

Isaiah 53:5

Alleluia... Christ is Risen!



OSL in CANADA

*The Canadian
Healer*

Easter 2020

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PRAYER AND PANDEMICS

Colin C M Campbell, PhD

It is said that at the time of the Black Death, the churches of Europe were full. The urge to turn to God, especially in time of trouble is universal and Jesus knows that it is not only Christians who will be praying for deliverance from the current pandemic. However, just before he gave his followers the Lord's Prayer, he warned them not to pray as the pagans do.

Since the goal of both pagan prayer and the Lord's Prayer is help from God, we must ask in what way is the Lord's Prayer superior?

In the first place, in the Lord's Prayer, we learn who God is (a Father), what his will is for us (to build the Kingdom of God); we learn of his Providence (for daily bread) and of all the petitions that he has promised to answer (for forgiveness as we forgive, salvation in trials, such as now, and deliverance from evil.)

Lacking the clarity of this revelation, our non-Christian brothers and sisters flounder in the "vain repetitions" that Christ warned against.

Secondly, as well as the Lord's Prayer, we have been given the Holy Spirit. The overwhelming majority of our prayers, including those of our liturgies, consist of prayers of petition for God to answer our requests. Yet, as Christians, because we have the Holy Spirit, logic dictates that, as well as us speaking to him, he wishes to speak to us and that we have the ability to hear him.

Understanding how this operates, requires that we take a long step back and consider the origin of our thoughts and feelings – there are three.

The first lies within our own nature. As our stored experiences interpret events, thoughts enter our minds.

The second lies with the Holy Spirit, who speaks to us in charisms - ideas to enlighten the mind and emotions to empower the heart.

The third, of course, is the enemy's anti-charisms, designed to spread confusion in our minds and perversion in our hearts.

Equipped with this understanding we can begin to interpret the distinction between speaking and listening to God.

To be able to pray effectively, however, we must first draw into the Presence of the Risen Christ.

It is significant that in the Holy Liturgy, the Prayers of the People are preceded by a long time of praise and Scripture reading. Praying in the Presence of Christ is necessary if we are to pray with words whose origin lies not merely with ourselves.

Speaking to God in prayer occurs when the words spoken are inspired by God's Spirit himself to be spoken back to him (Rom 8: 26-27).

A practical example may help to clarify the issue. In healing prayer, I begin by asking what the supplicant wants prayers for. As I pray, sometimes my words change direction and I end up praying for something quite different. The Lord has a more important problem to solve!

However, as well as inspired speaking prayer, there is also inspired listening prayer. Once we are in the Presence of Christ, rather than asking him to do what we want him to do for us, we can listen and let him tell us what he would like us to do for him and how he desires to help us.

This may be unfamiliar to some and be regarded with suspicion by many, yet in times of stress, such as we are living in

at the moment, I have found it to be deeply reassuring.

One who not only wishes to listen but also to speak.

Reading in Scripture of God's Providential care helps. Asking for that care, and trusting that he is listening, helps even more. Hearing personally how he intends to do it and what he requires me to do is most helpful of all.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to draw into God's Presence and find the



Colin Campbell is former President of The International Order of St Luke the Physician Board of Directors, and was elected the current member for Canada

on that Board. Colin is also Interim Director of OSL Region 8 (Ontario).



OSL Canada Network



OSL Canada is committed to finding ways for us all to remain connected and encouraged. "The Network" looks and feels like Facebook, but is a private, social network for now more than 70 OSL Members and invited guests. **'Embers' cool and grow cold when removed from fire. Let's stay connected and encouraged! Membership is FREE**

This is your invitation to join at

<http://oslcanadanetwork.ning.com/?xqi=0dYBiPD8YAKrYj>

Wanted

Your Story of Healing

Would you consider sharing your healing to encourage others? The length of your article can be up to 2 pages in Arial or Times Roman 12 Font. Please include a photo and a short bio. Attach your document and photo in an email to editor@oslCanada.org

If you do not have a photo or are not sure how to attach a document, simply write your story in an email and include your phone number so we can call if we have any questions. We'll do the rest and will return a proof for your approval.

