

Words of Victory

MINISTRIES

Using every godly means available to cast God's Word like seed as far and as fast as possible. (Matthew 13)



groveave.com/stephen-ministry

HELP
HOPE
HEALING

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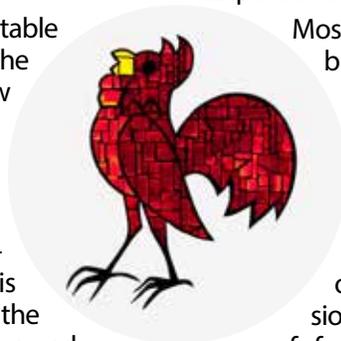
"...AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES..."

BY PASTOR MARK JENKINS

In the model prayer our Lord taught us to pray, He says, "Father, forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." The two actions are linked. If we seek forgiveness, we must first be able to forgive others. Forgiveness is the thing we seek the most and that which we celebrate as Christians, but it is the very thing that we seldom afford to others.

Does God hold us accountable for this? In the parable of the unforgiving debtor (Mathew 18:21-35), Jesus tells the story of a wealthy king who calls a servant into account for his debts. When the servant pleads for mercy, the king relents and frees him from his debt. Then, as the story goes, the servant encounters one who owed him money, and he in turn does not show mercy. Word gets to the king, and he angrily responds:

"Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt. That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart." (Matthew 18:32-35)



That sounds a bit harsh. Do you think it is true? Will we be tortured if we don't forgive others? In many ways, we are already tortured. To carry a grudge often hurts the one carrying it, leading to bitterness or depression. That is why programs like Alcoholics Anonymous include forgiving or seeking forgiveness from those you are in dispute with as part of the steps to recovery.

Most counselors will tell you that broken relationships keep them in business. Again, Jesus said in the Lord's Prayer to seek forgiveness as you in turn forgive others. There are many powerful stories in the Bible about forgiveness centered on Jesus Himself, whose mission of mercy is the embodiment of forgiveness and our restoration before a Holy God. As we move into the Easter season where forgiveness is celebrated, this might be a good time to think about what forgiveness means to us—not only in our relationship with the Living God, but also in relationships with others. When writing the book about The Window of Christ at Grove, I researched every image in that magnificent stained glass window. The rooster is a prominent image and readily understandable to Christians. It is a symbol of Peter's denial of Jesus after Jesus was taken before the high priest.

(Continued on Page 2)



stephen
MINISTRY
at GROVE



STEPHEN
MINISTRY

HELP
HOPE
HEALING

There are many hurting people around us.

There is a real demand for trained Christian caregivers who can help hurting individuals walk through their difficulty. This is where Stephen Ministry comes in. Stephen Ministry trains Christian individuals to become a caregiver for hurting people.

groveave.com/stephen-ministry

Do You Need Help with a Problem That Feels Too Big to Handle Alone?

The Christian Counseling & Training Center (CCTC) is a non-profit ministry designed to serve people who have problems they cannot handle alone. The range of problems it deals with include broken and dysfunctional marriages, parent-child relationships, depression, alcohol and drug abuse, and any number of other problems that result in personal and interpersonal turmoil and distress.

Email: counseling@cctcinc.org

Call: (804) 358-1343



(Continued from Page 1)

Peter would suffer from his failure to stand with his friend and mentor—the One he himself proclaimed to be the Son of the Living God. Peter would grieve through the trials of Jesus and His awful crucifixion. Then Peter would leave Jerusalem and return to the shore of the Sea of Galilee. There, a resurrected Jesus would meet him, forgive him of his failings, and restore him to his previous standing among the other disciples. When you see the rooster in The Window of Christ, remember that it does not represent just the failure to acknowledge Christ. (Romans 3:23 tells us that everyone has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.) It also symbolizes forgiveness. In fact, it was fashioned into a lapel pin years ago and worn by members of the church who were part of what Dr. Vander Warner called “The Order of Forgiveness”. I remember an article brother Vander wrote for our WOV Newsletters a few Christmases ago. His advice to those looking for something nice to do for the holiday was to go and forgive someone. He knew the joy it



can bring and the healing that it offers.

