



HOPE Ministries Highlights

July 2014

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Mission Statement:

HOPE Ministries seeks to help individuals explore patterns that may have developed over their lifetime and provide opportunities to allow Jesus to bring healing and HOPE to their lives in fresh ways.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Confrontation vs. "Care"-frontation -by Nevin Nisly



Nevin & Joann Nisly

When you think of the concept of confrontation, I wonder what words come to your mind? Do words like loved, gentleness, meekness, and humility describe it? Or do words like condemnation, judgment, harshness, and unfeeling summarize it? I fear too often it may fall into the latter category. What would change confronting into Biblical "care-fronting?"

I believe we have a model in Galatians 6:1-4, where we are told to "restore those overtaken by sin" and are given the guidelines. First, this responsibility is given to those who are mature spiritually, "who are responsive to and controlled by the Spirit" (AMP). It is not for the novice or immature, but for those who can do it out of pure motives that are motivated by compassion; for those who realize that there are deeper issues that

need to be understood. We are warned to restore gently in a spirit of humility, with a vigilant eye on ourselves, knowing that we likewise have our "besetting sins" and can do great damage in this process if we do it with our human wisdom and agenda. Too often, confrontation is done out of a spirit of "I am right, and you are wrong", which is actually the spirit of pride and judgementalism. We are warned against a spirit of pride and self-confidence in v. 3. This is not to be a self-focused effort on how it reflects on us, but focused on them and what they need. This would certainly include understanding and caring for them.

We are urged to carry each others burdens. This includes trying to understand what contributes to the weakness and caring about the feelings and traumatic experiences.

Finally, all of us are to examine and test our own conduct without comparing, realizing that every person is responsible for his own faults. Comparison is the doorway to breaking relationship rather than leading to restoration. Recognition

that I also have the ability to pressure people and hurt them, and may not have understanding of all the dynamics in their lives will enable me to check my attitude and reason for confrontation.

This teaching is given to the Church and believers, and, I believe the Caring for the Heart method of counseling applies this model very well. I wish I could say that we do this perfectly, but I can only say it is our goal, and we are learning. I am grateful for the privilege of working with many sincere believers who are willing to try to understand their emotional and spiritual issues and allow us to walk alongside them in this journey. It is always a joy to help them understand their hearts, their deep longings

and unhealed hurts, as well as leading them to understand their reactions to others. It is exciting to see people enjoy a very personal Jesus who cares deeply about them, which makes possible forgiveness from the heart. Jesus loves to heal broken hearts, restore broken relationships, and get to the core of the matter to allow freedom, peace, and joy to flow.

Comparison is the doorway to breaking relationship, rather than leading to restoration.

Follow Up Days...

IS IT TIME TO PULL AWAY AND EVALUATE YOUR JOURNEY?

**These Follow Up Days are an invitation for anyone
who has attended
counseling sessions at HOPE Ministries.**

Purpose: To encourage people to continue their journey

Hosted at HOPE Ministries

322 S. Briggs, Partridge, KS

Saturday, August 30, 2014

For singles

Maximum—9 people

Saturday, September 13

For couples

Maximum -6 couples

Cost: Freewill donations

Lunch will be provided.

Time: 8:30-4:15 p.m.

Topics:

Session 1—Caring For Your Own Heart—an inward look

Session 2—Caring For Another's Heart—an outward look

Session 3—Dealing With A Critical Spirit

Session 4—What's In My Toolbox?

This will be a time of some teaching/reminders, time to evaluate, and time to interact with others who are on the journey.

There will be half hour sessions to briefly talk with Nevin and/or Joann upon request, though minimal time slots will be available.

Registration:

Please call the office at 620-259-9390

Or email hope4yourheart@gmail.com

This spring we had a volunteer put up a new DVD cottage for us. We have the interior finished and it is now ready for siding. This is a 12x16 building that allows people to hang out between sessions as well as providing a place for people to watch DVD's when the big cottage is in use. Both cottages are in use several days a week.



ANNOUNCING...

HOPE Ministries is now an official associate Caring For The Heart office. The last required training was completed in June. We are thankful to CFTH for their time, teaching, and investment into our lives and we are glad to be a part of this association!

*John Regier will be
presenting a seminar in Copeland,
KS, November 16-19, 2014.*

*It will be held at
Mennonite Evangelical Church.
For more information contact:
Pastor John Loewen at
copelandmec@gmail.com*

What's Happening?

HOPE Ministries has been enjoying the big cottage for about 3 years. Recently a couple volunteers poured a cement patio. We are hoping this will be a blessing for those who stay in the cottage. Plans are to put a privacy fence of some sort around it.



In the last 3 months HOPE Ministries has had:

- 4 new couple cases
- 5 new single cases
- 7 follow-up cases

What people are saying...

The term “counseling” sometimes has a bad connotation. If someone goes for “counseling”, they must have BIG problems. We believe Jesus is the Wonderful Counselor for all hurts, “little” and “big,” and we are only here to facilitate and walk alongside people in their healing process. We do not know the answers, but the Wonderful Counselor does. We have people who have major struggles come to HOPE Ministries, but we also have people come who desire a deeper walk with God, some who desire marriage enrichment and others who want to understand why they react in ways that are unhealthy and affect relationships in a negative way. The following “testimony” quips are from people—people like you and me...ordinary people that experienced Jesus in personal ways through this journey of understanding Jesus and themselves better.

“I learned how to hear from God, how to ask Him questions and actually get answers. I learned what Jesus thinks of me in the past, present, and future...I have definitely had a meaningful and helpful experience, and I believe that I would recommend counseling to just about everyone if they haven't already had the opportunity.”

