

Standing in the Gap '12

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a ministry of North Richlands Hills Baptist Church

Volume 14, Issue 1 - Jan 2012

I'VE GOT THIS

By Tamara Roberts

For months grey clouds cast shadows on my heart of hearts. I felt like we were very nearly tossed from wind to wave like a tiny boat in a perfect storm. With clenched fists, I took every thought captive, but those contemplations of valid grief and stress kept escaping captivity to run rampant across my mind.

As I handcuffed the negative deliberations once again, I groaned through clenched teeth. "I will not let a sad thought become a 'bad day.' Whatever is true, whatever is lovely, I will think on these things. Ok, what is true? Oh, yes, God is sovereign. Nothing surprises Him. What is lovely? The Creator of the Universe has a plan here and it is a plan for good, not harm. "

James said, "You have not because you ask not." I will ask. I will pray. I will have victory. As I prayed for my husband and family a movie popped into my head. I saw my husband walking bent over with a globe on his back. Out of nowhere came two massive, transparent hands. Though I couldn't see any other part of Him, I knew it was God. I was sure that His eyes twinkled and a grin stretched across His face as he spun what had been an overwhelming globe, the weight of the world, on His fingertip like a Globe Trotter with a basketball.

Almighty God showed me something that I knew in my head, but somehow had lost the knowledge in my heart. He was saying, "I've got this and it's easy for Me." The next day, it hit me. The "this" that He has is everything. He's got the plan, He's got the provisions. He's got a purpose in allowing all that is happening to and around us. God has "it" for all of us; and it's easy for Him.

Wow, the grey clouds lifted and the sun came out in my heart. The storm waves calmed. My joy was restored. A mind movie showed me what the scriptures tell us regularly and repeatedly.

Matthew 11:30 (NKJV) quoted Jesus as saying, "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." I like the way The Message paraphrased it, "Keep company with Me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

For those who need healing, Psalms 103:3 said, (NKJV)

Our Great Physician is the one "Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases." 1 Peter 2:22-24 in the Message put it this way: "He never did one thing wrong, not once said anything amiss. They called him every name in the book and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right. He used his servant body to carry our sins to the cross so we could be rid of sin, free to live the right way. His wounds became your healing."

For those without a job, remember that God is our Provider. He always was. The job was just a tool of His provision, but it was God who provided and He who always will.

continued

For those who are fatherless, God is our Heavenly Father. He has made us joint heirs with Jesus Christ. We have been adopted into the family of the King of kings and blessed with every spiritual blessing. (Eph. 1:3-6, 1Pet 1:23)

For those who are lonely, God is a Friend who is closer than a brother. He laid down my life for us so that we will not be separated from God anymore by sin. As we spend time with Him, the void in our lives will be filled. (John 15:15)

When we need leadership, remember, God is our Shepherd. We shall not want for anything. He will show us where to go and provide a place to rest. (Psalm 23:1-2). He said in John 10, "My sheep can hear My voice." We can make confident decisions knowing Psalm 23:6 said that His blessings will surely follow us all the days of our lives.

When we need power, Elohim, the God of infinite power, the one who indwells us through the Holy Spirit, gives us all of the power that we need to accomplish His desires, not just any power, but the same power that raised Christ from the dead. (Acts 1:8, Eph. 1)

When we need security, Jesus, who holds us in His omnipotent hand, said that no one can snatch us from Him." (John 10:28)

When you need anything, remember that Jesus said, "I am in the Father and He is in Me. Abide in Me and ask anything in My name and it will be done." (John 15-17)

When we feel anxious for some reason that we can't even identify, remember this, "I AM" the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." (Rev.1:8)

Helen Mallicoat's poem said it clearly.

"I AM"

"I was regretting the past and fearing the future.

Suddenly my Lord was speaking:

"My name is I AM"

He paused.

I waited.

He continued,

"When you live in the past with its mistakes and regrets,

It is hard. I am not there. My name is not 'I WAS'.

When you live in the future with its problems and fears,

It is hard. I am not there.

My name is not 'I WILL BE'.

