



Arising Hope

February,
2012

**24-Hour Crisis Line:
303-280-3180**

We Are One **By Angela McMahan**

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.” John 13:34-35 (KJV)

I had an unthinkable, unimaginable and horrifying wrong committed against me several years ago. This person was ugly and ruthless and caused a considerable amount of pain and problems in my life. To make matters worse she worked in the same building I used to work in and attends my church. It was a tremendous struggle to forgive her because although I wasn't in any kind of relationship or friendship with her, she continually kept harassing me and doing things to cause problems. Also, being a survivor of domestic violence the situation completely "triggered" me! In my heart I just wanted her to leave me alone, so I could forgive her and move on. This was becoming impossible because everywhere I went there she was. I was in a situation that I thought would never end.

Eventually the stalking and harassment stopped (thank God). However, even though she was finally gone from the situation and my life, I was left with the devastating scares of her actions. Physically I was no longer having to deal with the situation but I was tormented in my mind. Fear, worry and doubt engulfed me. All of a sudden when in public I felt guarded; constantly looking over my shoulder. I was working my recovery program trying to forgive her but it didn't work. The harder I tried to get over it, the more hate, resentment and bitterness that was developing in my heart. See until the action stops it is almost impossible to forgive. TD Jakes said in a recent sermon, "You can't forgive someone who is constantly hitting you! You have to make them stop, then work on forgiving."

I tried every trick and tool I had ever learned on how to handle difficult people and how to forgive them but nothing was working. I carried rocks with their name on it, I wrote in my journal for hours, I wrote countless forgiveness letters and I even sent her flowers anonymously. "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you," Matthew 5:44 Nothing was working!

Then I read this statement: "My nature is an unconquerable peace, therefore nothing or no one in the world can be against me. All experiences come to me to promote my reclamation of peace, that I may in turn, acquire wisdom and power." Suddenly my paradigm had shifted and the way I was looking at this situation changed. I no longer saw this person as my enemy but rather as an opportunity to go higher in my relationship with the Lord. It was giving me a genuine ability to put my faith in action. "What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,' but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." James 2:14-17

It is easy to love those that love us. Yet it is something altogether different to show love to others we don't like. Forgiving her didn't mean that we were going to be best friends and hang out together. Nor did it mean that I was a door mat that would continue to allow her to treat me any old way. It meant releasing me from the situation to see more deeply what God was trying to show me through this experience. It was more about what He wanted to do in and through me:

To teach me that I might not be able to control other people's actions but I can definitely control how I will respond to them. I can keep my peace and joy in all situations and circumstances. I can set boundaries that say if you continue to harass me I will get a restraining order and you will have consequences. Every time I felt I was allowing myself to be controlled by my anger I would meditate on that statement above and peace would come back.

I'm not sure who is driving you crazy right now but they are not worth it. Safely get yourself out of the situation, forgive them and move on. Nothing and no one is worth depriving yourself of the abundant love, peace and joy that God has for you in this life.

NOTE: Stalking is a serious crime! If you are someone you know is being stalked please seek professional help either through your local police department or contacting Arising Hope at 303-280-3180.

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Memory Verse

"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39 (NKJV)

TESTAMONIALS

POEM

We never know where our path with Jesus will lead. I have known since I was eight years old, that my path would be to help others along the way, and to my surprise it has been that way with people and animals. I wanted to be a nurse real bad and travel with it, but God had different plans. I have no regrets so far in life. I would not be the person I am today if I had not had Jesus walking beside me.

I don't like saying good-bye, so I just want to say "I will see you around sometime," and just maybe our paths will cross again someday. I love and care for each one of you. It has been a great pleasure to be here. My life has taken another turn. I wish I could tell all my stories to you, but maybe one day they will be in a book for all to read. So take care and God Bless.

Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Crystal-ACDF

I knew I was going to be sentenced to 2 years so I went on one last bender taking every & any drugs I could get my hands on started running with this guy that I didn't really know and I let him shoot me up with heroin. Before I knew it he hit me with a baseball bat in the back of my head, stole my purse with \$832.00, took my rings of my hands, stole my phone and just left me. I woke up the next day at 2:00 in the afternoon went to my neighbor's house and called for help. The ambulance came and I had a concussion and bruises where he hit me more once. So I knew when I came to sentencing that me going to jail is God saving me because I would have ended up dead sooner or later. I am thankful for this class.

Good Morning Angie,

Your recent newsletter really put things into the proper perspective; let go and let God. It seems strange that I had to relearn this lesson, as I had put into practice the very act of letting God take control and saw the results of what faith can do in just a remarkably short period of time. So now I have come full circle as it were, and I believe that the breakthrough that I have been praying for is just around the corner. No, I still do not have a job, but I feel that all this is about to change. I had been worrying about all of this for quite a while, but your newsletter about the calming of the storm and your cat made me realize that all is well. Hope you and your family had a very Merry Christmas, and it is my wish that you have a joyous and prosperous New Year. Again Angie, thank you for the spiritual lift. It really helped me out.

Happy New Year!

Thanks for the newsletter, I will be sure to share. Sorry about your little kitty, but you see that everything works out in the end with a positive outlook! Sorry to hear that ya'll didn't make it for the grant, but never give up. There will be many more opportunities in the future. Continue to do the good work that you provide for a very worthy cause.



