



Dragonfly Ministries

Reflecting and Refracting God's Love

August—September 2006

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall Retreat scheduled September 15-17, 2006

“Closer to You”

We have scheduled our first annual FALL retreat to be held the weekend of September 15-17 in Fairfield, Pennsylvania at “The Manor” which is located about 5 miles away from the Gettysburg Battleground. It is part of the Middlecreek Bible Conference Center that has facilities which will house up to 400 women. The Manor will house up to 30 women.

Our fall retreat theme is “Closer to You”, and will encourage us in our journey of growing closer to God. Think about it, we can meet God anywhere, at any time; but sometimes, getting away from the responsibilities and distractions of our day-to-day life offers us the opportunity to meet one on one with God, where we can meditate on His Word and pray. There is a sense of real joy when we can worship our Lord, in spirit and in truth, without the distractions we have grown accustomed to, the distractions that hinder our complete worship of our God and King.

During our fall retreat, we will enjoy a quiet atmosphere and have an opportunity to sit in the presence of the Lord and be still. Our speakers

will give us some valuable tools to help us learn to stay in the presence of the Lord at all times.

Our speaker for Friday night will be Martha Shipman. Aubrey Benitez and Ashley Frei will be our speakers for Saturday.

Jennifer Young plans to travel from GA to lead us in our worship time; she will be accompanied by Kelly Willie during the weekend retreat.

We have some wonderful surprises in store for this retreat weekend. If you have not signed up but would like to be added to the waiting list, please send an email to info@dragonflyministries.com

Our annual spring retreat will be held at Kaleo Lodge in Mineola, Texas in 2007. We will send out dates for that retreat soon.

Please keep retreat participants in your prayers. (For a schedule of events, visit our website www.dragonflyministries.com and go to the Retreat page.



“The Manor” at Middlecreek Bible Conference Center located in Fairfield, PA.



“CLOSER TO YOU”

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!

My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—

a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house;

they are ever praising you. Selah

Psalm 84:1-4

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Special points of interest:

- Fall Retreat, September 15-17 in Fairfield, PA
- A Walk With Papa to be published in 2006!
- “Comfort” Cards to send to / from Children available! See Page 4 for details on how to order

“A Walk With Papa”

“A Walk With Papa”, written by Patty Zemanick and illustrated by Sandra Hammack, is expected to be released in December 2006. We have selected the printer and are in the process of having a graphic artist lay out the design in the proper format. The target date for sending the book to the printer is mid-September, with an expected delivery date of December - hopefully in time for Christmas!

A mock-up of the illustrated book was presented for the first time in a power point presentation at our 2006 spring retreat in Texas. It is a touching story of a man and child walking through the woods, seeing the beauty in God’s creation, and relating things in nature to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the end of the book, the child asks,

“Is Jesus in my heart? Does He live there now?”

I want to invite Him in. Can you show me how?”

Papa leads the child in a prayer asking Jesus to come into her heart. This book will touch the lives of children and adults around the world. We are so excited that the completion date is nearing. If you would like to make a donation to help with the printing costs for this project, please make checks payable to Dragonfly Ministries and mail to the address on the Pre-Order form on page 4 of this newsletter.

List price for the book will be \$12.95 each, plus \$2.00 S&H. If you would like to pre-order a copy of this book, please fill out the pre-order form and mail with a check in the amount of \$14.95 (per book) made payable to “Dragonfly Ministries.” A copy of the book will be mailed to you as soon as they are received from the printer.



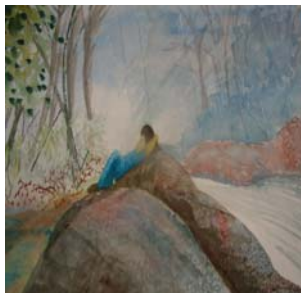
*“Papa, Is Jesus in my heart?
Does He live there now? I want to
invite Him in. Can you show me
how?”*

“A Walk With Papa” Greeting Cards for Children Now Available

In March 2006, a children’s minister from a local church saw “A Walk With Papa” in a PowerPoint presentation and expressed the need for “comfort” cards that are specifically written for children.

She explained that she needed a way to bring encouragement to the lives of children who face difficult situations.

In response, Dragonfly Ministries has designed two cards, using illustrations by Sandra Hammack and prayers written by Patty Zemanick (the illustrator and writer for “A Walk With Papa”)



Greeting cards for children

One card has an illustration of the child and Papa walking together through the woods with a prayer inside saying,

*“Dear Lord,
Please help my friend who is very sad
today. Let your love shine through, I
know you’ll lead the way.”*

The second card has an illustration of a child sitting on a rock with the sun shining down on her face, and the prayer inside reads,

*“Dear God,
Someone I love is hurting.
Please wash away the tears.
Let them know I’m praying,
Show them that You’re
near.”*

If you would like to order a set of these cards, please complete the order form on page 4 and mail check to Dragonfly Ministries to the address provided on the form. Please make checks payable to Dragonfly Ministries. A set of cards consists of 8 cards (5.5 x 4.25”) and envelopes; four cards of each kind are included in the set. The cost for a set of cards is \$10.00.

Proceeds from the sale of these cards will be used toward the production / distribution of the book, “A Walk With Papa”.

