a human weapon. A weapon of resilience, not comfort. A weapon of endurance. A weapon who can continue to advance the Kingdom despite every hurdle sent to block progress.

There is nothing more fearful to that devil than a saint who won't quit. Who despite troubles rises again and again to set captives free and wage war on darkness hovering over mankind.

People won't understand why you keep going. You'll hear whispers, "Just throw in the towel." "It's okay to let it all go..."

Aren't we glad David kept fighting while under an onslaught from Saul on his way to becoming King? Running daily for his life. Little sleep. Little rest. His body must have been so war torn and tired. Yet, he continued and never quit.

The trials may try to kill you, but God is using them to strengthen you.

If on a sick bed in this season or in a place of turmoil while waiting on your breakthrough, go into the Spirit in prayer and take down the enemy's ranks. Your whisper still carries a weight and as you step into the realm of the Spirit all of Hell shudders. Your presence there is felt and seen.

"She is still fighting...."

"She is still powerful in Christ..."

"She still believes the ONE whom saved her..."

Listen, O Saint of God, it is not the mountains that mold you, it is the wilderness seasons. And when you come out, you will do so with a fresh power and anointing from on high.

Song of Solomon 8:5

*Who is this coming up from the wilderness, leaning on her beloved?*

## " Wringing My Hands"

I've been practicing a thing this last week with the Lord. Sometimes, you must be intentional to practice the word, practice your faith, and rehearse what is true.

I sat before Him with these words: "I will no longer wring my hands in worry, wring my hands while asking questions, or wring my hands with ways to figure things out."

No, I will trust in the Lord with all my heart and lean not on my own (human) understanding... but in all my ways acknowledge Him. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Trust, or the lack of it, is exposed when there is pressure.

Pressure to figure things out, pressure to head down a lane not yours, pressure to cause something to happen only God can do.

What a weight has lifted from my own heart, and shoulders, to rehearse the truth of the Scriptures.

He is MY Shepherd.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul...

Trusting the Lord is not always easy. We are a people who love to be in control.

Listen...

Nothing has been missed by God.  
Not one single thing.  
Every step is orchestrated no matter where I am or what my circumstance is.

His sovereignty has never once been handed over to the devil. Yet we act like the enemy has more power than he has.

He was not just defeated by the cross but disarmed.

The blood of Christ covers me fully.  
I need not fear demons or doors sent by Him. I only need to "not be unwise of his schemes."

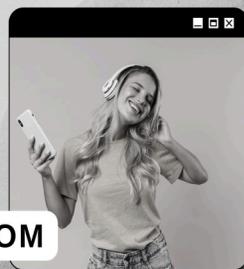
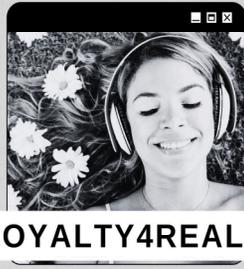
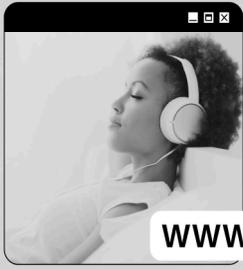
The ONE who bore my sin is fully committed to me. He will stand between me and the Fowler's snare. He is forever on duty preserving me from evil (Psalm 121).

So for me and this heart of mine, I felt a good unction to renounce all wringing of my hands. All worry and all anxiety in Jesus name. All places of torment to "figure it all out."

I'm just gonna be over here "being still and knowing that He is God."

I can be fully certain that Jesus is watching over me because He is the God who sees me. I can be sure the enemy does not ever outfox Christ Jesus because he is only a created being, not The Creator, Elohim. They are not equals.





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Published Quarterly

VOLUME 15

## Uction

-from the leadership log-

Within the Kingdom is a way of operating that is unlike the world.

We do not operate out of envy or jealousy.

We do not operate out of covetousness or because we see another doing well in a "thing."

We do not make decisions based on potential financial gain or loss.

We are to operate under unction.

In the Bible, "unction" (Greek: chrisma) most often refers to the anointing by the Holy Spirit that signifies being set apart by God for a special purpose.

The assignments stored up for you beforehand will be stamped with your name on them and sealed by the Holy Spirit. This is clear in the scriptures.

Ephesians 2.10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

In my early days, out of a desperation to find my place, I copied others, leaned into what others were doing, and wasted a lot of valuable time with things that didn't last.

