



Psalm 16:1

*You reveal the path of life to me, **in your presence** is abundant joy, in your right hand are eternal pleasures. (Holman Christian Standard Bible)*

In His Presence:

Have you ever noticed that when God has something to teach you, He makes sure that you get the message in several different ways? If you read through chapters 4 – 8 of Proverbs, you will find that God tells us in several different places, and in a variety of ways to “listen”, and “pay attention”. Sometimes it takes God several tries to get our attention. Both pre-existing and new circumstances in our lives and in the lives of those we love may, at appropriate times, also be used by God to shape us and point us toward the lesson He would have us learn. It took several episodes and incidents in 2009 before I realized they all related to the same lesson God had for me.

It occurred to me recently, that last winter God had already begun to get my attention about my prayer life. He placed a desire in my heart to begin to plan a retreat for our women. This would be a retreat different from any other. It would be one at which we would spend much time in personal solitude and prayer. Several months later, when God called my dad to his heavenly home on Father’s Day morning, I spent prolonged periods before the Lord which served to deepen my prayer life. And in August when our 3 ½ year old grandson, Jon-Marc, was diagnosed with leukemia, my prayer time with the Lord began to take on new dimensions. I was beginning to realize, praying was more than just giving the lord my wish list.

Last week I found a new book in our home which I had not seen before. Weyburn, my husband, loves to read and I thought this must be a book he received from one of the ministries he supports. **Love to Pray** was just the type of book I thought would give me some new insights into prayer. It is designed to be used five days a week for four weeks. I used it for my devotions each morning last week and was blessed and enriched by the author’s insights, and the prayer exercises he directs the reader to complete. And then, I arrived at our church this weekend to find that **Love to Pray** will be the focus of our church and our pastor’s messages for the next several weeks. The book in our home had actually come from our church. (*I had been away for a couple of weeks.*) Well, the Lord now has my attention, and I am enjoying the lessons He is teaching me about my prayer life. To be sure, they are not new lessons, but like all children, I need to review, repeat and rehearse the things I have learned in the past.

Lord, you now have my full attention. Teach me to pray, and as you reveal the path of life you have for me, my family and my ministry, help me to enter into your presence more often so that I am able to experience your abundant joy, and your eternal pleasures. I know that along with the joy and pleasures, there will also be hardship and sorrow. I thank you for the grace to accept them both. Help me also to come with a heart ready to listen to you, and not just a heart full of wishes.



Ministry Updates:

Baby Blessing Boxes:

EMCWomen took on this project for 2009. It has been a blessing to the First Nations women of the Saugeen reserve in Ontario. Many churches have donated items directly to Sally Bragg so that she is able to include them in the boxes. As a ministry, we promised \$1000 to help fill these boxes with the supplies new moms need to care for their infants. We have only been able to fulfill half of that commitment. If 25 groups of women would submit \$20 each, we would be able to meet our goal and the new moms of Saugeen will know more of God's blessings.

Alone with God - Retreats for 2010

The date for the Ontario Retreat is now set for April 9-11, 2010 at Stayner Bible Conference Grounds. Details and registration information will be available in the fall. Plans are underway for an Alberta retreat. If you would like to hold a retreat in your area, please contact me.

Mission Trip 2010

The dates for our Romania Team trip will be the end of September and the beginning of October. We will be ministering for two weeks. If you are interested, please contact me. ***(Please see the accompanying poster)***

EMCC World Partners Share Support

This year has been a difficult financial year for everyone. You receive regular pleas for your help from many worthwhile agencies. The ministry of EMCC is no different. What **is** different is that the workers of EMCC are **your** representatives for Christ around the world. Consider how you might be able to donate so that these men, women and families will be able to continue the work they have been called to do. A list of missionaries who need **your** help is included with this mailing.

2010 Budget for *EMCWomen*:

We have worked hard to present you with the 2010 budget in good time so that you will be able to include us in your budget for 2010. Our funds for 2009 seem to be down a little, but we are trusting God for a strong finish to the year. We will give you a full report for 2009 in February 2010. ***(Please see the budget included with this letter)***

Please remember the ministry of *EMCWomen* in your prayers.

Debi Snider

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