



JESUS CARES MINISTRIES

Restoring Individuals, Families, Marriages

SUMMER 2022

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A WORLD WITHOUT GRAFFITI...

Having a close loved one in heaven makes you think more about eternity, and I find myself trying to imagine what the new world will look like. I know the Bible gives descriptions, yet it is so much easier for our minds to comprehend what we can see and touch. I have always taken solace at the beauty of creation and how God testifies without words through the things he has made. It's painful to think about this present world passing away when it is so beautiful. The day before I was to come home

from my respite in Connecticut, the Lord showed me a memorable lesson regarding this subject. I set out to visit a memorial site for Tom that my sweet sister carved out in the woods behind her condos. I thought I could find my way back there but every path seemed to lead back to this huge boulder! It was massive. I stopped to worship,



once I realized that I was not going to find the memorial on my own. I was pacing and praying and enjoying God's sweet reminder that He alone is my Rock. Then as I walked around the boulder, I noticed something that grieved me. The other side of the boulder was filled with graffiti! This is why the Lord has to make all things new! Even though I love creation

and would not be disappointed if heaven displayed even a fraction of the beauty I see on this earth, the sad fact is that this present world has been tarnished. Graffiti is everywhere tainting the handiwork of God. Mankind has polluted what our Creator has designed for us. Innocent blood has been shed on the earth through violence, wars, abortion, and murder. This beautiful world, intended to display His incredible attributes, has been stained and distorted by man's sinful ways. When the reality

of sin's mark on this world hits me in the face through disease, earthquakes, death and tragedy, I am more eager than ever to hasten His coming. I long to see a world that is not marked up by sin. I long to see a world without graffiti. I am always humbled when I realize His

ways are so much higher than mine. This grief journey has been so brutal, yet the beauty that He has shown me reminds me that brutal must always yield to beauty for the believer. Isaiah 61:3 calls it beauty from ashes.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to ... comfort all who

mourn; to provide for those who grieve in Zion- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a spirit of despair." Isaiah 61: 1,3

As I was recently preparing the board meeting report for 2021, I was astounded at the amount of work we did in our mission last year. With the collaboration of other agencies there were hundreds reached and so many lives touched with conferences, counseling, discipling and monetary support. What a joy to know that Tom's last year on this earth yielded so much beautiful fruit for the Kingdom.

I will miss my sweetheart; but until I see him again, I will do my best to bring "beauty" to the lives and hearts of those who have experienced "brutal." It was our mission together and we at Jesus Cares Ministries will continue to build on the foundation that our founder laid.

Because of Him working through many of you, we will continue to be BETTER TOGETHER as we show the community

Jesus Cares!

How does God provide for those who grieve in Zion?

(Isaiah 61:3)

Sometimes He uses His many membered body. I have been completely blessed by so many saints, visiting, cleaning, bringing meals, repairing things at the home, and doing much more than I could ever ask or think! Take a glimpse at just a few of the able bodies God has sent to bless me.



Six nasty hornet nests had to be annihilated. My sister and I scared them off! (Along with a little hornet spray!)



Jose did a complete front yard makeover as a gift in Tom's honor.



My grandson, Joshua, fixing a vacuum



Handyman Priscilla teaching me spa maintenance at Jesus Cares.



Liza and granddaughter Kailey getting Tom's aloe vera garden trimmed up!



Granddaughter, Alexis, has papa's green thumb. It touched my heart to see her fixing his plants and planting new ones.



Granddaughters always ready to help Grammy!



Sweet Maria visiting from Tennessee. Dear to our hearts, Jesus Cares helped her through her grief journey and she wanted to offer condolences to me.



Events and happenings...

It was not easy to conduct our first seminar without Tom. He was so much a part of laying the foundation for the parenting series. He had a tremendous passion to help build healthy families. Kelley and Jason helped me with Part One and my son in law, Micah, stood in the gap that Tom left for Part Two. Thanks to these willing vessels, *Children: Our Heritage* was delivered with excellence!

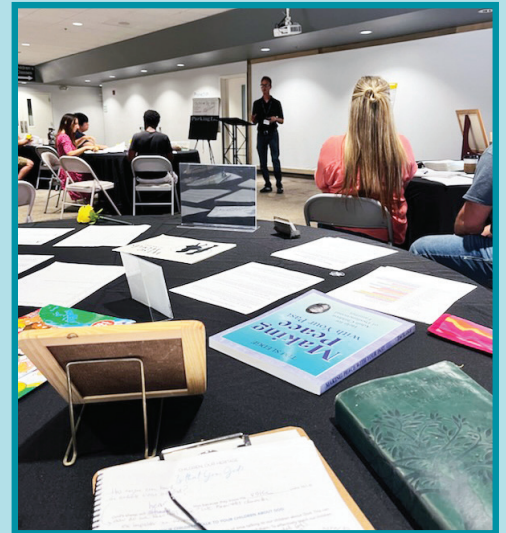


Kelley and Jason

Many thanks to Midwest Food Bank for their wonderful hospitality for Part One.

Micah Teaching "Theology of the Family"

Part Two was held at Center Church. We are grateful for their generosity in hosting this event. Thanks to Liz from Freedom House who has allowed us to invest in her families. It is truly a privilege.



"I wish I had taken this class years ago. Wonderful words of instruction." - participant

Wedding Bells Sounded at Jesus Cares

Two hearts were joined in matrimony. Debbie was in our program when she was 17. It was such an honor to conduct this long awaited ceremony at the home.



Jesus Cares board member and pastor, Jeff, stood in the gap for Tom who had prayed for and was looking forward to conducting this ceremony. Jeff watches on as they sign their marriage license.

Events to Come...



Grow Girls Enrichment Conference

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:1-2

We will gather with sponsors, new and old, and a few alumni to make sure we are living out our Grow Girl's motto: Growing Up, Reaching Out, Worshiping Him! Our desire is to help young women live out authentic Biblical womanhood in a culture that rejects their true feminine beauty.

Psalm 51 Ministries

We were blessed with another opportunity to send two willing participants to Dinah's retreat center: The Robin's Nest. It is our hope to bring this series locally to women who come for help. It focuses on breaking shame and walking in a vibrant and intimate walk with the Savior.



Danielle and Shirley

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Jan, Liz, Desmond, Missy, Jackie and Gail who were significant in helping me get communication going with my supporters again! I am so grateful for their contributions.

Your Giving Matters

Jesus Cares is a qualified recipient of the "Arizona Working Poor Tax Credit" also known as "Credit for Contributions To Qualifying Charitable Organizations". Simply write a personal check to Jesus Cares Ministries (\$400.00 if married, \$200.00 if single) and file form 321 with your Arizona Income Tax Return. This is a dollar for dollar Tax Credit. You don't even need to itemize, (the tax credit rules changed in 2013). You can even donate online at our website:

jesuscaresministries.org/donate.aspx

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