“Training the Tongue” Bible Study

A Dragonfly Ministries future Bible Study publication, “Training the Tongue”, addresses the issue of learning to speak in righteousness and is grounded in God’s written word.

Carrie Cooper, teacher and author, explains, “We cannot hope to ever conquer the words that so uncontrollably and unexpectedly leap out of our mouths if we fail to examine what the Lord Himself says about His own word. On closer analysis we will contrast the holiness of God’s eternal word with the utter depravity of our own sinful speech.”

Carrie adds, “There is only One who is perfect, Jesus Christ, which means that at one time or another we have all been at fault in what we have said.”

In an effort to raise awareness and interest in this study, we posted Chapter 1, “Our Foundation in God’s Word” to the website in the Spring of 2006, and will post a portion of Chapter 2, “Praising God”, in late 2006. This is a six-week study, with an anticipated completion date in early 2008.

Carrie and her husband, Travis, live in Oklahoma with their three children. She

attended Texas A&M University where she earned both B.S. and M.S. degrees in Nutrition. She worked for several years as a Registered Dietitian, but currently stays home full time with their children.



Carrie Cooper
Author and Bible
Study Teacher

Website Update

The Dragonfly Ministries website was born in October 2001 as a way to reach people around the world with God’s message of love and hope. Over the years, we have added many testimonies, stories, poems, Bible studies and articles, written by a variety of wonderful Christian men and

women, boys and girls.

In an effort to pare down our website content, we will begin to pull stories and articles from the website and assemble them into a devotional book format. Included in that process, we will be selecting some of

the stories, poems, testimonies, etc., to be included in the devotional. If you have favorite studies, stories, testimonies that have touched your heart, please send an email and let us know so that we can be sure to include it in the devotional publication.

Dragonfly Ministries to publish stories, poems, testimonies and studies from the website to create a devotional book. Send in your suggestions of favorite stories to be included.

Website Contributing Authors— An Answer to Prayer

God has such a beautiful way of filling our every need! In April, we received an email through the website from **Becki Freeman** from Alvin, Texas. After corresponding with Becki via email, it was clear that God was calling her to write for our Chapter and Verse section of the website. Becki has written studies for I Samuel 16 and I Samuel 17. Be sure to visit



Becki Freeman
Bible Study
Writer

the website often to read new content being added.

Also, a big thank you to **Harley Castleberry** for his faithfulness in contributing articles dealing with all walks of life. Harley has a wonderful sense of humor and a deep insight into the spiritual teachings of living a life for Christ.

Thank you to all of the men, women and young people who contribute to this

website and keep us going strong! And thank you to the readers who keep us encouraged.

www.dragonflyministries.com averages about 30,000 hits per month from countries all over the world!

Our goal is to put new content on the website bi-weekly.



Reflecting and Refracting
God's Love

Return Address:
7 Andrews Court
Parkton, MD 21120

Our Mission Statement

Through teaching and encouragement, our desire is to instill the love of Christ in the hearts of God's children, regardless of age or life's circumstances, so that their hope may be in the Lord.

TO:

Will you be a Dragonfly for God?

The dragonfly is a symbol of growth and development. Her life begins in water, but as she matures, she moves to the air yet always stays close to the water. She reaches her strongest physical point during the summer months as she gains optimal strength from the warmth of the sunlight. Her brilliant colors result from reflecting and refracting the radiance of that same light.

The dragonfly serves to remind us that we too can reflect the light of God in a darkened world, by letting His Son shine through us. In a sense, we desperately need to be "dragonflies" for God. God specifically places His light (The Holy Spirit) in our hearts to teach us, guide us, and to shine through us so that others will be drawn to Him. Our light is the love of Jesus Christ. When we stay close to God, our source of life, we are at our strongest - we are essentially at His best.

2 Corinthians 4:6 *'For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.'*

Order Form

_____ copies of the book "A Walk With Papa" (Pre-orders ONLY)
\$14.95 each (includes \$2.00 shipping and handling per book) \$ _____

_____ Sets of Greeting Cards (8 per pack) (\$10.00 each) \$ _____

_____ Donation to Dragonfly Ministries \$ _____

Please send my book / cards to the following address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

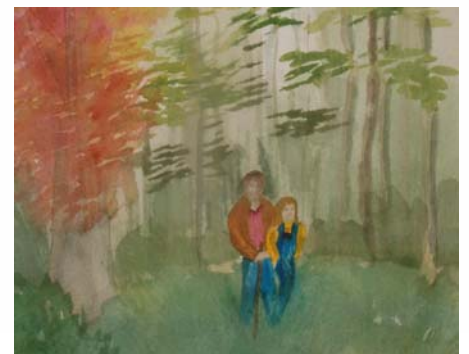
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Preorder your copy of "A Walk With Papa" by completing this form and mailing with \$14.95 (\$12.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling) make checks payable to Dragonfly Ministries) to:

Attention: Mary Hamrick
Dragonfly Ministries
7 Andrews Court
Parkton, MD 21120



Greeting cards will be mailed upon receipt of order.
Anticipated release is December 2006. Email updates will be sent as the completion date is confirmed and books will be mailed as soon as received from the printer.