“We were led in prayers that helped us to allow Jesus to minister and bring comfort to our hearts. Every time Jesus spoke to our hearts, He brought healing and love...We highly recommend this for everyone. We liked especially that they didn't push more than what we could handle and left the timing up to God.”

“These 3 days were very different than I expected, but in a positive way. The most wonderful thing that happened was when Jesus showed me how excited He was about me. He held me and just beamed with love and said I have a work to do. For the first time in my life I realized that there was a reason and purpose for me here on earth. Up until now I always struggled to believe that I have any value to anyone.”

“Because of the inferior attitude I had about myself, I was very afraid that I wouldn't be given a picture from Jesus. I realize it was only a lie from Satan that I chose to believe. Jesus showed me a windmill turning freely in the wind (of God's love) but when I rejected God's love, the windmill would spin around and try to go against the wind...”

We were given a number of tools and were also showed how to minister to each other. They brought to our attention how we were made for each other and compliment each others gifts and talents...

We really appreciated the cottage. By staying there it relieved us of any responsibilities we would've had at home so we were able to relax and focus on doing homework and spend time with each other...

Thank you for helping us remove our veils and masks and be able to see Jesus without blinders on. We would like to see others be able to experience it also.”

“My five sessions were one of the best choices I've made in my life. I feel like I can finally understand the cause of the confusion in my life and have found healing for many hurts. Jesus showed Himself and His thoughts toward me clearly...not always in the way I expected, but always in a very real and personal way!

In the few days since I've come back from HOPE Ministries, I find myself looking at so many things differently...I find myself unwilling to be content with life the way it used to be and am continually taking things to Jesus for healing and strength to walk this new way with Him!”

“I found the sessions more helpful and valuable the second time, maybe because I knew the counselor a bit and not everything was completely strange. I wasn't so nervous and afraid as the first time. Jesus told me that I am His little princess and that He will be my Daddy and cherish, love and care for me as I longed for my Dad to do.”

“I was led to Jesus in a very understanding way, not in a pressuring way...the cottage especially was great for a place to talk and work out things with each other....I recommend anybody to do this because Jesus does solve issues.”

“Jesus had always seemed distant to me, but during the sessions I was led to a very close-up view of Him, realizing He had always been right beside me. I see Jesus in a new way...I'm thankful we had the opportunity to go and see Jesus in a new way!”

From a Board Member:



Julian & Bertha Nisly
Sheri and Johan

The Influence of the Holy Spirit

Recently as I was thinking of influence, I asked myself, "What is the single most influential thing in this world?" Although I am sure there is more than one right answer,, the one I thought of was the work of the Holy Spirit. We see His work in the lives of believers and His influence in the lives of unbelievers as well. We may never know how many times the Holy Spirit has influenced the life of unbelievers to keep them from doing an evil deed.

However, more important is the role the Holy Spirit has in the lives of Christians. Jesus said the Holy Spirit will show us Jesus and guide us into all truth.

Jesus said it was needful for Him to leave so that the Holy Spirit could come. Even though we sometimes wish Jesus were still here in the flesh, we now see the importance of the Holy Spirit coming. The first thing we notice is that the Holy Spirit can be everywhere present, whereas Jesus in the flesh could only be at one place at a time. As believers we now have the ever abiding presence of the Holy Spirit with us at all times.

In Acts 1:8 Jesus told His disciples, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Another word for witnesses is testimony. With the Holy Spirit in our lives, we are a testimony of the work of God to others. I believe the testimony of a child of God walking in the freedom of God's truth is more powerful than a theological debate. We need to engage the mind in our faith, but mere persuasion does not change a heart. It is the drawing of the Holy Spirit that makes the difference.

I have found walking in the Spirit to be the hardest part of the Christian journey. It takes an ability to hear the Spirit and a willingness to follow when He speaks. This all happens in the context of us living in the flesh and the unredeemed part of us wanting to be heard as well. So we have this war going on inside and we decide to whom we will listen: the flesh or the Spirit. I long to be more sensitive, more in tune with the Spirit so that my life will be a better reflection of God's glory. That is after all what this life is about: making God's glory known throughout the world.

Julian is a pastor at the Center Amish-Mennonite Church in Hutchinson, KS. Julian and Bertha have two children, Sheri and Johan. We have appreciated their participation on the HOPE Ministries Board since it was birthed in 2010.

NOTICE:

HOPE Ministries is set up to accept credit card donations. If you wish to do this, please call 620-259-9390.

**HOPE Ministries office hours:
Mondays: 12:30-4:00
Thursdays: 9:00-12:00**

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Our desire is that no one will be excluded from opportunity for sessions because of finances. All counseling is done on a donation basis, and this plus the gifts of God's people, allow us to be full time in this ministry. We are grateful for all who have stood with us in so many ways and do trust in God's continuing provision. As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are accountable to our board for the finances and the operation of HOPE Ministries. If you wish to know more details about our finances, please contact Julian Nisly, our treasurer, at 620-664-5304. As God leads you to think about HOPE Ministries, please pray for us, and if He prompts you to join in our financial support, donations can be made in several ways as stated below. Tax deductible receipts will automatically be issued for checks of \$50 or more.

Donations can be done in various ways:

Send to:
HOPE Ministries
Box 103
Partridge, KS 67566

Call 620-259-9390 to use Credit Card

Go to our website and use the donation button through Paypal.



HOPE Ministries Board Members:

Nevin & Joann Nisly—director
Lynn & Sandra Miller—Board Chairman
Julian & Bertha Nisly—Sec./Treasurer
Arlen & Gloria Mast—Vice Chairman
Ray & Gina Miller—Board Member
Gene Miller—Board Member