Forgiveness seems harder these days in a society that is increasingly focused on self. As a pastor, I have been a witness to many broken marriages and disputes that end up in court. It is particularly tragic when it involves Christians who the apostle Paul admonished not to get caught up in those things.

Jesus encouraged His followers to turn the other cheek and pray for those who have enmity against us. Can we do that? The hallmark of the Christ-follower is love. Can we be that loving example to our family, church, and community? These are some of the questions we will address in our upcoming Saturday morning message series on “Living Beyond Brokenness” with Dr. Tony Crisp on March 9th. Plan to attend so we may have this discussion together. I would also challenge us to consider setting aside something that remains unforgiven in our lives and go and forgive someone. In the long run, we’ll be glad we did!

CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES IN ISRAEL • OCTOBER 2019

tlcholylandtours.com



You are invited to join Dr. Tony Crisp and Rev. Mark Jenkins on an incredible 13-day tour that includes many extraordinary sites not normally included in tours to Israel. In addition to many biblical sites in Galilee and Jerusalem, The Tabernacle Tour will feature Eilat, a day trip to Petra, lunch at the famous Mövenpick Hotel, and a celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles with the nations at Ein Gedi.

For more information, please visit the TLC Holy Land Tours website or call the Words of Victory office at (804) 740-8888.



BE STEADFAST AND IMMOVABLE

BY PASTOR MARK JENKINS

“Be steadfast and immovable,” said Dan Celia as he began a Financial Issues town hall meeting at Grove. Citing Corinthians 15:58 as his life’s verse, he encouraged those present to always be abounding in the work of the Lord. Dan has been steadfast in his ministry, Financial Issues, which helps Christians become better stewards of their finances. As a hard-bitten Wall Street broker, Dan had a mind for finance. He came to faith in Jesus Christ later in life, largely due to the influence of a local pastor who never gave up on him. Today, Dan believes in the transformative power of Jesus Christ, and he is passionate about sharing his belief. “Jesus is what it is all about,” he says, and he wants to live a life fully surrendered to the work of the kingdom of God. Dan is on hundreds of radio stations and has a daily TV program on the NRB Network. He is admittedly on a journey that the Lord has ordained. His lament is that he does not have a map. “We must follow a step at a time,” he says. Dan shares his mind for finance to help many Christians invest wisely in organizations that share their values.

Now thousands of people are ministry partners of Dan’s plans for investment. However, it is interesting



to note that just as many people tune into his programs just to hear his passion for the Lord and what has been called “rants” about the issues of our day. Dan is true to his life’s verse as being steadfast, immovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord. That is good advice for all of us!

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” (KJV)

FIRST-FRIDAY

Shabbat

RSVP REQUIRED by **Tuesday, Feb. 26**
mary.croctic@groveave.net
 Bring a covered dish (no pork or shellfish)

HOPE FOR PERSECUTED PEOPLES

Dr. Susanna Kokkonen
MARCH 1

Prayer Meeting
 (5:15-5:45 pm
 Rm 105)

Shabbat
 (6 pm Gym)



SUNDAYS @ GROVE

9:30^A_M

WORSHIP

(Grove GYM)

**& SUNDAY
GROUPS**



11:00^A_M

SUNDAY

GROUPS &

WORSHIP

(WORSHIP CENTER)

groveave.com/groups

PRESCHOOL & KIDS

Programming

9:30AM & 11AM

STUDENTS

11AM (Rm 205)



GOD'S PLANS FOR OUR LIVES

BY BOB AND LINDA SOLOMON

When I finally stopped playing games with the Spirit and came to faith in Jesus Christ (That story is for another

time and place), I, like so many new believers, began to ask, "What is this all about? What are God's plans for my life?"

