



Restoration Ministries

Spring 2014

Upcoming Events:

- Spring Thank You concert, honoring Rachel Lloyd, Fri, March 21
- Anti-Trafficking Prayer Walk, Mar 27 <http://www.evite.com/!dsPWpuMcBd>
- Red Light/Green Light film viewing <http://redlightgreelight-film.com/> date TBA
- Easter– Provide an Easter basket for a trafficked girl, April 20
- Traffic Stop 5 K run/walk, May 3, Tysons corner
- ICAP Global conference, May 18-23, Green Lake, WI

In February, Ambassador leaders took aside the first Saturday of the month to rest and be in the presence of the Lord. We were led by Gail Thompson, LPC and spiritual director. She facilitated a silent retreat, in which we listened to and meditated on God’s Word and specifically prayed about our role with Restoration Ministries. While spending almost an entire day in complete silence was new for me, this experience also felt very familiar. I knew God had been patiently waiting for me to be intentional about approaching Him at His

Be Still and Know that I AM God *Pslm 46:10*

throne, enjoying His presence, and listening to Him.

Isaiah 55:5 says, “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon Him while He is near.” In 1 Chronicles 28:9, the Lord says that “[i]f you seek Him, He will be found by

you.” I sought the Lord’s face and asked to be near Him during the retreat, and as He promised, He allowed for me to find Him there. I have had difficulty seeking God’s face in this particular season of my life. Being unemployed since January, I have been able to physically rest after feeling burnt out for so long.

However, my soul has been restless during this time, and the fear, insecurities, and instability that often accompanies the grueling job search process has made

me feel distant from God. When I engaged in my spiritual disciplines, they have been more out of a need for routine than a



Evan, Ambassador leader of the D.C. small group.

desire for communion with my Lord. I thought I needed to show Him that I wanted an answer from Him about my future, so I talked and talked about what I thought I needed from Him. But as it turns out, He just wanted me to stop talking and be still.

I really struggled at the beginning of the retreat. Being still and talking to no one around me felt strange. The more challenging aspect was being silent in my thoughts and allowing myself to be present with

God. Like many of you, I always have a lot of thoughts running in my head, and that familiar noise is sometimes difficult to silence. This process left me alone with my thoughts and quickly reminded me how very easy it is for me get distracted and lost in the turbulence and chaos of my very active mind.

I had to constantly exercise surrendering my thoughts to God in an externally quiet and serene, but internally very noisy and chaotic, environment. This strange dichotomy made me realize that I tend to blame my external circumstances for getting in the way of spending quality time with Him. The deafening silence uncomfortably exposed to me what I had probably known all along: it was my heart, not my situation that needed to change. While Washington, D.C. is often loud, in-your-face, and unapologetic about it, I was gently reminded that being in communion with God stems from an inner



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Anti Trafficking Hotline
 1-888-373-7888

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 • ***Be Still Con't)***
 •
 • hunger desire to be with Him.
 • My ears started to open so I
 • could listen and hear clearly the
 • beautiful promise of our Lord
 • and Savior, Jesus Christ, the
 • Good Shepherd, to always look
 • after His flock. Even in the dark-
 • est moments of my unemploy-
 • ment woes, I can boldly and con-
 • fidently enter His presence and
 • be reminded that He is always
 • looking after me. All I need to do
 • is be silent, listen to His Word,
 • and my soul is refreshed. When I
 • am silent with the Lord, He
 • speaks, stills my anxious heart,
 • and gives me a peace that trans-
 • cends all understanding. Finding
 • a job is a daunting task, but
 • knowing that the God of the
 • Universe who is sovereign over
 • all of creation, promises to pro-
 • vide for me and quiets even the
 • most skeptical of voices that I

allow to frequent my thoughts.
 This experience also served
 as a powerful and refreshing re-
 minder to me as to why I am so
 passionate about the work the
 Lord is doing through Restora-
 tion Ministries: it is a ministry
 that seeks to tell the lost, the
 broken, and the hurting that our
 Father in Heaven is actively pur-
 suing communion with them.
 Young girls, who are caught in
 the web of lies created by the sex
 industry, need to be told the
 truth found in the Gospel: God
 the Father sent His perfect Son
 to die on the cross for our sins
 and there no longer is any barri-
 er that keeps us from freely ap-
 proaching our Heavenly Father.
 The Lord desires to be alone
 with His people. All we need to
 do is respond to His call, and
 we'll find that He has been wait-
 ing to answer all along.

Phoebe, Volunteer Coordinator

The Wailing Wall

Every week when RM team members meet with girls, they are asked to write down the things that are too heavy for them to carry alone. When they have traced their hands and written down their prayer requests, we bring them back to the drop-in center and put them on our Wailing Wall. Every day when we see the deep heart cries of these daughters, we can lift them in prayer to their Heavenly Father. We've printed some of them here so that you can pray for them as well.

Pray that I can succeed in life, receive eternal loving and positive things will build and control my life, pray that me and my family stay strong and love one another. Pray that I learn to appreciate myself and love others more.

That I stay strong and I except the help. Thank you.

That I get discharged tomorrow and that I use my coping skills so I don't try to commit suicide again.

For my family.

Me and my mom relationship gets better.