



Women of the kingdom

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a
Saviour which is Christ the Lord*



CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE!

Greetings to all the saints in the might name of Jesus Christ!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the WOK Durham Family for all their hard work and efforts in producing our monthly newsletters. Last month's edition was inspiring and uplifting! It is good to see what we can accomplish when we all come together.

Christmas time is here! During this season, many come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Every now and again it is good to be reminded that if it wasn't for the birth of Jesus, we would not be where we are today. Jesus was born to a virgin girl in a place where animals were kept. One would think that if the King of Kings was making his entrance, it would be in a palace. But instead God had his only Son make his appearance in the lowliest of circumstances. This same Jesus would become the most influential person in the history of the world. No other leader would ever compare to him! Yet, he was more concerned about redeeming us and saving our lost souls.

I am so thankful that God didn't send his Son for the rich and wealthy only, but he sent him for all of us. Because He came, we can all be born again and experience the life that he has destined for us. This Christmas, while celebrating with family and friends, remember the real meaning of the season – Jesus Christ!

On behalf of Bishop James, myself and the entire James family, Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!

God Bless you all!
First Lady Rosenda James

Christmas is not as much about opening our presents as opening our hearts. Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen. I wish we could put up some of the Christmas Spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month. I have a lot to be thankful for this Christmas just to have my daughter home. Merry Christmas to all and remember whose birthday it is.
Sis. Winsome

IT IS SO EASY TO GET CAUGHT UP IN THE EXCITEMENT OF THE HOLIDAYS AND NEGLECT THE REASON WHY WE CELEBRATE...GOD SENT HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST, AS AN ACT OF LOVE



Greetings to all the saints! I hope you all enjoyed our last newsletter. The WOK family looks forward to sharing words of encouragement with you each month. I hope you all enjoy this next edition. Please continue to support our Ladies as they endeavor to be all who God created them to be. Be blessed!

The holiday season has arrived once again! During this time, you can't help but notice the cheerful sounds of Christmas. Love and laughter fills the air and the spirit of giving is evident everywhere. Friends and family members come together to celebrate the season.

It is so easy to get caught up in the excitement of the holidays and neglect the reason why we celebrate. God sent his son, Jesus Christ, as an act of love. He gave us this special gift that would change the course of our lives forever. We can draw a very important truth from God's example today. It can be summed up in two words, "love gives". It is easy to say that we love someone but the true measure of our love for another is in what we do. The bible says, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."

When I think about laying down our lives for our brothers and our sisters, I can't help but think about placing another's needs above our own. This would require us to be selfless and sacrificial in our actions. How many times has someone done us wrong? How many times have we been offended by another? How did we respond? Did we lay down our lives in order for love to rule? Or, did we decide that we were no longer going to speak with that person? Did we make the decision that they were not worthy of our forgiveness? Or, did we give them exactly what they needed, love?

Some of us have allowed the mistreatment of others to stop up the wells of love in our hearts. It is easy to love our family members or our closest friend but it takes a sacrificial heart to extend that love to someone who mistreats and abuses us. God wasn't selective in who he chose to love. John says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever

believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life".

*Some of us have allowed
the mistreatment of others
to stop up the wells of
love in our hearts*

His love was extended to all humanity, the good and the bad, the wicked and the kind. If we love Christ then there is something that we must also give. What is that? We must give ourselves, wholly and completely to Him. When we give ourselves wholeheartedly to Him, we no longer allow things to enter our lives that would bring disunity and disharmony in our relationship with Him. We would then begin to see his love displayed in the way we treat others.

Instead of holding on to anger and hurt, we would give our offender the gift of love, compassion and forgiveness.

Remember, the greatest gift that we can give each other is love. Replace all the negative actions and feelings with the ways of Christ and be an imitator of Him in everything you do. God's gift of love didn't end when Jesus died and was resurrected, but his love is still abounding today and it extends to all. Let us love one another, not only during this holiday season but let it transcend every area of our lives. Choose to give someone the gift of love not only this month but every day!

Wishing you and your loved ones a Very Merry Christmas!

Abundant Blessings,
Pastor Bridget

THE DIFFERENCE

By: Michelle Mason-Taylor

I got up early one morning
and rushed into the day:
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask".

