

Christian Women in Action >>>>
5917 Bond Court
Alexandria, VA 22315



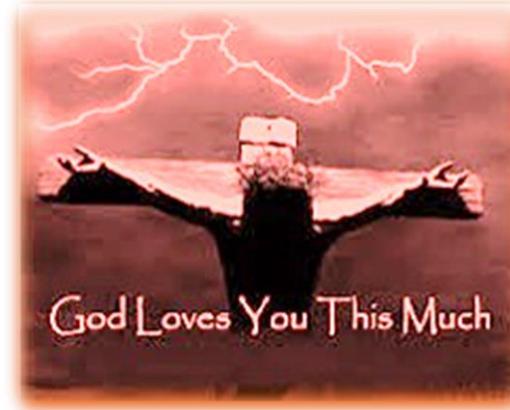
www.cwiaholyspirit.org

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My Beloved Family of Christ,



I am writing to you about the Love of Christ. Because so many come to me finding it hard to believe that the Lord loves them.

Do you have trouble believing that God loves and cares for you? If so, you're not alone. Many Christians struggle with this issue because they can't quite picture the Lord, in all His glory and majesty, being interested in individuals like them. Perhaps they feel unworthy of His attention or think He's too busy governing the entire universe

to be concerned about the details of their lives. Whatever the reason for their doubt, they are missing out on the joy of an intimate relationship with the God who loves them and desires to walk with them every day.

David wrote the most well-known of all the Psalms describing God's love for us – Psalm 23. In the very first verse, he identifies the Lord as "My Shepherd". He's not merely a shepherd or one of many, but a personal shepherd. This implies a close relationship between the sheep and The Shepherd.

The basis for this relationship is found in John 10:11. Jesus identifies Himself as the Good Shepherd, saying, "*The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.*" If we've realized our sinful condition, acknowledged Christ's death on our behalf, and received Him by faith as our Savior, we are His sheep and can be confident of His care for us. At our baptism we became His children, but now as a mature person we must acknowledge by our faith. The rest of Psalm 23 outlines what we can expect from our loving Shepherd. Every verse describes how He demonstrated His tender love for us.

First of all, He is a providing Shepherd. "*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.*" God knows exactly what we need because He's all-knowing. We can trust Him to supply all our physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. Now, this doesn't mean He'll provide them in exactly the way or the time we expect, but we can always know that He will do what's best for us.

Second, the Lord is our guiding Shepherd. "*He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*" Jesus said that His sheep hear His voice and follow Him (John 10:27)." When I was in Israel, I had many opportunities to observe how shepherds and sheep interact.

God, Do You
Still Love Me?

YES NO

CWIA
Prayer Breakfast Meeting
Saturday, March 25, 2017
10:00 am – Noon (NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIME)

Holiday Inn – Carlyle
2460 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: 703.960.2000
2 minute walk from Eisenhower Ave Metro

For info/tickets, call Patti: 703.971.3633
Kathleen Murray: 703.451.5737
Edelmira Cruz: 703.266.4850

Cost: \$15 - Buffet Breakfast

www.cwiaholyspirit.org



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One evening, two shepherds and their flocks came to the same well. The sheep mingled with each other, until one flock could not be distinguished from the other. However, as one of the shepherds started to walk away, he called out, and his sheep immediately separated from all the others and followed him. That's exactly how we should respond to our Shepherd. He always leads us the right way, yet so often we are prone to wander. Some times we think another pasture looks greener than the one He's chosen for us, or perhaps we simply take our eyes off the Shepherd, get lost, and find ourselves in trouble. No matter where or why we stray, our shepherd always comes to find us. He doesn't beat us with His rod for our disobedience, but simply picks us up and carries us home, rejoicing that we have been found and restored (Luke 15:4-6).

The third quality of our Shepherd is that He is our protector. *"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."* All the paths God chooses for our lives are for the purpose of sanctifying us OR making us His righteous. Sometimes this means we must go through dark valleys. However, no matter how difficult or threatening the path seems, there is no need to fear because our Shepherd is always with us. When we keep our eyes on Him, we are able to persevere and come out on the other side displaying a Christ-like character that glorifies Him and benefits us. The Shepherd's rod and staff are symbols of protection and comfort for the sheep, not a cause for fear... With His staff, he gently guides straying sheep, and His rod is used to protect them from wild animals.

Finally, our Shepherd makes preparations for us. *"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows."* Just as an honored guest in ancient times was welcomed with anointing oil, so Christ invites us to sit down and enjoy fellowship with Him. In the midst of whatever threatens or troubles us, we find refreshment in His presence. AMEN!

If you take the time to really read it and study what I wrote in this letter, every time you read Psalm 23, it will speak to you! May God Be Praised!

Your Servant In Christ,

Stella Davis

You are invited to our **prayer breakfast meeting** on **Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** at the **HOLIDAY INN - CARLYLE** at **2460 EISENHOWER AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314.** Off Interstate 495, this hotel is a two minute walk from the Eisenhower Avenue Metro station. For more info go to www.cwiaholyspirit.org or call Patti 703.971.3633. Price is \$15 and includes a Buffet Breakfast and all tax/gratuities. If you wish to stay at the hotel on Friday night, ask for the CWIA discounted rate (for the breakfast meeting). Bring a friend. Great speakers, fellowship, praise & worship. Men and women are invited. The Lord is waiting for you! There will be a healing service afterwards.

March 25th Guest Speaker: "BEVERLY BURKE" Beverly is a freelance media consultant, screenwriter, producer, talk show host, reporter, and member of the Screen Actors Guild, and retired to her home in Maryland after 45 years in radio and television. She is also Past-President of her Parish Council at St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church. While driving around in Durham, North Carolina where she anchored the evening news, she experienced a 'message' that her life was going to change! So present was this understanding that she pulled off the road and cried, knowing only that what she heard, without words, was the Truth. Even though no detailed information was provided, she trusted that God was preparing her to take Him seriously. Months later, even though a single woman, she adopted her daughter in a leap of faith. She saw God provide her with job after job, including moving to a position in Baltimore where she replaced Oprah Winfrey on a TV talk show. From Los Angeles to Washington DC, through breaking news stories, investigations and exclusive interviews, she has felt action by the Holy Spirit. This grace leads her in the responsibility that she holds in communicating to the public. She traveled to the Holy Land with CWIA, but her walk with the Lord and her faith were truly awakened when she experienced the love and closeness of the Blessed Mother when she traveled with us to Medjugorje. Bring a friend and hear her story!

Our next prayer breakfast will be Saturday, May 27, 2017 at 10:00am. Note the change in time.

We will tour the beginning of our Catholic roots in Southern Maryland in June 2017. We will give you more details as soon as they become available from dear friend, Pat Cosey.

"Apparition Hill": The CWIA movie showing was a tremendous success! Many were touched very deeply. Continue the journey - travel with us to Medjugorje in the 2nd week of July 2017.

Intercessory Prayer Meetings: Mondays, 10:30am at 5917 Bond Court, Alexandria, Virginia, 22315

Prayer Chain: For prayer, e-mail our Prayer Chain at fraven1@verizon.net.