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Restored!

CWP

A MINISTRY ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEED THROUGH COMPASSIONED CONSCIOUSENESS IN CHRISTIAN CARE

A Christian Woman's Perspective

Christian Woman Perspective Ministries (CWP) is a ministerial organization founded by Dr. Alice Belcher. The organization and its "RESTORED" publication, promotes holistic restoration of families and individuals.

What Homeless Women Want

By Alice Belcher, B.A., M.S., D.D.

For us to understand the critical impact of this problem, it must first be understood that homeless women form a "community", even in their very averse situations. Women, all women, want basic life needs met: a home, food, safety, beneficial care, employment.

For homeless women this begs the question, "which comes first"? For many women, the food they receive is not guaranteed—it is often donated by a service provider which may provide hot meals for the whole day, or they are

required to turn over their food stamps to a service provider to buy food. As a result many are not getting the food they requested or not enough food and are going hungry during the month, as no more food stamps are left after turning them over to their service provider during transitional housing.

Safety is also a key issue for homeless women. They are often attacked in alleys or other spots on the street where they live. Some women are even terrorized and abused by other women in the very shelters where they seek sanctuary. Shelter safety is another issue often mentioned as a serious dread by homeless women. [Cont. pg. 2](#)



We Water, God Gives Increase

By Alice Belcher, B.A., M.S., D.D.

Paul wrote, in *1 Corinthians 3:6*, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase." This text infers two possible answers to the question of why we fail to be successful witnesses. The first is that many of us labor under the impression that everything depends on us. This frightens us into silence as we face the possibility of telling another person how to be converted and become a child of God. We unintentionally usurp the place and work of God if we think this way.

[Cont. Pg. 3](#)



What Homeless Women Want

Cont. from pg. 1

"Being homeless is like being in the twilight zone."

"It's survival of the fittest." "You can sleep but you can never relax."

– *By Unknown homeless women.*

Concerns of homeless women range from possible abuse from estranged husbands and other abusers, to finding employment or just food each day. *"Most homeless women have been abused by the system or by a husband,"* said one homeless woman at Angeline's Day Center.

Even with the cold months of Wisconsin behind us, there remains this concern for exposure of homeless women to the elements and their overall safety: both outside in the elements and inside of shelters. There is reason for great concern. Safe housing is the most immediate want and need. Simply put, a "key" to their safe place. Overflowing shelters, lack of resources about available housing, mandatory interviews for acceptance into some shelters, and long waiting lists for low-income housing, leaves many homeless women facing dangerous and frustrating situations. While other women are denied access to shelters due to being persons with disabilities, AODA or mental health challenges.

For some, homelessness is a transitory situation, precipitated by job loss or separation from a violent partner. For others -- especially those struggling with drug addiction or mental illness -- lack of shelter is a chronic problem. Estimates of the number of homeless Americans range from 600,000 to 3.5 million—according to the National Coalition for the Homeless.

As Christians let us do what we will to help. Also, let us recall and share God's promise that he is shelter for us. For those of us going through a homeless situation or facing something similar, Psalms 91 promises us that we find shelter in God who is our refuge and our fortress! *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty."* Psalm 91.



The Purpose of the Church

By Alice Belcher, B.A., M.S., D.D

The purpose of the Church, the Ecclesia—is for the building of the Kingdom of God. God uses us in many ways. God moves and has His being in us toward one another.

We the faithful of Christ are to be mirrors of Him. For it is in us the world looks to see the reflection of something to believe in—a hope in Christ Jesus. Through our reflection of Him in our lives, we hold him up to the world so that He may "draw all men..." It is those who know Christ best who usually brings others to Christ. Everyone who knows Jesus Christ as his or her personal savior is mandated to tell someone else about Him. Most importantly, let Him live in us so that others will see Him in us, and He will do the drawing himself!

Doesn't sound too difficult? In theory—it is not. In reality—it can be. The enemy doesn't want anyone drawn to Christ. The Devil attacks those who know Christ best (the Leaders). Because of this, those who know Christ best are the ones who must constantly guard their relationship with Christ. We must remember who we are, and whose we are, so that we do not fall short of the real purpose of the Church.