I waited to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said, "But you didn't seek".

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you did not knock".

I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

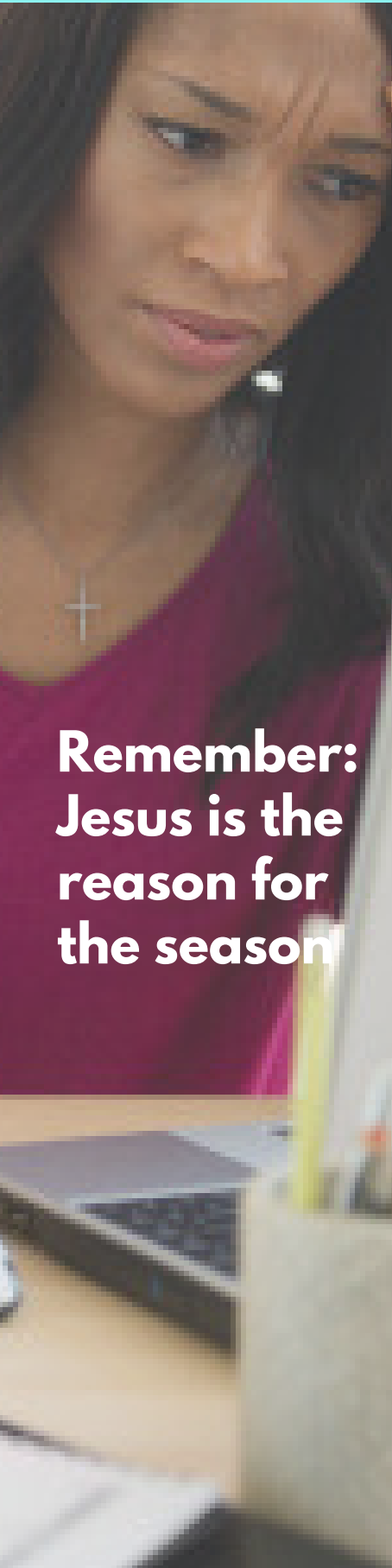


SURVIVAL TIPS FOR DURING THE BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON

With Christmas approaching, we often say that Jesus is the reason for the season, but many of us still find ourselves wondering how we are going to get through the 12 days of Christmas along with the long list of commitments.

Here are a few practical tips that I hope you can use:

1. Set your priorities. Before too many activities overwhelm you, it's important to decide which traditions offer the most positive impact, and eliminate unnecessary activities. For example, if you usually become overwhelmed by a flurry of baking, shopping, sending cards, visiting relatives and other activities that leave you exhausted, you may want to pick your favourite activities and really enjoy them, and skip the rest.
2. Ask for help. Have a "family meeting" and make a commitment to share tasks. Rather than have one person cooking the whole meal, have family and friends bring a dish. Children can help with gift-wrapping, decorating, baking or addressing cards. Try to focus on doing what's really important to you and your family.
3. Beware of overindulgence. Alcohol is a depressant so try to keep consumption to a minimum. Too much food can make you feel lethargic, tired and even less able to keep up a busy pace.
4. Relax...Breathe...Enjoy! This sounds so simple, but sometimes we forget to take deep breaths and give our bodies the oxygen we need. Remember to take time to do things you enjoy like exercising, listening to music or meditation that will serve as much-needed breaks during the hectic weeks of the holidays.
5. Stay within budget. Finances are a great stressor so set a budget and stick with it. A call, a visit or a note to tell someone how important he or she is to you can be as touching and often more meaningful than a gift.
6. Remember what the holiday season means to you. While holiday advertising creates a picture that the holidays are about shiny new toys and gift giving, remember that this season is really about sharing and time spent with loved ones. Develop your own meaningful family traditions. Encourage children to make gifts or cards for friends and relatives so the focus is on giving rather than receiving.
7. Learn about others. Attend diverse cultural events with family and friends. Help out at a local food bank or donate clothing and toys to families in need so that they can enjoy a happy holiday season. It's a good feeling to give to others.
8. Include others. If you have few family members or close friends nearby, reach out to neighbours. Find ways to spend the holidays with other people. If you're part of a family gathering, invite someone you know is alone to your gathering.
9. Put fun, humour, affection and "break time" into your holidays. Fun or silly activities, games or movies that make you laugh, hugs, playing with pets, and quiet time alone or with a partner are all good ways to reduce stress.
10. Get into the light. Research suggests that elevated depression around this time of year can have a lot to do with the weather, especially lack of daylight and Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). So soak up the sun when you can. If your dampened mood persists for weeks into the New Year, consider a visit to your physician or mental health professional.



