

## Finish What You Start

*Do you finish what you start? When God calls you to a mission do you fulfill it? I believe the Lord has a word for you and it is simply -- Finish what you start! I know this word is from God because He finishes what He starts. In Genesis 1:1 we read, "In the beginning God created the heavens and earth." We clearly see from scripture that God started everything according to His purposes and plans. In Revelation 21:1-3 the Apostle John writes under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.'" Here we see that God will finish what He started for all creation according to His purposes and plans. This includes a future, eternal dwelling place for the Bride of Christ where God will dwell among us forever. Jesus the Son of God said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last" (Rev. 22:13). Christ is the head and sure foundation of the church. It is being built on*

*the rock of the revelation that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He said the gates of hell shall not prevail against it (Matt. 16:18). Jesus Christ started it and He will finish it when He comes again and establishes His kingdom on earth. Jesus finishes what He starts. In John 4:34 He said, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work." He came to fulfill a specific mission in His first coming. Our Heavenly Father sent Him to provide a means of redemption for fallen humanity. Jesus laid down His life as the once for all perfect sacrifice for sins forever (Heb. 10:12). He is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" (John 1:29). That is why Jesus said, "It is finished", as He bowed His head and gave up His spirit while hanging on the cross. We also know from Hebrews 12:2 that as Christians we are to be "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." I am so thankful for the example Jesus has given us in that He always will finish what He starts! Is your heart set on fulfilling the mission God has given you? Are you determined to finish this race you have started? I believe strongly that anything we have a part in building for God's glory is worth fighting for! We should be building a strong*

*faith in God daily through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We need to have an unwavering commitment to building strong marriages and families that will shine as a beacon of light in a dark world filled with broken homes. We need to keep our hands to the plow as we co-labor with God in building powerful, faith-filled, uncompromising churches who stand unashamedly on the authority of the word of God. Our churches should be filled with God's love, grace and mercy, yet never failing to call sinners to repentance and salvation through faith in Christ alone. We also need to be committed to our personal ministries as the Holy Spirit leads us. Our Lord Jesus Christ has chosen us to be His witnesses in the world and to serve others. Maybe you are reading this message today and you look at your life and see things that you started to build but now you see destruction. It may have been your marriage, family, a business, a dream, or ministry. I say to you don't live under disappointment of past failures. Our God can use these to catapult us into our destiny in Him. Decide now for yourself that you are going to start rebuilding today for God's glory and honor. Affix your eyes on Jesus,*

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To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me.

COLOSSIANS 1:27-29

set your heart on knowing Him more and doing His will in your life. Whatever God has called you to build for His glory, I encourage you today to start building, keep building, don't quit, fight the good fight of faith and finish what you start! "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Gal. 6:9). Be consumed with His love and walk in His power and grace!

Love in Christ,  
Clark Stallings

## Celebrate with us... 1st Book Published!

Hope of Glory's administrator, Pat Kinlaw, has recently sent her first book to press, entitled Joy in the Mourning. When going through trials and tribulations, many ask, "where is God in all this?" But God has shown that He is very near to the broken-hearted and He gives the oil of joy in the place of mourning. This 31-day devotional will encourage you to see light in dark situations. We do not serve a far-away God. He hears our every cry, He can identify with our pain, and He always answers!

I invite you to invest in this soon to be released devotional book. I know our Lord will use it to communicate hope, encouragement, and steadfastness to those who are in the midst of great trials. Would you please send a gift to help us raise the remaining \$1,000 needed to cover the initial publishing and editing costs? You may also pre-order this book for \$10.00 each. Please mark on the check "Book". Thank you for investing in the Kingdom of God!

- Clark Stallings

## Community Outreach

# God's Gracious Gift

Praise God, for He is doing a new thing!

Isaiah 43:19 says, "Behold, I will do a new

thing, **Now** it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." This calling is not only for God's Gracious Gift, but He is calling us all to be a road in the wilderness and a river in the desert. If you know Jesus as your Savior, He has promised you that, "out of your heart will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). I ask you what is the dam that is holding back your river? What are you afraid of? Take the breaks off for Jesus, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7). "The harvest is truly plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38). The time is now!

Donations are received **Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

We collect clothes, furniture, kitchen resources (dishes, utensils, small appliances), washers/dryers, refrigerators, & non-perishable food items. If you have an item you wish to donate that does not fall in one of these categories, please call beforehand. Thank you very much for your willingness to help others!

