

Sew Precious In His Sight

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Grape Vine of Blessing from God

I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me; and I in Him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

We are all part of the vine and Christ is the vine and we are the branches. As long as we keep our eyes on Him, we will be able to produce much fruit. Our fruit are the clothes that we donate to babies who are in need. Threads of Love has produce much fruit, since September 1997 we have donated 610,000 items to hospitals across the US and Canada. I am happy to announce that in August we signed our first chapter in England.

As long as we keep our eyes on Christ and let God be our CEO, Threads of Love will continue to produce much fruit. Let's not ask what I can do for God but depend on Him, and continue to be His servant we will produce much fruit with our little clothes. The following is an example of what can happen when you believe and just let God be in charge.

I have been blessed in countless ways by being a part of this wonderful ministry. I began this journey in San Antonio and I was so inspired by Liz Page, a wonderful model of Christian faith, leadership and joy, as well as my former Chapter Leader Mannes Bumstead. After I moved to Austin, I felt the call to start a chapter in my area and with much encouragement from Sissy and prayerful consideration I made my commitment and started the North Austin Chapter. I had no idea how it would go but I was committed to serve the Lord and give it my best. Of course I made all kinds of mistakes but learned from each and every one.

The greatest thing I learned came about when I had the opportunity to attend the Texas Threads of Love Convention in the Spring of 2005. Sissy had a session on starting a chapter and of course I knew I needed that one. She said "do not do fund raisers. Turn the fund raising over to God and go do your sewing, knitting or crochet or whatever you do". I was stunned, as I had elaborate plans for raising funds to get the sewing room that we had just been provided at my church parish hall fully equipped. So I went on with a prayer campaign instead, and ask for prayers about the equipment for the sewing room instead of raising funds. Several sewing machines were donated and other items began to come in. Over and over I said as I stitched "The Lord will provide" and I believed that. Shortly, I received an email about a grant that was available for startup of outreach ministries to women and children. We met the criteria and I had 15 days to get the application and all supporting documents together. I was told there were at least twenty five applicants and only 10 grants would be awarded. Some were for \$500 and some for \$1000. I boldly requested \$1000. And I prayed... Forty days later I received a call that we were awarded the grant. I was so thankful to God. I called my Volunteer Coordinator at the hospital we serve and left a message. She returned my call and I said I had great news to share, and she said "Wait! I have a surprise for you first. The Hospital Auxiliary has donated \$1200. for your chapter to buy a heavy duty serger and supplies for the sewing room." I was so overwhelmed I could not believe we were getting our sewing room fully equipped.

That was last year. As I turned in my end of year report in July, my volunteer coordinator ask for some examples of the things we make to show the Hospital Auxiliary. I dropped them off for her and she called a few days later and said to please come by and pick up the samples. The Auxiliary was very

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impressed she said ...and by the way they sent a check for \$1000 for supplies for Threads of Love this year. So I am once again blessed and thank God, the Provider of all good and abundance in my life. I have a wonderful chapter consisting of young girls and women from age 11 to our Queen Bee, Martha age 87, plus two very talented men that crochet beautifully.

The scripture says: *"I Believe, I Receive"...* "And we are sure of this, that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will. And if we really know he is listening when we talk to him or make our requests, then we can be sure he will answer us." -1 John 5:14,15
Make Jesus your Chief Financial Officer and just sew or do whatever you do and believe and trust that God will provide.

Georgia Tabor, Coordinator, North Austin Chapter, Austin, Texas



Here is an example of blessing from our fruit:

We were so excited about having a third baby on the way. We went for a sonogram, the first of many during this pregnancy. Our doctor said she couldn't see the kidneys and didn't want us to be alarmed, but she'd like for us to see a specialist to have a more extensive sonogram done. We thought nothing of it; oh the baby isn't as far along as we thought or that maybe it will just be a small baby. After all, it was the early stages of the pregnancy. To our dismay our baby really didn't have kidneys. We asked so what's next? A transplant? Dialysis? No. The specialist asked if we wanted to terminate...No, no, no. That's simply out of the question. If our baby was to die, it would be because God takes him home, not us. We held strong to our faith in God to see us through this, the hardest day of our lives. And He has been faithful to see us through. He was our strength when we had none, our comfort when we needed more, and it pulled my husband and I closer together, our family too.

On July 19, 2003 God blessed our family with our precious little angel Johnathon Michael Bond who touched many hearts and lives in the short time that he was on this earth. Many in our church said our trial has built the church body stronger.

Our little one, WOW! God sure did make a great impact on many.

One of the very special nurses brought us a decorated memory box with an assortment of items including a prayer card, an angel, blanket and other items to help comfort us during that time and to remind us God has a purpose in all things. They had taken pictures of Johnathon with the memory items; it made them all the more special.