**Remember:
Jesus is the
reason for
the season**



Joy to the World

BY LEILA SPRINGER LIFE COACH, AUTHOR AND PUBLIC SPEAKER

I wonder what your reaction would be if one familiar carol that you have been singing for years “Joy to the World, the Lord is come” suddenly came to life in your very own living room on Christmas morning. If miraculously the Lord was standing waiting to greet you as you reached out to grab the gifts that you were longing to open. I wonder which part of that carol would really touch your heart deeply as you gazed at the master.

I don't know what I would do, but I like to think I would zero in on the verse that says: No more let sin or sorrow grow, or thorns infest the ground, He came to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found. If you let these words resonate in your mind as you grasp the truth that they represent and what they mean to your personal redemption, life as you know it should take on new meaning. No generational curse can ever touch you. You would realize that you were redeemed to be prosperous spiritually and naturally and there is no end in sight for your blessings that were decreed by God on your life. What a wonderful promise all wrapped up in these few verses that we have sung for years and no matter how long we have sung them they still remain fresh and most of all, true.

This year as we celebrate our faith, family, and the traditions of giving gifts and sending texts, emails and cards with the warmth and love of Christmas and the spirit of Christ, do something special for the persons closest to you and let them know how much you love and appreciate them. Too often we take each other for granted and never let them know how we truly feel. This Christmas do some talking and share some love.

To all my beautiful sisters in Christ, I am so glad that we are bonded together with the scarlet thread of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and he has created and formed us as Uniquely Amazing individuals to live abundant lives Remember; IT IS POSSIBLE.

“May you enjoy a blessed and abundant Christmas!”

Trust in the Lord

Sharmaine Walcott

There comes a time in our lives, after all the trials and tribulations, after the battles we've fought, after the sicknesses we've suffered, after the disappointments we've overcome, after the tragedies we've had to face, after the hurts and the pains we've endured, that we come to a place, where we can truly say, that if it had not been for the Lord on our side, we surely would not be here today! He has fought our battles, He has healed our diseases, He has brought us through many disappointments and has eased our hurts and pains and taken away our burdens. He has comforted us during our times of tragedy and loss! No matter what our situation is today, whatever we are faced with, we can put our trust in God! Proverbs 3:5-6 admonishes us to trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.

Our God has never failed us, never lost a battle! He can calm every storm, heal every disease, solve all our problems! He is a faithful God and true to His word! His word declares in Jeremiah 29 v 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Let's stand firm in our faith, in our trust and confidence in God without fear and without wavering! We can depend on Him!

There is no Christmas without Christ

Janeve Edwards

Snowflakes falling and Twinkling Lights
Warm drinks and a family filled with delight
Gathered around the dining table, and praying over food
Giving thanks to God, for the holiday mood.

Hello Everyone! As we all know, Christmas time is here again. It's the season of gift-giving, love, lots of food and so much more!

Christmas is one of the happiest times of the year! But with everything going on, the hustle and the bustle, it can be easy to forget the meaning behind the holiday season.

It's our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

A special child was born, a child who would change our lives forever. This child affected the people around him, brought them together as one and still touches millions of lives today. What an awesome gift God gave to us, am I right?

So this holiday season, I encourage you to remember and share with others the great gift you have received, and how it has blessed your heart!

In all our celebration, remember there is no Christmas without Christ!

God Bless and Merry Christmas!

Woman of the Month



Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. – 1 Timothy 3:11

Sis. Michelle Mason Taylor is a dedicated member of RTT. She first heard about RTT at a very young age while living in Mississauga. In 1988, as a young Christian, she attended a very conservative Baptist church. She often heard very positive things about what Bishop and First Lady James were doing in the city and was greatly impressed.