They didn't last because they had no fruit of the Lord. They were never mine to do. Many were good things but not God things for me.

Under unction the simplest of assignments carry a weight of glory and a harvest field designed by Heaven. Uction of the Lord takes into account your "way about you," your personality, etc.

Every ministry, and minister, operates uniquely and according to their God-giftedness. Therefore, I can not look to another to find my pace, or my space.

As a leader birthing others into Kingdom destiny, I can guide you but I can not do it for you.

You must lean into the Holy Spirit for your blueprints and seek the Lord in your prayer closet. He is your leader and the Holy Spirit is your guide.

I remember the utter frustration of learning how to publish books in the beginning. I had to start over three times on the first one and blunder my way through it all in order to learn what I needed to learn. It took me a solid year to finish the first publication.

Because I "kept at it" I've now been able to publish many books of my own and help others do the same.

The same thing happened when God called me to start a radio station for women. I threw the biggest big girl tantrum you've ever seen because I did not want to go through another learning curve. I already had plenty to do. But it was what the Lord required of me and it was as much assigned to me as my healing support group. Both significant, both necessary.

Every time God has called me into a new 320 work, "Immeasurably more than you can think or imagine," it has stretched me to an almost breaking point but every lesson was crucial for what I do today. Without every single tear-filled, hair-pulling classroom, I wouldn't be able to multiply the Kingdom effectively.

My job today in mentoring leaders is to make them, each, effective to now multiply the Kingdom in the way the Lord has designed them. Pulling out their own unique qualities and strengths to accomplish what it is they've been called to do.

And one of the first questions you'll find me asking is this: "Are you operating under unction, or something else?" Because nothing I can teach anyone will matter one bit if it is not a God ordained assignment being birthed out of an unction of the Holy Spirit.

I've learned a lot of hard lessons. I've done many things in my own strength. I've wasted a lot of time while God taught me to wait for His Word on a matter.

I am loving our Mentor Me Mentorship group. They are doing the hard work to not only birth their assignments but also so that they will be able to be a sustainable leader in their own right for their future assignments. Some have had to endure additional training. Some have had to learn new skills. Some have had to follow through on homework in order to stay on task and on mission. I am so proud of them for their commitment to Christ, and themselves. This is as much a part of their destiny as is the actual work



being birthed. They are learning and growing, gaining endurance and patience, and learning how to finish, and follow through, in Kingdom assignments. Each lesson is critical even if you are under unction. Uction does not remove our responsibility to do the work. It does not operate like a "Genie in the bottle" mindset where "poof" God hands it over to you. Nope, while the joy was set before Him He still endured the cross. He did the work. Finished the plan. Fulfilled His mission. There are no shortcuts to your mission and there is no way to become the leader you, and I, need to become without unction and all that goes with it.

Do the work and fulfill your ministry. But listen, If it's not led by a God unction then let it go and wait on the Lord.

## Through

We might not go around  
He might take us through  
Because to our hearts  
He is going to prove.

That He is always faithful  
And He is always true  
So we might not go around  
He might take us through.

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

Psalms 23:4



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## Learn to Listen

I realize I say this a lot but this week again I am so impressed by the Lord to make sure people are seen and heard.

Over the last season of ministry I've realized how little we've actually heard the hearts of people in need.

We love to do a lot of talking in the church but we spend very little time "listening."

Listening has been so critical for me to know where people actually are. Not just with Jesus but also in their pained places.

Have you actually taken the time to "hear" people? To let them talk, share, cry?

I've seen such a desperation in God's people simply because "no one is listening."

Abused women aren't heard but dismissed. Many aren't listening.

Broken hearts are not being healed, only told to get over it. No one is listening.

Hearts in grief are overlooked after only a few weeks or months rather than surrounded by long-suffering saints. We are quick to stop listening.

We've abandoned at large the mission of Jesus. He deeply cares about the heart cries of humanity. He inclines His ear to hear, so, tell me, why don't we?

Do you only see the sin instead of listening long

to find out the "why?"

I sat with a sweet one awhile back who began to share something with me that made me cry with her. As a young girl she was placed in front of a mirror as her father told her terrible things about herself shaping, and shattering, her little heart. It explained why she chose the things she did in her life and God was wanting to reshape and renew her mind, use me to speak life into her, and then pray her into a new life with Jesus. But I had to want to listen. To hear her heart. To grab her hand and say, "That was never God's heart for you."

