



The Christian Connection™



A Quarterly Newsletter from Christian Resource Network, Inc.

SOARING COMMUNICATION FOR CHRIST

Ever Increasing Faith

By: Joan M. Blake



Have you been feeling lost and confused? You have reasons to be-your life is in turbulence, the wind is not blowing your way, and you are waiting-for the right person or the right job or the right situation to come your way-but it hasn't. Getting your needs met by turning to another for comfort or trusting in someone is temporarily satisfying, but often, it is disappointing. It is satisfying when you turn to a friend who really understands your situation and can empathize with you, but it is disappointing when you put your trust in someone and that person fails to

respond to you at a time when you need him or her. Who can you turn to at a time like this?

You turn to God knowing and believing that he has the power to change your circumstances. Others can pray with and for you, but only God can change your situation. He is the author and finisher of your faith (Hebrews 12:2). God knew you before you were born. He formed you in your mother's womb (Isaiah 44:2). He has counted all the hairs on your head (Luke 12:7). He knows the length of your days, all of your thoughts-your fears and your anxieties. He knows your past, what you are presently dealing with (Ps.139:1-10) and identifies with your pain; for he himself bore your pain when he suffered and died on Calvary for your sins and mine. But that was not the end. Jesus rose the third day, victorious over sin and death (Mark 16:6).

What a friend we have in Jesus. He is our friend in the time of our need. He is our comforter (Psalm 94:19). He listens to our cries anytime in the day or night. He is never busy or tired. In our struggles, he encourages us to have faith in him, that he will work things out in his time and for our good (Mark 11:22; Romans 8:28). He lets us know that faith moves mountains and obstacles in our lives; and that we can trust in the God in whom we serve by exercising faith in him; for He is able to do abundantly more than we can ask or think according to the power working within us (Matthew 11:20; Ephesians 3:20).

I regard this belief in him as ever increasing faith-a level of faith that allows us to stand on God's promises regardless of how intense our situations may be. We need to embrace this faith even when we realize that our circumstances may never change. Why? God has the answers to our lives. The Bible says that God is love. God loves us and is concerned about every detail of our lives (1 John 4:8-10). He is the potter and we are the clay (Isaiah 64:8). Can we tell God what to do and how to do it?

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The Christian Connection is published by the Christian Resource Network Inc., a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization whose main mission is to provide support to those who are experiencing emotional pain. Other related services include women's small group training and mentoring services.

If you would like to become a member of Christian Resource Network, Inc., make contributions, advertise in *The Christian Connection Newsletter*, or be on our email list, please contact the editor or visit our website.

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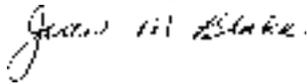
Leah M Blake

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No. He uses our trials to shape us into vessels fit for use in his kingdom. God is working things out according to his own perfect will and for our good (Romans 8:28). It's not our will, but God's will that will be done.

So today, let us not be overwhelmed with our trials, but continue to stand on God's promises utilizing ever increasing faith in him, for "without faith, it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6 NASB).

May God shower you with his blessings.



Editor/Publisher

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Plan to Attend our Network Breakfast November, 2009

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Finding Comfort, Hope, and Purpose in the Midst of Your Storm by: Joan M. Blake, Author.

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DESCRIPTION OF BOOK

This book is a moving story of Joan Blake's journey from her island home of Trinidad and Tobago to attend college and work in America. She expresses the joys and challenges of being a wife and mother, and shows by her personal testimonies that even when life deals out times of sorrow, we can find comfort, hope and purpose by resting in God.

The prayer, scripture, and reflection sections at the end of each chapter enables one to use the book for personal as well as group study.

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Letters To The Editor

If you were blessed by the articles published in this volume, we want to hear from you.

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