

I've missed all of you!

Summer was just here a minute ago! We canceled the August event due to lack of interest. That was painful since it was the 1 year anniversary of the ministry, and I wanted to share all that God has done in the past year. But we jumped right into September and the Retreat. We had been planning it since January, so we were very excited about what God would do. And did He ever deliver!

The weather on the mountain couldn't have been more perfect. 27 ladies arrived ready to learn and grow together. Friday and Saturday night, we all sang the Aaronic blessing back and forth to each other. It was so lovely, and Traci wanted it recorded so she could listen to it to go to sleep! Every session began with beautiful worship by Priscilla and Rosalind. What a wonderful blessing to have these two gifted artists all to ourselves for 3 whole days!! We had several difficult sessions on the Lies that Women Believe and how the truth of God's word is the only antidote for them. Stephanie helped the ladies craft some beautiful journals and everyone seemed to enjoy that very much. The food was fantastic, and they even provided gluten free for those with that restriction. All the closet junk food junkies got to indulge in smores during the Friday evening campfire with music provided by Priscilla. During free time, the ladies hiked in the beautiful wilderness, spent quiet time in their rooms, worked on crafts and got to know each other better. Sabrina Rainey, our guest speaker shared her moving testimony with us and closed with the ABC's of Salvation. Saturday night we had a demonstration on how the Word of God can get rid of even the deepest held false beliefs and lies we may still be carrying. Sunday morning was the closing session where we recognized Who we are in Christ which culminated with crowning each and every one of the attendees. I can't express how beautiful it was to see all those women as God sees them in their crowns!! There were lots of laughs, lots of tears and lots of changes as we worked through all of this together. We bonded and got closer to each other and it was life-changing for all of us. Here is the link to the photos and a wonderful video prepared by the lovely and talented Karin Hill.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9FkxtpyRKK415DDA6>

I would be horribly remiss if I didn't take time to acknowledge and give credit where it is due to my wonderful team. I don't think anyone knows how very hard they have worked all year long on this retreat. Every Tuesday in the fellowship hall making bags and boxes, and cards and crafts and everything else that made the experience wonderful for the ladies. Coordination and back and forths with the venue to ensure that everything was just so. Hours and hours of prayers, not only for the event, but once we had our registrations, we were praying for each and every one of the women on a daily basis that God would move mightily in their lives. Writing and re-writing of teachings and demonstrations, logistics – it is a very complex thing to do and it would not have been the success that it was without the tireless efforts of Jen Rohlf, Stephanie Ferreira and Mandy Welch. I merely pointed them in a direction and said, "Go for it"! They did all the rest. They are amazing women of God and you are all blessed to have them looking out for you and working for you in T2W.

September is my favorite month for several reasons. It's my Anniversary month and it is the beginning of my favorite season – Fall. Fall is a season of change. After the long summer, we transition and get ready for winter here in Colorado. That involves the aspens turning a beautiful gold color, cleaning up the gardens and bedding them down, spiced EVERYTHING! And cool crisp nights with the smell of wood stoves in the air. I love looking at the transitions in God's creation. The trees changing, the animals getting their winter coats, the sun going down earlier and coming up later as the days shorten. All in preparation for the deep winter sleep. Spiritually, this is a time of grounding for me. Reviewing truths I know and making sure they are solid in my mind and heart. Remembering all the blessings for which I am ever-grateful. And preparing my heart for a time of renewal.

OH! Just as an FYI, T2W has a group on Facebook where we share memes, studies, insights and information. If you would like to be a part of that group, please let Mandy Welch or myself know and we will add you in.

My prayer for all of you this month is that you will slow down a little and embrace the changes. The holidays are coming, and things will get hectic again! Wrap yourself up in God's Word like a warm blanket on a chilly evening and let His truths comfort you and give you peace. Look around you and if you are blessed to live in the Midwest or New England, enjoy those brilliant colors! Many of your husbands and fathers will be taking off to the woods to bag that deer or elk. I pray protection and blessings on all of them. Enjoy the smells of the season, have a spiced chai or latte and remember to be grateful for all that God has blessed you with.

May our Lord and Savior bless and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you. And be gracious unto you. May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. This month remember to walk in obedience and righteousness. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us!

IHS and yours,  
Karen