Are we even a safe place for people to share their deepest pains? Do we have any idea what people are actually going through? We tend to want to always preach, teach, prophesy, etc. I love those things too but at some point we need to ask ourselves are we doing what we are doing for the sake of others or mostly for our own selves.

I've learned to ask a lot of questions so God can take me into someone's places of pain. I am so grateful for His help with hurting hearts. Honestly, it's not rocket science. You simply have to want to listen.

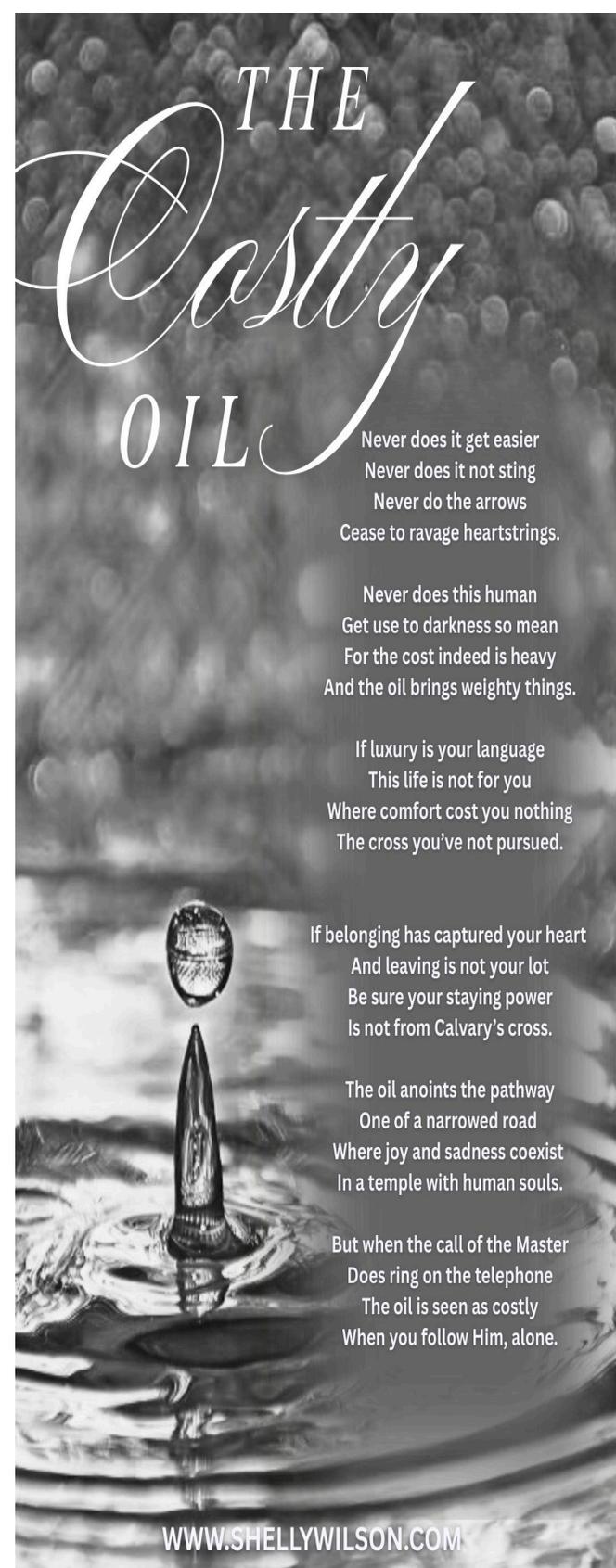
When was the last time you spent time with someone and just listened?

Us leaders need to get out of our constant need to preach at people and start listening to people. It's hard for them to hear our teaching when they are deep in overwhelming pain. They have things they need to process fully so they can

heal fully. Please stop dismissing their need. Jesus does not. Stop belittling their pains. Jesus never did. Stop worrying about your platforms and start worrying about people.

Let's get back to the basics of being disciples of Jesus, and learn to listen.

James 1:19: *"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger."*



# THE Costly OIL

Never does it get easier  
Never does it not sting  
Never do the arrows  
Cease to ravage heartstrings.

Never does this human  
Get use to darkness so mean  
For the cost indeed is heavy  
And the oil brings weighty things.

If luxury is your language  
This life is not for you  
Where comfort cost you nothing  
The cross you've not pursued.

If belonging has captured your heart  
And leaving is not your lot  
Be sure your staying power  
Is not from Calvary's cross.

