

*"...I will make a way in the desert, and streams in the wasteland..." Isaiah 43:19*

## God's Grace Restores

Our guest speakers and musicians for the October Wives' Weekend were two couples from Omaha – Robert & Joyce Wilson and Todd & Monica Eby. The Friday evening service was open to all of our Teen Challenge students as well as our married students and their wives.

We enjoyed a powerful service as the Ebys and the Wilsons did a great job of leading worship followed by Robert's dynamic testimony of God's forgiveness and grace. As a result of rebellion and drug use as a teenager, Robert found himself in prison facing three life terms. He spent 15 years behind bars. During that time, God used a prison chaplain and others to lead him to Christ and help him grow strong in Him. Robert spent much time studying the Bible and even received a Masters of Divinity degree while in prison. He became the chaplain's assistant and was able to help other prisoners.

Because of the grace of God, Robert was released from prison after 15 years. Another evidence of God's grace is how God brought Joyce, a former Teen Challenge staff member into his life. God brought them together in a unique way and blessed their marriage with two sweet daughters.

Robert emphasized to the students the importance of having a plan for how they are going to handle their first temptation to go back to drugs when they complete their time at Teen Challenge.

During the Saturday sessions, Monica shared how God used her heartbreaking struggle with infertility to draw her closer to Him and to use her in ways that would have been impossible without that struggle. Joyce spoke to us about how God is drawing us to the quietness of His presence to prepare us for these end times. We also had sessions where the ladies and men met separately for sharing and prayer.

The next Wives' Weekend is scheduled for January 21-23, 2005. Our speakers will be Evangelists Norm and Kathy Wenig. Before becoming an evangelist, Norm pastored for many years and was called upon often for marriage counseling. Part of their present ministry includes holding marriage seminars. Please RSVP by January 5<sup>th</sup> and let us know if you will be able to attend. Call Judy at (402) 551-0911 or (515) 988-2204.

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# A Testimony of God's Saving Grace

Your husband has just arrived at Teen Challenge, or perhaps he's been in the program for three or four months now. You've either enjoyed the time he's been away, (as I did at first) or you are missing him terribly. In either case, you find yourself focused on the last phone call you had with him, or maybe you can't quite get out of your mind the argument you had with him on pass. I learned the hard way that I had to take my focus off my husband, and put my focus on me. "Why me?" I asked. "There's nothing wrong with me. I'm not the one going to Teen Challenge, he is."

While we want the best for our husbands, we inadvertently give them some things they don't need from us as wives. I remember when my husband, Will, first went to Teen Challenge. I was glad to see him go. I was mad at him for our financial and mental state, and was in shock from the whole experience. While I praised him for going to Teen Challenge, I still shot him down for the things he did to get there.

I don't mean to say that we as wives deserve what we are going through. This was one of the most challenging events I've ever had to go through in my life. I do mean, however, that we can't be the ones that try to correct our husband's behavior. That's not our job. It is God's. We need to step back and accept their decision for being at Teen Challenge, then let God do what he needs to do. God wants this to be a time of rest, refreshment, and renewing of your husbands mind, body and spirit and yours as well. God may not be too happy with some of the decisions that our husbands have made over the months

and even years, but I do know this; God is glad that your husband is at Teen Challenge. God wants to have some one-on-one time with each of you individually. He loves us so much, that he really wants what is



best for us, and even though we don't think what we are going through is good, it is good because God is in it.

We can best help our husbands by taking our pain, suffering, and anger all to God. We need to release our husbands to God so that He can do the work He needs to. This is so our husbands can come back to us ready to live the way God intended for them to. Proverbs tells a beautiful story of a wife of noble character. Let's help our husbands in the same way we want them to help us, by doing things God's way.

## *Proverbs 31*

*A good woman is hard to find, and worth far more than diamonds.  
Her husband trusts her without reserve, and never has reason to regret it.  
Never spiteful, she treats him generously all her life long.  
She shops around for the best yarns and cottons, and enjoys knitting and sewing.  
She's like a trading ship that sails to faraway places and brings back exotic surprises.  
She's up before dawn, preparing breakfast for her family and organizing her day.*

*She looks over a field and buys it, then, with money she's put aside, plants a garden.*

*First thing in the morning, she dresses for work, rolls up her sleeves, eager to get started.*

*She senses the worth of her work, is in no hurry to call it quits for the day. She's skilled in the crafts of home and hearth, diligent in homemaking.*

