

The Lamp newsletter

January 2018

A LIGHT UNTO YOUR PATH

IN THIS ISSUE

Moving Forward

By Jessica Jemmott, Founder

Thank you for taking this journey with us. We are excited for what is to come as we continue to move forward. In November 2016, right after *Simply Redeemed* was published, I received encouragement from the Lord saying "Just because you cannot see in the natural what I am doing in the spiritual, does not mean I am not moving. Trust Me." It has been that very notion that has carried me through each progression.

It is uniquely intriguing to identify various ways throughout my life when things take place and confirmed in threes. This past year I have shared the parallels of pregnancy and labor with our journey. Are you aware that there are 3 trimesters during pregnancy as well as 3 stages to labor and birth? We have been in the Labor & Birthing stages... 2016 - 1st stage: early, transitioning, active phases of labor

2017 – 2nd stage: pushing & birth

2018 – 3rd stage: delivery of the placenta 'afterbirth'

In pregnancy, the mother and her environment nurture the developing baby; once the baby is born – it takes a village.

Thank YOU for taking part in being the village of nurturing this baby!

Check out this article on the stages of labor & delivery from Parents.com

Stages of Labor & Birth during delivery



Simply Redeemed In 2017 "I am honored that one pivotal moment for me, has grown into a life altering tool for many". My gift to you awaits!

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Serving Others

The Lamp partnered with several organizations in 2017 to serve others in various communities. Contact <u>Nina.christian@uss.salvationarmy.org</u> to volunteer with Brass Hat Café, Westminster MD.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Simply Redeemed In 2017

Thanks to YOU, the book 'Simply Redeemed' made an amazing impact in 2017 while also celebrating 1 year in publication. Many of you may recall that 'Simply Redeemed' came solely out of obedience to the Lord who instructed me at the time (Jan 2016) to start a women's community bible study, and that the actual study was going to come through '[Him], me, and the Word.' My obedience to that instruction, led to the next instruction - to publish.

We are not always certain when, why, or even what the Lord is doing, but if there is one thing that I can share that I received from 2016, 2017, and even at this very moment ... TRUST HIM!

What I thought was initially impossible for a small-group startup (because of life's circumstances and scheduling), became a full-time ministry which led to multiple open doors; including the expansion of a 16-year vision, as well as activation for others around me. 2017 was filled with opportunities to speak, teach, and preach through various conferences, retreats, workshops, and



meetups and I am honored that one pivotal moment for me, has grown into a life altering tool for many.

MY GIFT TO YOU

I believe that what we have experienced was just the beginning of what God has prepared! I would like to encourage you to continue to spread the (His) word, continue to support 'Simply Redeemed', and even start or lead your own Simply Redeemed groups. In doing so, I have made the book available for you all at a 41% discounted price, when ordered directly from my website

Simply Redeemed Book

'You Are...Forgiven. Chosen. Purchased by Love. SIMPLY REDEEMED!'

With Love,



What is the Lamp?

Jessica Jemmott, author of Simply Redeemed, is the visionary behind The Lamp. At the age of 15, she received the desire of one day opening a cafe that celebrates performance and visual arts. Several years later, while attending college in Lynchburg, VA Jessica received the opportunity through her friends and mentors, Albert & Hope Jennings to utilize their community space and host what became The Chocolate Lamp. [the name stemmed from conversations on the dorm referencing Jessica's dim lit lighting and the compelling notion for all who entered her room, to share their most intimate life journeys while receiving a listening ear, peer counsel, and/or prayer]. The Chocolate Lamp became the first in the community of

its kind. Individuals connected through a passion for coming together, enjoying a new atmosphere, and self-expression through the arts - visual, poetry, spoken word, and music. The Chocolate Lamp truly brought a community of locals and college students of all ages, together.

Through the years the vision has continued to grow, as Jessica was being prepared for each facet. In 2016, the name was changed to The Lamp as the vision evolved. The logo embodies a clay oil lamp, as a direct reflection of how the Lord has directed the vision to go. The Lamp will serve nations; The Lamp will be a place of refuge to dispel darkness; The Lamp will be a light unto your path.

June 2017, The Lamp received 501(c)3 status as a nonprofit organization. Our goal is to receive a building to bring the complete vision to reality - a full service cafe and counseling center implementing expressive arts to build up the individual and

community while increasing physical health, mental health, emotional health, and spiritual wholeness.

Our Purpose: The Lamp is a 501(c)3 nonprofit community with a specific purpose to provide unity and holistic approach to overall wellness mind, body, and spirit utilizing but not limited to professional counseling, mental health awareness, expressive arts, local/global community building, and spiritual growth and development.

Our Mission: To be a light unto the path of every individual while building the community through holistic wellness, one step at a time.