When you live in this moment

It is not hard. I am here.

My name is I AM."

When your thoughts run rampant through your mind, trying to attack, distract, discourage or defeat you, simply stop. Take them captive and take them to God.

Praise Him for who He is and all that He has done. Read about His mighty acts and His promises. Remember God's greatness, His faithfulness and love.

Know that He hears our prayers. He has handed victory over to us. Let contagious confidence rule.

Our God has got "this" and it's easy for Him. After all, He is the great "I AM".

*For reprint permission email tamara@tamroberts.com with reprint in the subject line.



John 8:58

"I tell you the truth,"
Jesus answered,
"before Abraham was born,
I Am!"

Pray for our Church Family

NRHBC Hospital Board & Prayer Sheet as of December 18, 2011. Bob Carstarphen, Ann Sparks, Evelyn Edwards, Ralph Wetherbee, Megan Baab's family (family of Grady Stone), Leslee Holloway, Mary Anne Leap, Jack Davidson, Anita Dane, Denzil Basinger, Jerry Lang (family of Wendi O'Neill), Mary Stone, and Betty Waite (Sister-in-law of Jackie Mapston).

Pray for these continuing needs:

Evelyn Adkison, Martha Arbuckle, Gloria Archer, George Becker, Jay Bell, Austin Blackwell, Andi Bradford, Charles & Dottie Brenner, Carole Brown, Angela Chandler, Melody Clark, Milt & Carmen Coleman, Tom Conger, Imogene Cooke, Hal Copeland, Dortha & Jack Davidson, Robert & Rosa Day, Kristin Dillender, Austin Douglas, Gaylene Draper, Draper Boys & Tony, Vaneesa Elam, Beverly Fowler, Charlotte Giles, Chris Hailey, Billy Jack Hardin, Crissy Henry, Virginia Hitchcock, Tammy Hoyle, Linda Ingle, Dudley Jackson, Joyce Jahn, Alice James, Larry Jenkins, Farene Jones, Gene Kassow, Mack Kearney, Louise Keeton, Rosalee Kerr, Darrell Langston, Margaret Livingston, James Long, Travis Malone, John "Rory" Manning, Jack Mapes, Joy Marshall, Catherine Massey, Barbara Miller, Jackie Myers, Wes Oldham, Millie Olsen, Gene Osborn, Jim Osborn, Nordell Family, Bob Pait, Cirilo Pedroza, Joyce Pierce, Dot Piretti, Clarence Pugh, Leon Pulliam, Larry Ramsey, Mary Richardson, Wanda Roenfeldt, Kim Sadderberry, Jack & Ann Sandifer, Earline Savage, Deborah Shurtz, Terry Smith, Tim Smith, Doris Snider, Claudia Stephens, John Stewart, Sr., Lorine Stewart, Marilyn Strother, Teague Family, Kenneth Thach, Hubert Thedford, Donna Thomas, Larry Thomason, Ann Underwood, Andrea Vargas, Linda Vasquez, Jackie Vaughn, Scott Verrett, Debbie Wade, Richard Wade, Paula White, Betty Wright, Margaret Zollinger, and Sandra Zwerg.

Pray for our Pastor Search Committee: Robin Hancock, Martha Bass, Bill Hurlburt, Ben White, Eddie Andruss, Sharon Booker, Daryl King, & Ralph Kunkel. Pray for our homebound members and those in assisted living centers.

**You can receive an update and a more complete copy of our Hospital List and Prayer Sheet by emailing diane@nrhbc.org

Pray for specific Ministries of our Church

Steve Pulley, High School Ministry:

- 📖 High School Graduates to seek God above all things.
- 📖 God to increase our HS Sunday attendance.

Steve Pulley, College Ministry:

- 📖 May God enlarge our average SMBS attendance.
- 📖 May God bring blessing to our Fall ministry activities and provide opportunities for students to be strong in their relationship with God and other students.

Stuart Doyle, Middle School Ministry:

- 📖 Students attending Disciple Now Weekend, that God will grow their faith and for the DNow leaders to be spiritually prepared.
- 📖 God's movement in our families to grow them close together.
- 📖 Students and teachers to reach out to more unsaved students.