*She's quick to assist anyone in need, reaches out to help the poor.*

*She doesn't worry about her family when it snows; their winter clothes are all mended and ready to wear.*

*She makes her own clothing, and dresses in colorful linens and silks. Her husband is greatly respected when he deliberates with the city fathers.*

*She designs gowns and sells them, brings the sweaters she knits to the dress shops.*

*Her clothes are well-made and elegant, and she always faces tomorrow with a smile.*

*When she speaks she has something worthwhile to say, and she always says it kindly.*

*She keeps an eye on everyone in her household, and keeps them all busy and productive.*

*Her children respect and bless her; her husband joins in with words of praise:*

*"Many women have done wonderful things, but you've outclassed them all!"  
Charm can mislead and beauty soon fades.*

*The woman to be admired and praised is the woman who lives in the Fear-of-God.*

*Give her everything she deserves!  
Festoon her life with praises!*

*Tracy Jackson  
Wife of Teen Challenge Student*

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# When Your Husband Needs Changing

Dwight L. Moody told about a woman who came to him and said,

“Would you please pray for my husband?”

“Certainly,” he replied. “Tell me about him.”

I belong to the church,” she said, “and I’m here every time the door opens. But my husband won’t come near this church.”

Moody studied her a moment, then quietly said, “Could I ask a couple of personal questions? Do you ever become irritable and say hard or harsh things to him?”

Embarrassed, she answered, “Yes, sir, I’m afraid I’m guilty of that.”

“Do you ever become angry and say harsh things to your children or about your neighbors?”

She hung her head and replied, “Yes, I’m guilty of that too.”

“Then don’t you think I’d better pray for you first?” Moody asked.

Tearfully she whispered, “Yes, sir.” She got down on her knees and they prayed.

About a week later, she came back.

“I just had to tell you,” she said, “that your questions burned holes in my heart. I got my family together and told them all, that I was not the kind of Christian God wanted me to be. I told them I was ashamed of it and wanted to ask forgiveness for every ugly thing I had ever said to them. Further, I promised that with God’s help I would never say those ugly things anymore. We all got down to pray. My husband prayed aloud, ‘Dear Jesus, I give my life to You today. I want to be the kind of Christian my wife wants to be.’”

As I read this little article by H. B. Horban from an old “Pentecostal Evangel”, I thought of how we as wives pray for changes in our husbands. That is commendable. We should pray regularly and fervently for them. However, we must also be asking God to daily show us where we need to change. We must read His word and seek His face daily asking Him to make us and mold us into the kind of

wives He wants us to be.

Your husbands are now in a wonderful Christian atmosphere where God can and will change them as they yield themselves to Him. It is my prayer that each of you will use this time to allow God to make whatever changes He wants to make in you. As your husband grows and becomes stronger in God, may you also grow and become stronger in Him. May you each come to know Him better and understand His great love for you.

The Apostle Paul prayed in Ephesians 2:17-19, “I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength.”

In Christ’s Love,  
*Judy Aubuchon*

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## Mark Your Calendars!

**These are special events at Teen Challenge and wives are invited—if you have any questions, call Judy at (402) 551-2322.**

Candlelight Service—December 24th

Wives’ Weekend—January 21st-23rd

Cursillo—February 24th-27th

Spiritual Emphasis Week—April 13th-15th

Wives’ Weekend—April 29th-May 1st





900 N. League Rd.  
P.O. Box 185  
Colfax, IA 50054

Phone: 402.551.2322  
Fax: 402.551-2357  
Email: [j.aubuchon@tcmid.org](mailto:j.aubuchon@tcmid.org)  
Website: [www.tcmid.org](http://www.tcmid.org)

## *He's Everything You Need!*

### **These Scripture promises offer comfort and assurance in times of need:**

When you are the neediest, He is the most sufficient—2 Corinthians 12:9

When you are completely helpless, He is the most helpful—Isaiah 50:7

When you are totally dependent, He is absolutely dependable—Psalm 46:1

When you are the weakest, He is the most able—Job 5:15-16

When you are the most alone, He is intimately present—Psalm 32:7

When you feel you are the least, He is the greatest—Proverbs 3:25-26

When you feel the most useless, He is preparing you—1 Peter 4:12-13

When it is the darkest, He is the only Light you need—Psalm 27:1

When you feel the least secure, He is your Rock and Fortress—Psalm 31:3

When you are the most humble, He is most gracious—James 4:6

When you can't, He can—Jude 24-25