On The Calendar

www.oslCanada.org/calendar.htm



OSL Telephone Conference Calls Encouragement for Healing Ministry

Anointed Teaching
Healing Conversations
Your Questions Answered

Free access to recorded calls at
<http://oslregion8.org/recordings.htm>

Each Call has a unique login (see below)
Calls begin at 4:00 PM Eastern

For more information and free long distance please visit
<http://www.oslRegion8.org/online.htm>

Apr 19



Rev Dr Dawn McDonald

**In Pursuit of
Sexual Wholeness**

Join Zoom Meeting Apr 19
<https://zoom.us/j/698548160>

May 17

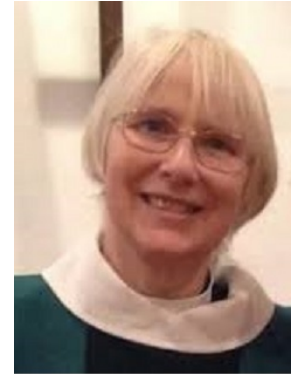


Rev Dr John Roddam

**A Healing Lifestyle as a
Disciple of Jesus**

For secure login
watch your inbox in May

Oct 18



Rev Dr Dawn McDonald

**Addressing
Gender Wounds**

For secure login
watch your inbox in Oct

Regarding Secure Login

There are reports of hackers logging in to Zoom meetings to post pornographic images and create other vulgar interruptions. For this reason we will not be making public login announcements after the April call that has already been advertised in SHARING and the website. Please do watch your email for secure login details beginning in May.

Sign up to receive emails at http://oslcanada.org/sign_up.htm

My Testimony And Something To Consider

Rev Dr Dawn McDonald

I was drifting in and out of sleep. The three hour time difference made it almost impossible for me to wake up with a clear mind: 6 am in Atlanta was my 3 am in British Columbia. My body was fighting to stay asleep, while my mind was saying I must wake up. It was then that it happened! In between sleep and wakefulness, I heard the ocean, and then a little girl laughing. Then I saw a little girl with long braids, 6 maybe 7 years old at the most. She was wearing a white dress and running on the beach barefoot tossing some shells into the air, and laughing with not a care in the world. What a picture of joy!! And oh how she looked so whole!! She was perfect in every way and beautiful to watch. And then she started to run toward a man on the beach. It was Jesus! He embraced her with such love and such tenderness as she ran into His arms. Then the two began to walk away holding hands. As I watched, the little girl who was clearly my younger self, looked back over her shoulder and waved at me. "Bye-bye!", she said, with such a sweet voice.

I lay there with my eyes wide open while the significance of the vision sunk in. This vision was a gift given to me after many years of pursuing healing for different wounds. It came, just as I was getting tired of working through things and getting very discouraged.

I contemplated—the list of emotional wounds that I had worked through, letting go, and giving to God. I had received healing in many areas, but I knew there were many more areas in which I needed healing, and I wasn't finished working through such wounds. From my father's rejection of my gender at birth to the numerous sexual abuse I endured. Over the years many traumatic events had broken my happy spirit and crippled me in so many ways. Many healthy boundaries had been violated by others, and the list of painful events seemed endless. I was beginning to

wonder if that child in me would ever feel whole. But here she was, in my vision, looking so whole!!

And through this vision, I realized that for all of my life, I was desperately trying to protect this little girl from pain and suffering. But as I replayed the scene of the little one waving good-bye in my mind, I realized that I didn't have to try to protect her any longer. The Lord was showing me that He was taking her for safekeeping.

The truth is, although I had received such wonderful healing at the time of my encounter with Christ, becoming a Christian had not magically made everything better. I am the first to admit that I came into my relationship with Jesus still broken and wounded in many ways. My conversion was just a starting point in pursuing healing in my life. As I grew in faith, the Lord started to reveal the various areas of my life in which I needed healing.

I lay there thinking of all the times I felt so alone. And of all the times I felt unlovable, plagued by the feelings of isolation, rejection, inadequacy, shame, and self-loathing. Until I met Christ, I didn't know what it was like to feel unconditionally loved and accepted. I felt so alone as a white child in a Japanese school, alone as a girl who hated being a girl and who didn't fit in with her peers, and then later in life, as someone experiencing same-sex attractions. I honestly didn't know what it was to "belong". I craved for love, acceptance, and affirmation, and as early as 6 or 7, I wanted my life to just stop. Life was too painful and too difficult for me. What a contrast to the child that I just saw!!!

Various events in my life had shaped me. Though I wasn't fully cognizant of it in the midst of life, the cry of my heart was for acceptance and love. Somewhere, I had mistakenly come to believe that my life would have been

happier if I had been born a boy. I related to Pinocchio who wanted to be a real boy, but unlike the story, I was never going to turn into a "real boy". I prayed every night that God would turn me into a boy, but I also knew that was never going to happen. Looking back, all I truly needed was for someone to come along beside me and tell me that it was a wonderful thing to be a girl and that I was valued, and loved for who I was.