In the last year, our pastor resigned and our church entered into a period of transitioning. I have begun to wonder what are God's future plans for our church. Who will be leading us and where will God be taking us? Finding the immediate answers to those questions is impossible, yet I still find myself thinking I wish God would just let me see a bit of the future.

In my daily devotional reading, I came across the following from Jonathan Cahn's "The Book of Mysteries" on page 115 entitled "The Scroll of Days". Jonathan is comparing God's allowing us to know the future to the reading of a scroll. "You can only see what's inside the scroll...as it unrolls. So, too, God's plans for your life are already written and finished. And so it is written that He has prepared for us good works beforehand that we should walk in them. It's already there beforehand... but must unfold in its time." We must live in the now and rejoice in the place the Lord has allowed us to be in at this time. As stated in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do."

How then are we to know the plans that our God has prepared for us to do? By faith, we step out with prayer and God's Word in the amount of light we currently have, knowing that the next step will be revealed at the right time.

Linda and I have had many life

challenges: parenting a son with drug addiction, taking care of aged parents, serious health issues, and even homelessness. Each of these life events brought questions — problems that we did not have answers to. It was through the daily reading of God's Word and asking His wise counsel that, day by day, step by step, we were able to trust God and stand on His Word to get through each difficulty. We clung to Scriptures like Psalm 34:17-19:

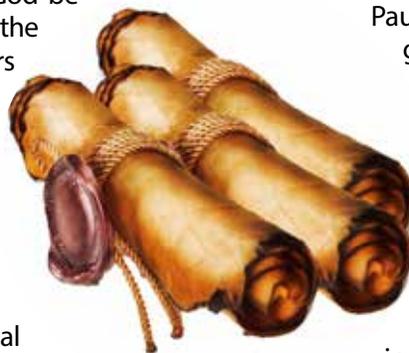
God delivers us out of all our troubles (either by removing them or by walking us through them so we do not lose heart). In 2 Corinthians 6:6-7, Paul shared great ways to get through adversity in our lives.

The Lord has worked in the lives of my wife and me in wonderful ways. He has brought us through every fiery furnace.

Generally, it had been in looking back to those events after the fact that we see how God was working for good in our lives and the lives of others.

For the last several years, I have watched this principle unfold in the lives of Mark and Terrie Jenkins as they have led WOV into an ever-expanding ministry. It has been amazing to see how God has used them to produce "The Victory Hour" that has aired for 67 years. He has led them to build a video library of messages from prominent professors, pastors, and teachers. He has also miraculously placed in their paths those who have been instrumental in putting them in key places of ministry (such as Persecuted Peoples) and the support of Israel (such as Yad Vashem, the Israel International Prayer Breakfast of Jerusalem, National Religious Broadcasters, Aipac, and others). May you be led in the same way as God reveals His plans for you, step by step.

Cahn, Jonathan. The Book of Mysteries (p.115). Charisma House. Kindle Edition.





SATURDAY, MARCH 9 • 9AM - Noon
Grove Avenue Baptist Church

Living Beyond

BROKENNESS

A special message series from Dr. Tony Crisp

This four-part message series presented by Dr. Tony Crisp focuses on being broken and how to understand and cope with personal setbacks, grief, and loss. The event is sponsored by Words of Victory Ministries and The Stephen Ministry Initiative, in association with the Christian Counseling & Training Center of Richmond. You will want to be a part of this meaningful presentation from the Word of God. Bring a friend and learn how God speaks to us through brokenness. There is no cost to attend.

A LOOK BACK AT OUR BEGINNING

DR. VANDER WARNER, JR.

I want to share something written by my friend, William Hogate, a senior member at Grove and a retired business executive.

Many of the estimated 35,000 who weekly drive past Grove Avenue Baptist Church are struck by the spectacular 60 x 20 foot stained glassed window known as *The Window of Christ*. The church is located at N. Parham and Ridge Road. Far fewer are aware that nestled beneath the towering cross is a TV studio that every Sunday broadcasts "The Victory Hour" at 11:00 AM on NBC, Channel 12. This is the 65th year of what is the longest continuing Christian broadcast in the USA!