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ADDRESS:

PO Box 1114
Eastlake, CO 80614-1114

PHONE:

24-Hour Crisis Line:
303-280-3180

E-MAIL:

info@arisinghope.org

WEBSITE:

www.arisinghope.org

Wish List:

We are in need of the following items this month; kitchen trash bags (white), carpet fresh, scented candles, brooms, storage totes (large), mason jars (all sizes and lips), file folders (8x10 and 8x14), toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, body lotion, canned green beans, canned carrots, twin size sheet sets, new panties (size large and ex large), dishwasher detergent, fax machine, grocery bags (plastic or cloth) and legal tablets.

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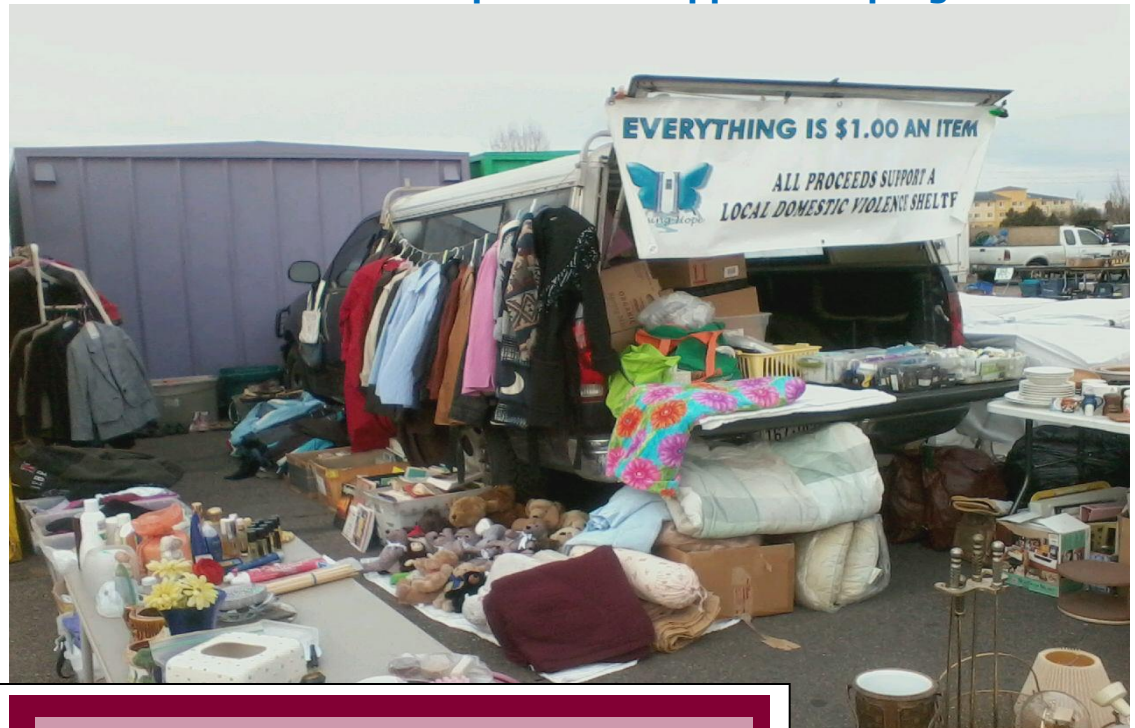
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=home#!/pages/Arising-Hope-International/140849206907>



HIGHLIGHT:

Mile High Flea Market Space C67.

Come out and see our wonderful store at Mile High Flea Market at I-76 and 88th Ave, Space C67 in Commerce City! We are open Friday, Sat and Sun year round from 7am-5pm. All items are only \$1.00 and 2 items for \$1.00 on all clothing items. 100% of the proceeds support our program.



Arising Hope

Cordially invites you to our 3rd Annual

Tender Touch Valentine's Day Dinner

Tickets: \$15 per person

Enjoy a decadent three course meal with a friend!
Entertainment & silent auction.

Friday, February 10th, 7:00 p.m.

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
3960 E 128th Ave
Thornton, CO 80241

Please R.S.V.P. at 303-280-3180 or
info@arisinghope.org



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www.facebook.com/pages/Arising-Hope-International/140849206907

Huge THANK YOU's to Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Mountain Pine Women's Club and all of our monthly donors for your continued generosity and support!!!

Donation Pick-Up Day
Tuesday, February 14, 2012
Call 303-280-3180 to schedule a pick up!

February 2012 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> 8 - 10 am ROAD TO FREEDOM- ACDF	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>4</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET
<u>5</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>6</u> 6:30 - 8:30 pm ROAD TO FREEDOM	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> 8 - 10 am ROAD TO FREEDOM- ACDF	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET 7 - 10 pm A TENDER TOUCH: VALENTINES DAY EVENT	<u>11</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET
<u>12</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>13</u> 6:30 - 8:30 pm ROAD TO FREEDOM	<u>14</u> Valentine's Day DONATION PICK UP DAY	<u>15</u> 8 - 10 am ROAD TO FREEDOM- ACDF	<u>16</u> 6:30-8:30pm DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS: VOLUNTEER TRAINING	<u>17</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>18</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET
<u>19</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm ROAD TO FREEDOM LEADERSHIP MEETING	<u>20</u> 6:30 - 8:30 pm ROAD TO FREEDOM	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u> 8 - 10 am ROAD TO FREEDOM- ACDF	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>25</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET
<u>26</u> MILE HIGH FLEA MARKET	<u>27</u> 6:30 - 8:30 pm ROAD TO FREEDOM	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> 8 - 10 am ROAD TO FREEDOM- ACDF			

COMING NEXT MONTH: Friday, March 2, 2012: Social Networking Jewelry Sale and Fundraiser. More details to follow soon!!!



Happy Valentines Day!