I dated boys, but it didn't work for me. I had so wished that I could live my life as a man, married with kids, but that was never going to be possible. I tried to drown my pain and loneliness with alcohol, and drugs, and eventually entered into a lesbian relationship that lasted 13 years. All the while, I am ashamed to say, I was never faithful to my partner, and kept looking for love in all the wrong places. What is worse, I just didn't care who I hurt in the process. But when I encountered Christ, this all changed. I found God's unconditional Love for me – His love had no strings! His love penetrated deep into my soul, and I cannot begin to share the depth of healing I experienced in His unconditional Love. The initial experience of His Love and acceptance could have carried me for eternity. But the Lord wasn't content to leave me still broken in so many areas of my life, and He began His restorative work in me and started me on the path of pursuing wholeness.

Along the way, I learned that the Lord wanted me to see the reasons why I felt the way I did. Some healings like becoming reconciled with my father and learning to let go and forgive those who wounded me needed work. I soon learned that every wound (self-inflicted or inflicted by others) involved boundaries that were trespassed by others, or by me. All wounds boil down to un-kept boundaries. Even death is the result of Adam's sin.

Adam was given boundaries, so that he may exercise his free will and choose obedience. He was told he could have

every fruit from every tree in the garden except from one tree. But Adam chose to listen to Eve instead, and he did not refuse the fruit from the forbidden tree when Eve offered it. And so together, our first parents ate from the tree. And just as a drop of poison contaminates the whole glass of water, their sin reached deep into their souls and far into the cosmos, condemned their offspring and the whole creation.

Wholesome boundaries are essential in our lives if we want to experience the abundant life Christ came to offer us. But when wholesome boundaries are not modeled in our lives and our boundaries are continuously trespassed, we become incapable of establishing, maintaining and guarding wholesome boundaries. And this, of course, means that in time, we too will end up trespassing healthy boundaries in our relationships with others, thus perpetuating the cycle. Just because we became a Christian does not automatically make us sinless saints. In this broken world, everyone has had their boundaries trespassed and has trespassed someone's boundaries as well. It is no wonder that Jesus taught us to pray, *"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."*

The first temptation was to doubt God's Word. The serpent asked, "Did God really say?" God's Word is the sword in our spiritual armor. It cuts through lies and reveals the truth. Adam and Eve's fall would have never happened if they didn't doubt, but rather, had understood His Word to be absolute.

God's Word is Power that enables us to live victorious lives and was essential for me in my pursuit of wholeness. Knowing, believing, and trusting in God's Word sets us on solid ground. His Word is the **B**asic **I**nstruction **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth. In so many ways, our confusion in the world and sadly in the Church today regarding human sexuality stems from the fact that we have forgotten this fundamental truth. If you

recall, Jesus said to the Pharisees, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures and the Power of God” – Jesus wanted us to know that knowledge of the Word goes hand in hand with experiencing the Power of God in our lives.

Once disarmed of their spiritual sword, the devil stripped them of their true identity and sold Adam and Eve false understanding of who they really were. He told them that if they were to eat of the forbidden fruit, they could be like God, and they wouldn’t die. So instead of seeing themselves in the light of their relationship with God, loved by God and dependent on Him, they chose to see themselves as autonomous beings, able to make decisions apart from God, and capable of anything, even becoming like God.

The devil also told them that they will know the difference between good and evil. This is a huge lie that we humans believe about ourselves. We only need to look around us to realize that we are not capable of discerning what is truly good and what is truly evil. Increasingly, we live in a world where evil is called good, and good is called evil. Systematically, the devil has destroyed wholesome boundaries through our egos. Let’s admit it, we have trespassed and messed up.

Our sexuality is one area in which the devil has hit us. We live in a hyper-sexualized world now. One of the tools in the devil’s tool kit is desensitization. We have become desensitized to sexual trespasses all around us to a point that we don’t even seem to know what wholesome boundaries are any more, and seldom conscious when these boundaries are being trespassed.