Ordinary folks watch "The Victory Hour", and so do traveling business persons, those who are homebound, and even an occasional prisoner. Viewers are encouraged to call and speak with a "caring listener" -- volunteers who provide a non-judgmental ear and who are available for prayer. Pastors Vander Warner, Jr., and Mark Jenkins have been an integral part of the weekly broadcast, which has featured Senior Pastor Mark Becton for 16 years.

Dr. Vander Warner, Jr. is Pastor Emeritus at Grove, having served as its senior pastor



for 26 years, beginning in 1965. He now advises "The Victory Hour". Mark Jenkins is the media minister and producer of "The Victory Hour". He has served in this capacity since 1992.

Originally, the broadcast was only 30 minutes in duration, and it took place in the studio of Channel 6, the first TV station in the Commonwealth. The choir and pastor would dash to the studio on West Broad Street to repeat the service. Grove Avenue Baptist Church was then located at 1015 Grove Avenue on property currently occupied by VCU.

Several years after Pastor Warner's first year at the church, he presented a proposal to 20 of the church leaders that the program be expanded to 60 minutes, providing live coverage of the entire service. Grove's media ministry, as led by Rev. Jenkins, requires a small paid staff, plus church members who serve as volunteers.

It has been over six decades, and many (usually large) congregations across the USA broadcast their Sunday services, but were there a Golden Globe for such broadcasts, "The Victory Hour" would surely win.

I like the way Mr. Hogate put it. Remember us in prayer and with your financial support, if you can.

LETTERS FROM VIEWERS



Dear WOV Staff & Volunteers,
 May God continue to bless you in your ministry... I pray for you every day.

~ A Viewer in Richmond, VA

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,
 Keep up the good work in the name of Jesus!

~ A Viewer in North Chesterfield, VA

I am 92 years old and have been blessed every week with your message. Thanks for your service to God and the community.

~ A Viewer in Richmond, VA

Dear Pastor Mark,
 I love "The Victory Hour"! I have watched every Sunday for many years. God bless you all!

~ A Viewer in Midlothian, VA

Dear David,
 It's Sunday morning, a messy Virginia wintry day, and I'm watching the service at Grove, my regular Sunday morning worship service... I appreciate so much your faithfulness, especially on days like today. I know there are others here who also watch and enjoy your worship and preaching. Thanks again, and God bless!

~ A Viewer in Lawrenceville, VA

Dear WOV,
 We always look forward to watching "The Victory Hour" on Sundays. We continue to learn more about our Wonderful Savior each week. During these trying times, Jesus is always walking with us and giving us strength and grace to continue moving forward. We serve an awesome God! May His blessings continue to flow through all the ministries of Grove Avenue Baptist Church. You are in our prayers!

~ A Viewer in Varina, VA



8701 Ridge Road, Richmond, Virginia 23229

www.wordsofvictory.net

Watch
The Victory Hour
 SUNDAY, 11AM
 on **NBC12** or
www.GroveAve.tv



Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

- Joshua 1:9 (KJV)

When we are not on the air due to special programming, we encourage our regular viewers to visit our website at **www.groveave.tv** on those Sundays to watch the live webcast of our full service. You may also view past sermons and TV specials on your computer, tablet, or cell phone.

You Make a Difference

This ministry is made possible by the generous gifts of our faithful viewers. We simply could not afford the airtime without your help. You can see that we are behind in our projected budget needs. Please pray that our budgetary needs will be met so that we may continue with our local broadcasts.

	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED Year-To-Date	WOV BUDGET NEEDS Year-To-Date
Year-to-Date 2019	\$37,368.27	\$58,000



Grove Avenue Baptist Church, through its Media Ministry and Words of Victory Ministries, is a member of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB). NRB is an association of Christian communicators that fosters electronic media access for the gospel; promotes standards of excellence, integrity, and accountability; and provides networking and fellowship opportunities for its members.