



It's Important With Whom You Walk CliffAnn Perry

On a recent retreat I joined a group doing a small pilgrimage. It was just under 4 miles so not a long walk but one with a mixture of fellowship and prayer and blessing. We stopped at 3 churches along the way. In one we received a short teaching and blessing, in one a chance to pray and reflect while beautiful organ music filled the space and in another looked at some amazing art and received a devotional encouragement as we went on our way.

In between these destinations we stopped at a park for a picnic and talked. We walked beside each other and talked. We walked quietly together and observed the beauty around us. As time passed walking partners changed, some walked faster and naturally ended up near the front and others spaced out so conversation shifted and we got to know others.

Early on I had the joy of walking with someone who had done a long pilgrimage that took weeks. She shared her experiences and at one point said, "Sometimes you just have to keep putting one foot in front of another to get where you need to go." That didn't necessarily seem like an encouragement until we got to the last mile. It was hot; there was no breeze; it was uphill in a city that already had a high elevation so my breathing was difficult and the water bottle was empty. And our destination was not in sight. Those I started with were ahead, those behind were lagging, I seemed to be walking alone even though it was in a group. Then I remembered her words and began to say, "one foot in front of another."

That phrase became a rhythm and in a sense a prayer. I was grateful that I met the one who shared that phrase and began to understand anew how God uses us in the lives of others. A simple phrase, a word of encouragement, a bit of help, and God can take it and make it life giving.

The people with whom we walk in this life are tremendously important. We are reflectors of Jesus into the lives of each other for encouragement and support. In that vein, I am so thankful for each of you as you have chosen to walk with us as we have ventured out in ministry. Your prayers, words of encouragement and support have often gotten us through and we are so grateful to the Father and to you!

And a little child . . .



Often adults miss all the fun. At the Kenny Davis Retreat we taught and demonstrated one of our favorite songs. It was early morning but a number of adults joined in and it became a reality that we all had "the joy"!

Please Pray!

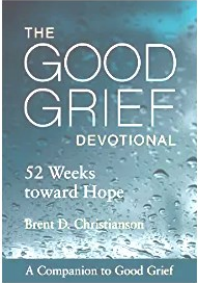
As you receive this we will be in Florida encouraging ministry friends from Cuba. We need your prayers for wisdom, discernment and the ability to minister effectively to them.

As always we need your prayers as we enter a new year, for wisdom as we continue to minister both at home and abroad. Please also pray with us for God's provision.

We Recommend!



This delightful novel about a student's quest to find out from C. S. Lewis where Narnia originated is a treasure. The unbeliever's concern for her brother led her to visit with Lewis and his brother often and the conversations led to her own epiphany and great insight into the life of Lewis.



For those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, these weekly devotions are encouraging and very practical. The entries cover all 10 stages of grief and include prayers, poems and testimonies. It's companion book, **Good Grief**, gives a guide to the process—this one provides hope and comfort.

Program Report “But I Wanted to Be a Knight!”

Fay Nelson

We spent a week-end in Coranon recently. Coranon is an imaginary kingdom which has long been a favorite of ours and of the children and teens to whom we minister. The King is like God and the little Knights in Training are like us—learning how to live and serve in the Kingdom. The lessons that the little knights learn, obedience and service and loving the King have helped many understand what it means to be a Christian.

The children at the conference had a great time in Coranon and were very much excited when we told them that they were to be commissioned knights in Coranon—each of them had accepted Jesus at their Savior and wanted to walk with Him the rest of their lives. So, our ceremony began! One by one the children received their “Knighthood”. The first little girl at the conference came and knelt so that her shoulders could be dubbed with the sword and proclaimed a Princess in Coranon, Her immediate response was, “But I wanted to be a knight!” Her plea was immediately granted and she became the first Knight Princess in our week-end of story. She was overjoyed and immediately went back to her coloring, content in her identity.

A brother and missionary friend shared that his role in life has been to be one of the background folks. He provides services for and furthers the ministries of missionaries all over central and South America. He leads a small non-profit that for decades has provided invaluable resources in people, events and goods for Cuba. He and his wife spend hours in prayer, he preaches whenever an opportunity presents itself, and he encourages those in ministry. Few know his name. Yet his expertise and connections have made possible miraculous events and empowerment for thousands of folks. And the Kingdom of God has advanced!

It truly is all about identity! Knight? Princess? Expediter? Preacher? Prophet? Servant? The name tag doesn't matter in the long run. What matters is the One Whom we serve. He is the One, and the only One, Who can provide peace and fulfillment regardless of our role or circumstances.

Our challenge then is to draw close to God, to spend time with Him and to simply obey what He tells us to do. When we do that, He provides our true identity, one that sets us free to serve in whatever role we find ourselves. This Thanksgiving, our prayer for you and for ourselves is that we will understand more fully who we truly are—God's children, privileged to be His and to share His love with those around us! Happy, happy Thanksgiving!



Amanda and Neil Songer, Olivia Hobbs and Joseph Burge joined us in Coranon and ministered to the new knights and princesses in Coranon. The one-on-one time with the children deepens the ministry lessons and reinforces the reality that God loves each one of them.

As the conference ended, two of the children went to their father and said, ““Can we move here and come here for children's church?” (They didn't know we don't live there either.)

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