For example, I once watched a toddler, no older than 4 years old, walk right up to a bin full of movies at a Walmart and stare right at a jacket of a DVD with a picture of a very naked woman on it. I was deeply disturbed by that event, for he would never be able to un-see what he had seen. How would that impact

him? Could the image he saw have imprinted on him negatively, affecting how he sees women? He was way too young for this. Would continuous assaults by such images over a period desensitize him? Give him a totally different understanding of sex from what God intended sex for? In a fraction of a second, the pornographic image had invaded this innocent young mind and his innocent world. And the very sad reality was that his mother who was walking with him was oblivious to what had just happened to her child. With a yank on his arm, she pulled him away from the bin, not even stopping to see what it was that he was looking at.

I consider this sexual abuse and sexual assault on the child, and I tell this story to illustrate that such assaults are everywhere. Not one of us is sexually whole in this broken world. We have all been exposed to depraved sexuality in today’s world. It’s inevitable. There is no way that we can go through life in this day and age unscathed. What is more, confusion around sexuality and gender has become the devil’s weapon of choice for this generation, and even committed Christians are not immune. Statistics show that the rate for divorce and the rate of Christian men and women addicted to porn are no different from the secular world.

Pursuit of sexual wholeness in this highly sexualized world requires us to return to the Word of God and to acknowledge that we need the Power of God in our lives. It means, we must consciously spend time in the Word to learn what wholesome boundaries are, and then intentionally establish, maintain, guard them. Pursuit of sexual wholeness means we need to acknowledge God knows what is best for us, and that there is such a thing as God’s design of sexuality for us, and that we need to order our lives according to His design. And we can’t do this without the Lord’s help.

The good news is, if we are open to being shown and be taught, God is

faithful. If we are seeking healing, the Lord is our healer. But it all starts with us acknowledging that we need His intervention, and we must be willing to be made whole and put in the work required. The good news is, God wants us to turn to Him, and we can trust Him. And His Word says, He will complete the good work that He has begun in us. He loves us too much to leave us where we are.

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:1-2



Born in Victoria, British Columbia, and raised in Japan by missionary parents, C. D. McDonald has been an ordained Anglican priest in parish ministry for 12 years in the Anglican Church of Canada, and 10 years in the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida. She now resides in Sanford, Florida with her husband. McDonald holds the Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity degrees from the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad in Saskatchewan, Canada; and the Doctor of Ministry degree in the area of Pastoral Counseling from the Graduate Theological Foundation in Indiana, U.S.A.

Dawn is a Certified Pastoral Sexual Addiction Specialist with the Christian Sexual Addiction Specialists International, and a Certified Pastoral Sexual and Relational Recovery Specialist with Compulsive Problematic Sexual Behavior & Partner Trauma Association. For the full bio and a link to her book visit http://oslregion8.org/dawn_mcdonald.htm

Join Conference Calls in May and October for a healing conversation with Dawn.

On What Are You Dwelling?

Keith Bird

We all dwell (day dream) on something from time to time... sometimes on the past with its regrets, hurts and ‘what if’s’... sometimes on the future with its hopes, fears and uncertainty... and other times in the moment, dwelling on anything but the present and what it has to offer.

In this time of uncertainty and concern for our welfare and the welfare of our loved ones during the COVID situation, there is hope... and hope abundant in the Words of Holy Scripture.

A new focus on Psalm 91 will bring many things... above all, a change in the atmosphere and a renewed sense of who we are and who God is... and what

He offers now... today... in this moment... and every moment from now on if we choose to agree with and “dwell” as verse 1 urges us to do:

Psalm 91 (NIV)

“¹ Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.^[a]

² I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

³ Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴ He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your

shield and rampart.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the
darkness, nor the plague that
destroys at midday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

⁸ You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the
wicked.

⁹ If you say, "The LORD is my refuge,"
and you make the Most High your
dwelling,

¹⁰ no harm will overtake you, no
disaster will come near your tent.

¹¹ For he will command his angels
concerning you to guard you in all
your ways;

¹² they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot
against a stone.

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the
cobra; you will trample the great lion
and the serpent.

¹⁴ "Because he^[b] loves me," says
the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will

protect him, for he acknowledges my
name.

¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer
him; I will be with him in trouble, I
will deliver him and honor him.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him and
show him my salvation."

May God bless you as **dwelling** in the
shelter of the Most High!



Rev. Keith Bird is a Deacon in the Anglican Church of Canada, editor of the Canadian Healer and a Chaplain in OSL. His ministry includes pastoral care, visiting, end of life, and Grief Recovery. Keith leads a team in hosting OSL Telephone Conference Calls, enjoys music and loves hanging out with his ten grandchildren.

Happy Easter!



Christ is Risen indeed... Alleluiah!

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Editor: Keith Bird, editor@oslCanada.org