The oil anoints the pathway  
One of a narrowed road  
Where joy and sadness coexist  
In a temple with human souls.

But when the call of the Master  
Does ring on the telephone  
The oil is seen as costly  
When you follow Him, alone.

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## A Flame of Fire

I ran into a scripture yesterday in the Psalm that piqued my interest. However, I soon forgot about it until I ran into it again this morning except I was in Hebrews.

I've learned not to miss such a moment of hearing God's voice. I love a good chasing down of Christ Jesus.

Psalm 104:4

Who makes His angels spirits,  
His ministers a flame of fire.

Hebrews 1:7

And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

That word "ministers" points to servants, priests, military laborers, servants of a king, ones busy with holy things, a worshipper of God, or a benefactor.

This is me, and this is you if you're in Christ.

We were meant to be fiery flames burning brightly for the King and Kingdom.

That word "flame" means to be ablaze.

Are you burning ablaze today for the things of God and His dear will for your life or has this world stolen away your affections for Him?

We might think those strange who spend their days in service to the Lord, yet it is the normal way of life in Jesus for every single royal priest of His.

Wherever you are and whatever you are doing you're on call for the King to be a constant flame of fire of His love.

Days are defined by Him alone as He wrote them all in His book in advance for you. Is it His will you're following or your own?

Are we tepid in all honesty not really on fire but like a small, barely lit, pilot light?

We get by with as little service as possible. We spend more time with others than with Him. We've allowed natural activities and natural relationships to become greater than Him.

We choose to be where He is not learning less and less about Him and His kingdom ways. We've grown cold in our love for Him.

But oh when the glory comes and the room is full of ministers who truly have been lit as flames of fire there are beautiful lasting effects of His coming.

Healing, deliverance, salvation, and power.

Miracles are manifest and His presence joins you. Every agenda is tossed out the window to grab hold of the very hem of His garment.

You'll not wonder was He there or make up in your mind some lesser coming of Him, you shall know Jesus was in the house. It will be indisputable.

That same flame of fire will burn up all things that are unkind in you. It will impart gentleness and long-suffering. It will put power on your mouth and give you a holy self-control that honors Him well. You will have a love for others that supersedes love for yourself.

His heart will be what you submit and surrender to. Your deep love for Him will desire to please Him.

All lukewarmness will go in Jesus name and consume all that is not at all like Him.

I believe God is indeed raising up those who are His flames of fire in this era.

They've shunned the world and its ways yet developed a heart for those in desperate need of grace.

They've removed the clothes of religion and been mantled by God Himself to do great exploits.

The work of the kingdom of darkness is no match for them as Jesus has taken His rightful place and space in their heart and lives. His authority has been given to them.

Soon you'll see coming over that mountain very real flames of fire. The unknown, the mocked, the rejected.

They were purged in the wilderness and now have been set ablaze by the King of Glory.

Hallelujah to the lamb!



If you would like to give your life to Jesus and begin a brand new life with Him simply tell Him so. The Holy Spirit will come to live inside of you and help you to walk in the light of the truth and freedom Christ died to give you.

For questions or help you can call or email us.  
Jesus loves you dearly.

**The Sparrow**

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Where little girls meet a BIG GOD!

**A STAR IS BORN!**



**INSIDE**  
The Royal Daughter

**Hide it in Your Heart!**

A little scripture you'll love to memorize as we talk about who Jesus says YOU are! Page 2

**The Flamingo**

**The Coolest Story EVER!**

We love studying how all creation testifies. So come along as we look at one of God's coolest creations. Page 5

**Dandelions & Daisies**



Check out some FUN FACTS on how God's flowers can remind us of Jesus! Page 7

*A Star was born  
When you were made  
Your shine does sparkle  
In a unique way.*

*Do not want  
Another's shine  
Do not dare wish  
That 'theirs is mine.'*

*Embrace the heart  
Which Christ did give  
For you're a sign  
Of His perfect kiss.*

*You were chosen  
By this heart of His  
It is not possible  
That you were missed.*

*Great adventures  
He's planned for you  
To do what  
No one else can do!*

*O little star  
There's no star like you  
And all of Heaven  
Celebrates you.*

*So when you look  
In a mirror long  
Remind yourself  
'I am called!'*

*To follow Him  
To lovely lands  
Where He will show you  
His mighty hand.*

**THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE I'M GONNA LET IT SHINE!**



# NEW!