She moved to Durham 16 years ago with her husband, and was on a quest to find a church home. It was important to her to locate a church where she could grow spiritually, work in the Kingdom, and be a blessing to others. Sis. Michelle frequently visited RTT for about 2 years. With each visit, she was ministered to by each of the Pastors of the church and was especially moved by the powerful prayers of Pastor Edwards. She decided in 2010, that RTT Durham would become her church home.

Eventually, Sis. Michelle began working as an usher and also became a part of the WOK fundraising team. She is now involved in the hospitality ministry which encourages Christian fellowship and friendships which is a very important part of the church family.

Sis. Michelle currently resides in Brooklin, Ontario along with her husband. She has a background in social work and currently works in Public Health in an Administrative role for the past 27 yrs.

We are so happy to have Sis. Michelle as part of the WOK family! Her contributions to WOK never go unnoticed and we appreciate her!
Lots of love from your WOK Family

Christmas Cake!

BY: DONNA CAMPBELL



Here's what you'll need to make a yummy Christmas Cake

- 1 lb butter or margarine .
- 1 dozen eggs.
- 4 cups brown sugar
- 5 cups flour
- 2.5 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon allspice
- 5 cups mixed and or finely cut fruits
- 2 cups red wine(sweet)
- 1 cup rum
- 1/2 cup molasses.



Fruits should be pre-soak in rum and wine, if not boil fruit with the wine and rum on low heat for 10 to 15 minutes. Let cool.

Cream sugar and butter, add eggs one at a time until mixture is smooth , add vanilla, add cool fruit mixture .

Combine flour , salt, allspice and baking powder cinnamon and add to mixture slowly and well . mixture should be slightly runny, if mixture is too runny add more flour, if its too dry add more wine

Pour mixture into well greased and floured baking pan, bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees.

To test if cake is done insert tooth pick, if tooth pick come out clean cake is done.

When done pour a little wine or rum over warm cake, you can also use warm water . Happy baking.



BY: KATHY LEWIS

IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

I must confess giving wasn't inherently something I did. I frowned upon the idea of giving a piece of my spit-laden gum, as a child, a common practice on the island of Jamaica, even a taste of bag juice, when my cousin said "beg yu some nuh," but best of all was the ice cream man's pious arrival. Every Sunday evening, he came on his scooter with the tune of "Cree-EE-my here." Children rushed to their gates in much anticipation. Don't even think about asking for some if you were one of the unfortunate ones. Giving can be difficult because it requires a sacrifice. It takes much time, effort, and discipline to reach one's goal, saving allowances or lunch money, especially with limited cash flow. I too was guilty of a similar act. My mother scolded me once because I refused to give some of my hair oil to my sister. After months of saving up every penny, I finally reached my goal. With pride and joy, I purchased my first plastic jar of Magic green hair oil, and the first person to sample it was my sister. How could this be? When I found out she took some, I threw the jar away. In retrospect, it wasn't the desire of longer hair, which would have been most welcome, as was the norm, but that's another tale for another time; however, it was more so crossing the threshold into adulthood. As a girl, this was my rite of passage. I accomplished something that was common to my mother, independence.

My mother was a higgler- seller- initially, in Spanish Town market, and then in Manchester market. I heard she even went to Chapleton, and some other places around the island to sell. If she were alive now, she would have been considered an entrepreneur. She wasn't afraid to spread her wings and soar. She sold chicken feet. She had a much needed heightened sense of determination, nine children and social and religious onslaught. There was an overwhelming feeling of my womanhood being robbed, one that I held so dearly.

Of course, this lesson wasn't clear in the heat of the moment, as a child. It was not until I looked back through the eyes of my experiences and, more importantly, positioned my action in the word of God that I came to fathom the errors of my ways.