### HELP US STOCK OUR FOOD BANK

In the last newsletter, I wrote how the Lord wanted us to strengthen our tent stakes in preparation for the increase that was going to take place in the next few months. I am so glad we serve an "on time" God! The very next month we served 122 people, a new record for God's Gracious Gift. Because of the increase, we can't seem to keep our food bank full. This year we have already served over 1,300 people, directly or indirectly, by means of food, clothing, and/or household resources. Our vision at God's Gracious Gift is to have families, churches, youth groups, or any person willing, to partner with us in keeping our food bank stocked. Though we know that the Lord will always provide, this element is crucial in reaching the next level. We want to thank those of you who have sown into this ministry, and we urge you all to take hold of the vision God has given us so that you may have the opportunity to be blessed beyond all measure.

### HELP US PROVIDE THANKSGIVING MEALS

On November 20th, we will be going back to Moyewood Subdivision. God's Gracious Gift will provide every family in Moyewood with a complete Thanksgiving dinner. There are approximately 228 families who will be served, and each meal will cost \$16. We would greatly appreciate your donation toward this cause. Mark your check "Moyewood".

### HELP US PROVIDE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Christmas will be here before you know it. Every year we like to give you the opportunity to sponsor one of our chosen families for Christmas. This gives us the chance to shine the light of Jesus on the Christmas of those who are less fortunate than you. Thank you for your help. Mark your check "Christmas".

If you would like more information on how you could help in this area, or with the general ministry of God's Gracious Gift, call Joe Janowski at (252) 215-9042. Thank you for your partnership!



Hope of Glory Ministries

**“The Lord is my Rock and my Fortress and my Deliverer; The God of my strength, in whom I will trust...” (2 Sam. 22:2-3).**

**Upcoming events @ The ROCK**  
Hope of Glory Ministries

**Christmas Open House**  
Saturday, November 13th

**Day After Thanksgiving Sale**  
November 26th & 27th

**Come see all the new gifts coming in for the Christmas season.  
Fall and Christmas coffees now in-stock.  
Look for something new and exciting coming in mid-November.**

## Women's Ministry Updates

On September 18th, we came together as a community for our “Daughters of the King” Women’s Conference with Lisa Ryan, Co-host of the 700 Club. It was a great privilege to see the Lord fulfill His vision in His daughters that He began 1 1/2 years ago. I want to thank all the volunteers and attendees for your service that you gave in love. The women that attended ranged from ages 11 to 80. Truly, the Spirit is ageless!

Currently, we are in our 9th week of “The Allure of Hope” Bible Study. It has been so awesome to see God move and continue to work in the lives of His daughters. A new study will begin after the holidays. Please join us in prayer for the Lord’s guidance and wisdom as we seek Him.

Pastors’ wives love to have fun! We have been enjoying one another in fellowship and devotion. The theme for our last Pastors’ Wives Night was interior design...and a local designer volunteered her consulting services as the prize drawing! We are having a blast serving the One who came to serve, King Jesus! Our next night of fellowship will be December 7th...details will be coming soon!

For more information on Women’s Outreach, or how you can serve in this area, call Gina Robinson at (252) 321-6857.



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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

To stand in the gap between our community of believers and the church, and between the church and the lost. We will come alongside these three groups to proclaim the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ and minister through Christian resources, evangelism, discipleship and community outreach.

#### **Needs:**

- Non-perishable food items
- Delivery truck for God's Gracious Gift to pick up & deliver food, clothing, furniture, & household items. Also used for outreaches.
- More financial supporters to help fund our outreach ministries.

#### **Praises**

- For our ministry partners who support us prayerfully, financially, and give of their time and talents. Thanks!
- Women's Conference w/ Lisa Ryan. Very rich!
- Awesome concert w/ Chris Tomlin. God cleared the skies, people worshipped Him, and many seeds were sown!

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- Powerful move of God's Spirit in Thursday Night Bible Study & Women's Bible Study.
- Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6).
- Pray for Men's Conference attendees and our speaker, Bishop Larry Jackson.
- Thanksgiving Outreach in Moyewood to see people give their lives to Jesus.

#### **We Need Your Support!**

**We ask you to prayerfully consider supporting Hope of Glory Ministries financially. Your prayers and gifts enable us to**

#### **NEW COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY**

We would like to invite you to join us beginning **Thursday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** as we begin a 6-week bible study on "Roots of Our Faith". We will be using this book as a study reference, which was written by Chuck & Karen Cohen. This book addresses key controversial issues in the Body of Christ and answers questions such as, "Is the Old Testament still valid for today?" Please join us as we learn and grow in understanding our Jewish roots in our Christian faith. The cost of the book is \$10.00 and will be available at the first meeting. Both men and women are welcome. Clark Stallings will be teaching. Call 321-6857 to pre-register.

#### **Upcoming Ministry Events:**

- Monthly Pastor's Appreciation Luncheon (2nd Tuesday of month @ 12 PM)
- December 7: Pastor's Wives Fellowship
- November 20: Moyewood Outreach
- January 14-15, 2005: Area Men's Conference w/ Bishop Larry Jackson