Churches often have a lot of different projects, programs, education, building, missions, and holding services to name a few—and all are good works. But, less we forget, the Church exists for no other purpose but to draw [people/souls] unto Christ—and make them Disciples of Christ in these last days. If the Church is not doing this, then all the cathedrals, clerical, missions, sermons, and programs are a waste of precious time.



Welcome to Restored!

We are really excited at CWP Ministries about our periodical's new look and new emphasis! The Title of our publication RESTORED is also our motivational theme for the work we do. It derives from our embrace the spiritual belief as also shared by Bishop TD Jakes (in Woman Thou Art Loosed), that *"The Lord will restore you as if the events in your life never happened."*-TDJakes. It is our love of Christ and our compassion for people that fuels our efforts to positively impact the lives of individuals and families and to reflect that in our newly revamped publication.

Our goal through this publication is to raise awareness of real-life issues through practical articles, with a focus on women, children, family, education, and Christian perspectives in providing compassionate holistic ministry and for the raising up of servant-leaders in the community and churches for such a time as this.

Jesus is the greatest servant of all, and when we follow His example and teach others to do the same, the world may be won through the power of His love and grace. I hope you will be as pleased with our new look and focus as we are. Contact us and let us know what you think! A. Belcher, Founder.

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The planter knows that the harvest of an abundant crop is dependent upon something other than just the efforts of her hands, as necessary as the effort of her hands are. Let us transfer that lesson to our spiritual lives if we are to truly be pleasing to God and useful in His service. It is important that we understand that only God can give the increase. If the person planting did not have faith in the life principle within the seed, she would not put forth the effort to prepare the soil, plant the seed and water the crop.

The planter has to put confidence in a power beyond her. She has no alternative but to do so. The same is truth in reference to the spiritual realm. Eternal life comes from God—it is He who brings about conviction of sin and the awareness of a need for forgiveness in the cold unresponsive heart of the unsaved. God does this by means of the warmth and power of the gospel, through His Son Jesus. Only God can impart the gift of a new life.

Red Flags (Warning Signs) of Domestic Violence

Am I being abusive? Do I do any of the following?

- Act in an over-protective manner or become extremely jealous?
- threaten to hurt you, your children, pets, family members, friends or his self?
- prevent you from seeing family or friends?
- get suddenly angry or "lose his temper"?
- destroy personal property or throw things around?
- deny you access to family assets like bank accounts, credit cards, or the car, or control all finances and force you to account for what you spend?
- use intimidation or manipulation to control you or your children? Hit, punch, slap, kick, shove, choke or bite you?
- prevent you from going where you want to, when you want to, and with whomever you want to?
- make you have sex when you don't want to or do things sexually that you don't want to do?
- humiliate or embarrass you in front of other people?



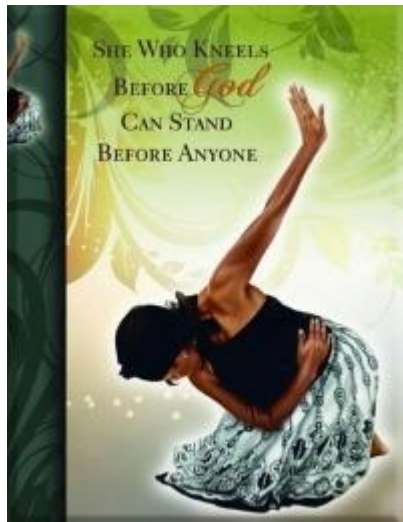
If this is happening to you. You may be a victim of domestic violence. You are not to blame and you are not alone—millions (predominantly women) are abused by their partners every year. Not all acts of domestic violence are violations of the law. In any case, you need not face domestic violence alone. You deserve help, and help is available. *The Domestic Violence Handbook, published by the New York State coalition against Domestic Violence.*

What Can The Church Do About It?

- We must explore the dynamics of the domestic abuse issue through the education of clergy;
- We must discover and uncover the factors that instigate it and excuse it and call for accountability;
- We must break our silence as the Church and say something about it and speak from the pulpit against it;
- We must meet the need of survivors of family violence and help them towards healing, forgiveness and to be loosed!