"Oh Lord, You're beautiful. Your face is all I seek. For when Your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me"

The Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Christ is the reason for the season. Now, sometimes as believers our understanding resulting to actions becomes "vain oblations" in God's sight; we regurgitate scriptures through rote. Consequently, they become religious like the children of Israel's, chanting without actions, meaninglessness, resulting to misunderstandings and misdeeds, and God said to bring no more of these robotic mechanical worship; away with them. He said to write his word on our hearts, not literally but metaphorically. The word becomes life, our choices and actions done with love. We need to know that understanding results to action whether good or bad. If bad, they become dead, dry bones, infertile because they are missing the key ingredient, love. Christ said, "Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

We should not overlook the descriptor good. My fruit wasn't good. It became vain because of my selfish action. Consequently, it was not acceptable to my mother, and now I know that my mother's heart was saturated with God's love. She understood what true worship is. However, I adopted the principles and ethics of hard work from my mother, resulting in my fruit, my Magic green hair oil, but not the understanding of love. I wasn't willing to extend a hand or stretch myself. I was missing the key ingredient, love. Now, not to say that my mother wasn't a giver and that was what resulted in my behaviour; this wasn't so; otherwise, she wouldn't have corrected my behaviour.

According to one of my sisters, our house was like a hotel; people kept passing through. My mother extended her hands widely and wisely. Ultimately, I chose not to give. Some would say, well that's a kind gesture, but giving is a gift. I beg to differ. Salvation is a gift, and it is our choice to accept it fully. My mother was proud of me, but she knew I missed the mark, love. God wasn't selfish in his decision; he loves humanity so much that he gave His only begotten Son, Christ, to redeem us so that we can eat from the tree of life. He requires offering up our prized possessions. He calls us not only to produce fruit but to produce good fruit, not to be selfish in our decisions but to be true in our actions. I must say I admire my mother's courage. It took real courage to discipline a child after such achievement, one that was probably frowned upon then and would have been frowned upon now. But God requires a sacrifice. Let's not miss the mark.



Prayer Corner



BY: MARGARET
MCKENZIE

It's the Christmas Season! Christmas carols will be heard everywhere and we get excited. Roaming the stores buying gifts for our families and friends; attending dinners. Inviting in-laws and outlaws for special cooked Christmas dinners or lunches. But have we stopped to think what this is all about? Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus in a manger?

It was over 2000 years ago in a chaotic world just as we are in today, when a group of shepherds were startled while they were in the field, watching their flock. An angel came and told them not to fear; For behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ The Lord. (Luke 2:10-11).

Of course, there is nothing wrong with buying gifts for someone during the Christmas season or any other times.

We are reminded in the scriptures that Jesus was a great gift to the whole world from God the father. God so love the world that he gave us his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him will have everlasting life. (John 3:16). In order to show us what God is like he had to put himself in a body. Born of the virgin Mary. Matthew (1:20-21).

(Hebrews 11:3) gives us some more truths That he existed long before time began. God is self-existence a great gift! Grace.

In (1 Timothy 2:2) We are asked to pray for those that is in authority, that we may have a quiet and peaceful life.

We must also pray for our communities; pray that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will go out to every corner of the earth that whoever hears and believe will be saved.

Quote of the Month

By Lala Comrie

If you can't figure out your purpose figure out your passion because your passion will lead you straight to your purpose

What's your purpose? Are you living it?

Let me share a secret with all of you... My dad taught me everything I know about being an entrepreneur. He taught me that resilience, hard work and investing in others, pays off. His character and his commitment to people were part of his story, part of what he left behind for his children and all the lives he touched.

I often wonder what I will leave behind?

The Lord gives and he takes away, and everything is about purpose. I think when you're doing what you're supposed to be doing everything else just falls into place, everything else just makes sense.

We all have a story, a legacy that we are going to leave behind, and more importantly a purpose we must fulfill; losing my father taught me that life isn't about money and material things but instead it's about the lives we touch and the fulfilling our purpose, no matter how big or small it might be. We are all called to do something.

I think my dad set out to be an entrepreneur because he merely loved helping people and that same fire burns within me. Sure I'm a writer but in fact I think writing is merely my tool. I simply love empowering people by helping them write their own story.

Stay Blessed!

Women in the Word is scheduled the last Friday of every month.

We look forward to seeing all the ladies there

If you'd like to contribute to this newsletter please email wokdurhamnewsletter@gmail.com

<http://www.revivaltimetabernacle.org/>

This Newsletter was edited & designed by:

Lalaa Writes Content & Communications

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