Our Slogan: A Light unto Your Path



STRONGER TOGETHER



Partners in Ministry

While in Dominican Republic, The Lamp partnered with the Underground Skatepark (PA) and Resurreccion Y Vida to serve and spread the Gospel during several Women's conferences across Barahona and Pedernales.



Medical Clinics

During clinics the team collaborated to provide medical assistance, shoes, and clothing for men, women, children, and babies as well as prenatal care across Pedernales and Barahona, DR.

FAST FACTS

300

There were approximately 300 women in attendance at the women's conferences and foot washing services throughout the week of ministry in DR.

650

Approximately 650 people were able to take advantage of medical treatment offered during medical outreach

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information on how you can donate or volunteer please contact TheLamp@simplyredeemedt335.com



Photo taken at The Listening presents Spencer's Vanguard "A Journey In Identity"

New Year Message

by Sarah Goshorn



The moment you are rushed to the hospital because the pains are so deep, every aspect of your body and spirit aching. A pain that you feel as though is unbearable and

you just want it gone. Even though you know, that what is to come, will change your life in a whole new way, a way you couldn't even begin to fully cultivate in your heart. From those moments to hours you take deep breaths, you do what you have been taught to ease the pain. But sometimes, even those things you have been taught, does not fully take away the pain. We have to face that pain until what was meant to come forth, springs up from the deep. Pregnancy, one of the most exciting moments in your life, yet one of the most painful moments as well.

This new year, I believe, is the starting of what is called the Second Labor, the crowning. The pains and growths you experienced in 2017 were the first stages of new birth inside of you. God is bringing forth the Crowning in your life. The stage that the baby's head starts emerging bit by bit during the contractions. Through the pain God is springing forth your destiny for 'such a time as this'. John 16:21 says, "When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world." Sorrow may last for a night but joy comes in the morning. Those pains that you experienced are going to start fading and God's strength, wisdom and understanding is going to start birthing forth from you. In the moments that you don't understand why the Lord is not moving, take a deep breath and abide in your heavenly Father. What we see in the physical, is not a representation of what is going on in the Spiritual. God is moving mountains for you and is relentless for your heart. What the enemy wanted to abort, God is birthing and will follow through with His promises over your life. His promises are true and His word never comes back void.

May this New Year bring forth your destiny,

may His presence reveal new revelations over your heart. May you walk forth with confidence, knowing that God is working out the Good for you. For His sons and daughters to fulfill their calling of greatness and love. May God's Peace rest on you during chaos, may His Joy fill you during sorrow. For goodness will come forth and you will experience His gifts that He cultivated and designed for only you to experience. For your gifts are so crucial that the world is depending on them to come forth. The baby is being birthed, get ready for a wild adventure with our Heavenly Father filled with new life.

God bless

Serving Others

Gleaning for the World

Gleaning for the World - Concord, VA partnered with The Lamp to provide boxes of toys, bedding, shoes, and clothing for men, women, and children in Dominican Republic. https://gftw.org/





Journey Beyond Borders

The Lamp partnered with The Underground Skatepark (PA) and Resurreccion Y Vida (Barahona, DR) to minister to and serve various communities between the villages of Pedernales and city of Barahona. Our team provided (3) women's conferences with the provision of shoes, clothing, and handmade hygienic bags for women; (3) feet washing ceremonies; (4) free basic medical clinics serving close to 200 patients a day; occupational therapy; sponsored and built a home for a family, and assisted in sponsoring a large children's festival.

Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief

The Lamp raised funds and donations towards Puerto Rico's 2017 Hurricane Relief. The donations assisted Hogar de Niños que quieren Sonreíras (House of Children with Cancer), Hogar Rosa de Te, Nursing Home Toa Baja, PR and Hermanos Melendez Hospital Bayamon, PR





Testimonial by Blanche Jones



For years, more years than I can count, this woman has been an extreme influence on me. Her spirit has been a portal of God... of his presence, love, and mercy. I think back on my first experience of worshipping Him, and it was with her. She asked me and my other sister to do a praise dance with her at church. I agreed simply because of my adoration for her. Unbeknownst to me I was birthing something that would bloom years later. I can remember watching her near the end of the dance, reaching to the ceiling of the church. I was unfamiliar with praising Him, but I gazed at her with awe and tears in my eyes. I didn't really understand what I was feeling but I was mesmerized by her, and today I know that it was God that I felt and saw radiating from her being. The song was titled - More Than I Can Bear. I listen to it, to this day, and can STILL see her every move.

The beauty of this song is that it speaks to my life... to what I had already been through and what was to come. I've gone through the fire and I've been through the flood. I've been broken into pieces. The song says, "but through it all I remember that He loves me, and He cares." For many years I didn't understand the power in that, but I knew that SHE loved me and cared. I am the kind of person that is uncomfortable in churches. I don't go often, at all, but when I do they always seem to encourage people to come to the front of the church- again, I do not go often so I'm not sure if that happens every service. During this time I have always felt the urge to get up but I never do. Whether that is my own insecurities and discomfort, or simply the enemy at work... I never have the strength to get up.