•
Luke 13:11-16 “And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself (bent over—she could not look up—she could not hold her head up). And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and [Jesus] said unto her, **Woman thou art loosed from thine infirmity.**” (Emphasis added.). This woman was in a low place, but one day Jesus came walking by and He saw her. – Alice Belcher, B.A., M.S., D.D.

Christian Woman Healing Support Group Meetings



The advocacy and support needs of women are unique to women, particularly women of faith. If you identify as a Christian Woman of Faith, seeking a safe-place with other Christian Women of Faith for advocacy and Christian support towards healing, contact Christian Woman Perspective Ministries at (414) 376-6606 or [email us](#). “The Lord will restore you as if the events in your life never happened.” – T D Jakes, WOMAN THOU ART LOOSED!

HOSEA 4:6 – “MY PEOPLE PERISH FROM LACK OF KNOWLEDGE.”

Scaffolding a Community in Domestic Violence Prevention through Education

Impact Coalition for Families is the community outreach program of Christian Woman Perspective Ministries, Inc. and it completing its [third year scaffolding](#) the City of Milwaukee and its surrounding area communities in trauma informed care for domestic violence advocacy and prevention through education. [For more information contact us!](#)



The Word Corner



Each issue, Dr. Belcher will share from her collection, a recommended read for clergy that she found impactful and empowering. Enjoy the Word Corner!

BUILDING KING'S BELOVED COMMUNITY: FOUNDATIONS FOR PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING WITH THE OPPRESSED by Donald Chinula.

This book is inspirational and can be informative for paradigm pastoral caregiving response in meeting the needs of oppressed people in multiple contexts where Christianity is practiced.

“Heads-Up!” Potential Suicide Warnings

Suicide takes the lives of nearly 30,000 Americans every year. Many who attempt suicide never seek professional care. There are twice as many deaths due to suicide than HIV/AIDS. In the month prior to their suicide, 75% of elderly persons had visited a physician. For young people 15-24 years old, suicide is the third leading cause of death. ([www.SAVE.org](#))

Know some of the warning signs *

- I - Ideation (fantasy or romanticizing ending their life)
- S - Substance abuse
- P - Purposelessness (“what’s the point”, “why bother”)
- A - Anxiety, agitation (depression)
- T - Trapped (Feeling no way out)
- H - Hopelessness
- W - Withdrawal (Want to be left alone, stop socializing)
- A - Anger, rage
- R - Recklessness, risky behaviors
- M - Mood changes

*UW Milwaukee Norris Health Suicide Training (2014)



Addiction: It's Not Just Someone Else's Problem

We are all affected by the spiritual, physical, emotional, and financial fall-out of addiction

ALICE BELCHER, B.A., M.S., D.D.

Research shows that, "5,938,000 people in need of treatment did not feel they did. 274,000 felt they need treatment but did not seek it. 88,000 sought but did not get treatment. Only 1,400,000 actually received treatment." Fig 1

"Continued use in spite of negative consequences." This is addiction.

Whatever the type of addiction, illegal drugs, and prescription drugs, etc., we all are stakeholders. As the body of Christ the Church must address such issues.

Sadly, research shows that most people in need of drug treatment do not seek it.

If you are tired of other programs that don't give you results: its time to call on a higher power to assist you in your ability to quit.

Don't give up hope. He is just a prayer away. God is the key to dealing with addiction. Many have testified how God miraculously healed them from

their addictions.

No matter where you are—intervention, treatment, or counseling, be sure that God is included. Give it to Him! He is waiting to heal and deliver you.

Whether it's you, a loved one, or no one you know personally at all, addiction affects us all. We all need to help those in need. Pray for them and pray with them. Don't leave God out of the treatment plan.

Fig. 1 Source: National Survey of Drug Use and Health, 2002

REACH OUT AND TOUCH US

We need your prayers and your help.



If you've enjoyed this publication, write or call us and let us know.

[DONATE](#)

We need your help.

Donations help us to continue to bring this and other free ministry tools and education to you and to the community.

[Your TAX EXEMPT donation](#)

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