



Message from the First Lady Sis. Ellen P. Barney

As we embark upon Spring, we see signs of little bulbs on trees and blades of soon-to-be flowers peeking from the broken ground. Nature again wakes from its dormancy by bringing forth fruit, vegetation, and vibrant life! This brokenness is needed for the beauty of Spring and soon-to-be Summer!

Brokenness is also required in the life of a believer to prevent pride and arrogance and to bring about humility. It also helps to identify with others' pain and discomfort. God uses the pain of *Spiritual Brokenness* to show forth His glory and brings us to our *Spring*—a place of transformation and spiritual awakening to a sensual world!

Before getting to our place of transformation, we may question the Lord's whereabouts, whys, and how long these troublesome times will be. In Psalm 13:1-2, David, too, questioned the "**How longs**" regarding his deliverance from life's adversities. But in Verse 5, he then comes to a place of rest, by confidently trusting the Loyal Love of God! May we, too, realize that God is more trustworthy than complaints!

Christ promised to be with those who belong to Him, who experience hardship and suffering, and whose hearts are crushed by the tragedies and discords of life. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those crushed in spirit (Psalm 34:18). *Spiritual Brokenness* is a clarion call to believers to heed the words of Jesus by embracing the practice of dying to self as the key to spiritual fruitfulness.

Brokenness is also needed to persuade others that the Lord is not a pie-in-the-sky God. He is not a cosmic magician or a Santa Claus! Brokenness is a testament that life has challenges and that **all things** work together for good to those who love God...(Romans 8:28, NKJV). **ALL THINGS, whether good or bad!**

Our Savior's broken body on the cross is a perfect example of brokenness! First Corinthians 11:24 (KJV) notes Jesus' proclamation, **"This is My Body, which is broken for you...."** His broken body on the cross brought about resurrection and triumph! As such, we should embrace the *brokenness* that leads to our *Springs* as a sign of fruitfulness, beauty, holiness, righteousness, humility, and purpose. As our barren lives are broken into *Spring,* may we welcome the beauty of God's brokenness, permitting His awesomeness of a transformed life! Wow! Hallelujah!!!

Ladies, please enjoy this edition of the Becoming Whole in Christ newsletter. If interested in submitting articles, please get in touch with Sister Chanel Trussell, as listed on the back page.

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Do You Know Your Gifts? Sis. Chanel Trussell



As a child, I would sneak into the closet to see the gifts I would receive for Christmas. My Mother hid items in her closet. I recall one year that my brother and I went snooping when my mother was at work. We found the items and smiled with crazy delight! We knew the items we had asked for, but these were different. However, we shrugged and went in to investigate further. There were roller skates, a remote-controlled race car, and Rock'em Sock'em Robots. We played with the items and then put them back where we **thought** they could not be detected if Mom came in and saw us there. Well, with me at eleven years old and my brother at five years old, we were not as stealthy as we thought. Fast forward to Christmas Day...we were expecting to see the items we saw before, but instead, there were items we **never** saw before...**and these items were ours!**

I had asked for a Cabbage Patch Doll and the McDonald's Play-Doh play set. I did not get those items either, but there were gifts I had not asked for sitting before me. I was confused! My brother also received gifts he didn't ask for, and we looked at each other baffled! My Mother laughed and said, "You guys thought you were slick; those other items were your cousin's gifts, not yours."

Some gifts belong to us that we need to tap into. We don't have to wait until Christmas Day! We can pray, and The Lord will reveal to us the power and tools available to us when we receive Him into our hearts as our Lord and Savior. We don't have to go snooping around to peek; God gives these spiritual gifts freely to us upon salvation, if only we would ask and prepare ourselves to receive. We also don't need to settle for gifts not intended for us or try to use gifts intended for others. Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) says, *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ*. Paul also writes in 1 Corinthians 12 regarding spiritual gifts.