Danny Roberts, Executive Pastor

- 📖 God's protection and guidance during this standing-in-the-gap period while we search for a new pastor.
- 📖 Pray for our God's protection, wisdom, discernment and guidance for the pastor search committee.
- 📖 Pray for our future pastor and his family even as God is preparing their hearts.
- 📖 Pray for those whom that family will be leaving in order to come here.
- 📖 Pray for our Senior Adults.

Cindy Leach/Children & Meredith McGown/Preschool Ministry

- 📖 Children to follow Christ in their words, thoughts and actions
- 📖 Pray that each child will focus on the lesson during Kid Connection.

Derek Rowden, Minister to Men & Single Adults:

- 📖 New Single & Parenting class. Pray that it would bless our church family and be a strong reach into the community as well.
- 📖 Young Singles Ministry.
- 📖 Those recovering from separation and divorce.
- 📖 Men's Ministry.

Jody Hayes, Wellness Minister

- 📖 Upcoming Upward basketball season. Many will be involved and hear the Gospel. May they respond.
- 📖 Pray for Matt Knight, former Wellness Ministry intern as he will spend the next 6 months serving his country overseas within the Air Force as a chaplain. Pray for the men and women, soldiers and otherwise, that he will have the opportunity of witnessing and ministering to. Pray for his wife, Kelly, as she will be separated from her husband during that time.

Wayne Graham, Minister of Music

- 📖 Media Ministry is in need of volunteers for camera individuals for the 9:15 and 10:45 Services.

Jackie Rigdon, Community Missions

- 📖 Bus Ministry families and workers during the holiday season.
- 📖 New driver and staff for the new route beginning January on the "Love" bus.
- 📖 Good News Clubs at N Ridge, Snow Heights and Binion Elementary.



Numbers to call for Prayer Concerns:
 International Mission Board
 Prayer Line 1-800-395-PRAY (7729)
 North American Mission Board Prayer
 Line 1-800-554-PRAY (7729)
 International Mission News
<http://www.imb.org>
 North American Mission News
<http://www.namb.net>
 General Prayer Requests
diane@nrhbc.org

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Let us pray for the special activities of our church

Jan 1-7—College group at Passion 2012
 Jan 1-12—Hope for BA Construction Trip
 Jan 8—NRHBC New Discoveries Class
 Jan 8—Singles Monthly Pot Luck Luncheon
 Jan 8—Prayer Conference and Church Fellowship
 Jan 8—Faith@Home Prayer Emphasis begins
 Jan 13—Friday Night Child Care
 Jan 13-14—Annual DNow for Youth
 Jan 22—Church Vehicle Driver Training
 Jan 22—Leadership Equipping Meetings
 Jan 23—Mom’s Touch
 Jan 24—MEN-U Steak ‘n’ Bake
 Jan 25—Single Area Leaders Round Table Meeting
 Jan 25—W.I.L.D. Training
 Jan 27—Singles Annual Chili Cook-Off
 Senior Adult Choir singing at various facilities
 Tuesday Morning Bible Study
 Wednesday Night W.I.L.D.
 Financial Peace University

College Bible Study
 Global Focus Ministry
 New Members Ministry
 Single Adult Ministry
 Recreation Ministry
 Apartment Ministry
 Childcare Ministry
 Wellness Center Ministry
 Music Ministry
 Women’s Ministry
 Preschool Ministry
 Men’s Bible Study
 Divorce Care for Kids
 GriefShare Ministry
 Young Men’s Study Group
 Senior Adult Ministry
 Nursing Home Ministry
 Children’s Ministry

College Worship
 Imagine Remodel
 Connect Classes
 Library Ministry
 Prayer Ministry
 Media Ministry
 Couples Ministry
 Youth Ministry
 Bus Ministry
 Men’s Ministry
 College Lab
 ESL Program
 Divorce Care
 Upward Basketball
 Food Pantry
 Senior Adult Choir
 Children’s Choir
 Youth Prayer Time