So, fast forward to my trip to The Dominican Republic. There was one particular night that Jessica and Sarah led a women's conference and washing of feet did not follow. Instead, at the end they welcomed anyone, our group included, to come to the front of the church if they needed prayer. I already knew that was the plan and it crossed my mind "hmm maybe I'll go up there," but then I moved on with my thoughts. Sarah spoke and her words hit home like a bat to my chest. Almost like a gasping for air feeling. Not in a bad way, I'm just not quite sure how else to explain it. So, they were done speaking and began praying over people. I watched them with chills circulating from my head to my toes, a knot in my stomach, and tears kissing my cheeks. There went my thought again, BLANCHE GET

UP. I doubted myself- this time it was different though. It wasn't necessarily discomfort, more so fear. I watched women, one by one, go to the front and after each woman I would think to myself "okay, as soon as they're done get up." I didn't. I sat there and began to tell myself we came to serve them. Blanche be selfless, this is not about you. You can have Jessica and/or Sarah pray over you when you leave. Don't take these blessings from these women who are witnessing the power of God through Jessica and Sarah's presence and energy.

I couldn't take my eyes off Jessica though... I needed her, and I needed to get up. One of the other women from our group went to the front to help- she actually said to a few of us, "let's go up and help them." My mind and my heart said NO! You need to be on the other side of what's going on in this place tonight. My thought process began to transition... Blanche, what's happening here, right now is for YOU. YOU ARE NOT SELFISH. If you came to DR for anything, it was THIS! GET UP!!!! Although the woman from our group didn't have anyone with her praying at the moment, I didn't need just prayer alone, I needed my sister. I watched as the woman Jessica prayed with walked away and I stood up. My heart was beating so fast and my hands were beginning to shake- I walked to the front and as Jessica looked up our eyes met. I saw tears filling her eyes and her body becoming weak. She KNEW I was not walking up to help, but that I needed her. I collapsed into her arms and began sobbing. At first we just stood there, holding each other up it seemed... embracing and crying together. She held my head and the back of my chest; she touched my mind and my heart towards what I had been battling not only that night but for years. After however long, our bodies separated slightly, we loosened the initial embrace and she began praying. I truly cannot describe this moment. I'm sad that I can't remember much of what she said so that I can reflect on it and cherish

it along with my memories of us, but it is not about the words; it is about what transpired in the spiritual realm. I have always come before her, just as I am. I poured out onto her and His love freed me. For those that do not know my sister, Jessica, this is my best effort to depict her beauty, her grace, and her love that she always so openly gives to others. Her voice is soothing, her touch is healing, her heart is transforming, and her prayers are truly sent from Heaven. The Lamp has lightened my life far long before it came to be. Jessica, you are one of my favorite people walking this earth-I love you sister, thank you for always shining your light and never leaving my side at times I was broken and trapped in a dark place. My God, you are an amazing God! #CoolStoryBlanche

HIS HANDS AND FEET







A Light for the NATIONS ...

More to come...

The Lamp is planning a variety of community events and activities in 2018. Don't miss our first event of the year in correlation with **Human Trafficking Awareness Month**.

The Lamp has partnered with Loudoun Bible Church/The Zoe Center Ashburn, VA and <u>Mona's House</u> Buffalo, NY to bring together a collaborative event for advocates and organizations within DC, MD, & VA to increase human trafficking awareness and initiate action throughout the local community.

Join us as we shed light on human trafficking with a panel of anti-trafficking experts accompanied by visual & performing artists.

Date: Saturday, January 20, 2018

Time: 2pm

Location: The Zoe Center, 44675 Cape Ct, Ashburn, VA 20147

Free Registration, Donations Requested



The Lamp newsletter

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Special Thanks for 2017...

- The Set Apart Women
- Faith Walkers
- 90.9 FM The Light
- RAMP Radio
- LU Barnes & Noble
- Loudoun Bible Church
- The RAMP Church International
- McClean Bible Church
- Hope Everlasting Ministry
- Healing Hands Christian Ministries
- Higher Praise Christian Ministries
- Covenant Keeper's Ministries
- Resurreccion Y Vida

- The Listening, Inc.
- The Underground Skatepark
- Brown Girls Who Write
- Wife, Mother, Hustler
- Mommy UP
- Liberty University Student Affairs
- Not Your Average Worship Conference
- Your Past Doesn't Define You Conference
- ⇒ Faith, Hope, Love Women's Retreat
- Koinonia Women's Retreat
- Hilifvrd Ministries
- Faith In Christ Church
- Brass Hat Cafe