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV) states that, *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms*. Upon salvation, God has given each of us a gift (or gifts) from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Do we know what spiritual gifts are waiting for us? Are we using those gifts? Are we trying to settle and use the gifts of others, or are we intentionally asking God to reveal the gifts that belong to us? **We don't have to wait; we can unwrap those gifts through prayer and petition!**



Scriptures to Meditate and Study on Being Fruitful

Galatians 5:22-23 John 15:1-2, 5, 8, 16 James 3:17-18 Hebrews 12:11

A Prayer for the Women of NABCOR Written by the Prayer Ministry

Hallelujah, Jesus, for carrying, sustaining, keeping, and delivering the Women of NABCOR throughout their unique trials, tests of faith, and spiritual seasons of 2024! Let Your Showers of Blessings continue to be upon their lives and their households.

I know each woman is unique in Your Sight. Thank You, Lord, that as she confesses and repents of sin, she is forgiven and blessed (Romans 4:7). Just as she knows You, Jesus, and the Fellowship of Your Sufferings through Salvation, becoming like You in Your Death, help her to realize and walk in Your Resurrection Power as well when facing spiritual battles, in the Name of Jesus (Philippians 3:10).



Thank You for the safeguards from hurt, harm, and danger. Let my sisters walk in authority in covenant with You. Remove stagnation. Use them for Your Glory in miraculous ways that they have not yet seen or known! Let them seek peace, Sar Shalom [Prince of Peace], and pursue it. Give them peace when they are tempted to doubt.

Break off any limitations and restrictions placed on their lives by the works of evil, in the Name of Jesus, even those of their own doing. Let them increase with the increase of God (Colossians 2:19). Let no unforgiveness or bitterness control their lives. Holy Spirit, let them not make foolish choices or decisions but walk in Godly Wisdom, the Wisdom of the Word, and the Spirit of Wisdom. Release Your Power in healing and deliverance for those afflicted with sickness. As they consider their ways, let Your Power be at work in my sisters as You order their steps in the many competing demands, choices, and expectations in their lives. By the Blood of Jesus, stand against the enemy—his army holding back their blessings or where the intent is to leave them carrying a bag full of holes (Haggai 1:6). Continue to defend them before the enemy (Psalm 94:22). Rebuke the devourer, for their sake, so he will not destroy the fruits of their grounds (Malachi 3:11). They are children of the King. It is Your Will that they have abundant lives and live like the women You created them to be, Lord, as their expectations are in You. **Engage them in claiming the Promises of God**!

In their commitments to fasting and prayer, releasing the rain, the Outpouring of Your Holy Spirit will saturate the dry places of their lives and destroy the yokes that the enemy has set up against them. In the overflow of the anointing, dismantle deceptive hindrances, distractions, and excuses. Cultivate a deep, ever-evolving personal relationship with You Lord. Bring forth a refreshing and renewal. Release new spiritual purpose and possibilities to them out of Your Treasures, in Jesus' Name.

We corporately pray for this House of God, knowing that, as we are fortified and strengthened, it is fortified and strengthened. As we thrive, it thrives. As we are anointed, it is anointed. As we are blessed, New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown is blessed! Receive this prayer in faith, Lord God, to bring forth an awakening and revival among the women in NABCOR and Your Ministries therein, so the Work of the Lord can be accomplished....

...In Jesus' Name, Amen.

New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown

A Church Anchored in Christ

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New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown's Women's Ministry is designed to boost the spiritual, emotional, and physical awakening of women of all ages and life stages. We are especially committed to the salvation and progress of our youth, relationship seekers, and women who have lost their way.

To contribute articles, email: chanel_trussell@yahoo.com Praying for lots of submissions for the next newsletter.

NABCOR Women's Ministries

Intercessory Prayer Ministers' Wives' Fellowship Diamonds in the Rough Ministry Jewels for Jesus D.R.I.V.E.N. Ministry S.W.E.E.T. Ministry Wholesome Warriors Bodies of Clay Dance Ministry Newsletter Ministry Greeters Ministry



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