We were so touched by this kind gesture that we decided to use our experience to bless others just as the kind people had put much love and time into the items that they hand made and placed in that beautiful memory box that still has a special place in our home and our hearts.

We started up this chapter in August, '04 and God has quickly put us to His work. We serve the North Central Baptist Hospital, in San Antonio, Texas which just recently grown from a regular nursery with an 8 bed special care nursery, to a 26 bed level 3 NICU and is expandable by 36 more beds, when the need arises. I'm pleased to say God has blessed our chapter with lovely ladies who have served and have our NICU fully stocked when the doors opened July 17th, 2006. God is so good, and worthy to be praised. To Him be all the Glory.

-Polly



Notes of Thanks Received

God is able to make all grace abound to you. So that in all things at all times, having all that you need, will abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8

I just wanted to let you know and all your volunteers that your ministry has touched my heart. I miscarried my quadruplets June 8th at UAB Hospital in Birmingham Alabama and I got to see all my little angels for the first time with the gowns and crocheted blankets that were provided by Threads of Love. I can not tell you how precious my babies looked because someone took the time to think of us in our time of need. You really make them look like little angels and that is how I will always remember them! God Bless all of you! I just wanted to let you know how much it meant to us and our family!

- Love Kim Lloyd

In January my Baby Boy's life came to an end with my own, only he was not able to be revived or survive as I did. He was only 13oz but we had named him Simon. He was beautiful and pure. I did not know what to expect when they asked me if I wanted to hold him. I had to hold him, I knew him and I loved him. The nurse brought him to me in a beautiful white gown and a knitted blue hat that fit him perfect. He was so small and looked like a sleeping little doll. I was in awe of how the little clothes and hat just fit him so perfect. It was so much more acceptable to see him that way. I also received a blue satin box to keep his things in. The tragedy was so horrid that I thought I would never get through it. But I am making it. Because of you all my baby was able to come into the world breathless and still be viewed with dignity just as any other tiny baby. Because of your ministry I have a beautiful picture of him, dressed so sweetly, that the nurses took. I will always be able to look at my little angel and know he is in Heaven bringing the other angels joy with his beauty. Thank you for what you all do. I hope you know just how much it helps. God bless you in your ministry, and know that people like me are thankful for you.

- Christal

Dear Threads of Love,

I just wanted to let you all know how valuable this ministry really is to parents and loved ones of babies in the NICU. I didn't even know about this ministry until my first child, Lydia was born March 25. No one prepared me for her need to go to the NICU. I thought she would be a healthy baby and stay in the room with me like all the other mothers I knew.

But after having to speed up her delivery because she was in distress, a quick csection, and a few hours in the room with me, Lydia became very sick. She was in respiratory distress and was rushed to the NICU. She would stay their nine days. My first visit to her the next day was so comforting when I saw her little sock baby, positioner and knitted cap. She had it all and I felt so much better, knowing someone had thought of her.

Later, I learned the items were supplied by the Threads of Love chapter at Riverview Baptist Church in Trussville. I treasure all the items and my daughter still uses the positioner to help with her reflux. She is a happy healthy baby. God truly is worthy of our trust and praise. Lydia's, prematurity revealed lung and severe heart problems that were totally corrected by the end of the week.

I'm sorry it took me so long to write and let you guys know how much you all mean to me and my husband. I pray for your organization often and have contacted the Riverview chapter to become a "sewer."

The items, the prayer cards and the love for Christ you all demonstrate by caring for these little babies and their parents touches so many people. I am eternally grateful for making my baby girl's stay in the NICU a little more comfortable and for helping me and my husband deal with the stress and grief that fills your heart when your baby is away from you.

Love in Christ,
Christie



Threads of Love Newest Chapters

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Fun Facts

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Answer - Psalms 119

Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?

Answer - Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalms 118

Add these numbers up and you get 1188

What is the center verse in the Bible?

Answer - Psalms 118:8

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives? The next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of His Word!

Psalms 118:8 (NKJV) "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

Now isn't that odd how this worked out (or was God in the center of it?)



Jesus Loves the Little Children

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Place address label here

Mission Statement

Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of tiny premature infants. The ministry is about healing and binding hearts together - the hearts of parents at a time of uncertainty about their baby's health or when they lose an infant. Our mission is to show parents the love of Christ at a time when their personal pain is hard to endure and let them know that God is faithful. Through acts of obedience and donation, His work can and will continue. Pray that this ministry will have an impact far beyond our expectations.

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"Love builds bridges where there are none." R H Delaney

Weeds come of themselves; flowers require cultivation. - Gleanings

Father, the weeds of my life do grow so easily, help me to plant flower. Plant within me the flower of Your love and hope.

*Faith doesn't get you around trouble,
It gets you though it*