



Helping  
Overcome with  
Purpose and  
Encouragement

Celebrating  
10  
YEARS

Issue 40 | JULY 2020

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620-259-9390

ADDRESS

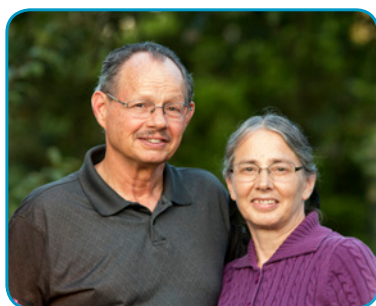
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## SPECIAL FEATURES

- Seminar Schedule
- HOPE Ministries Openhouse
- Single Lady's Testimony
- The Father's Love Resources

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Friday  
9:00am – 1:00pm



## MISSION STATEMENT

HOPE Ministries seeks to help individuals explore patterns that may have developed over their lifetime and provide opportunities to allow Jesus to bring healing and hope to their lives in fresh ways.

## The Tale of the Parakeet

BY JOANN NISLY

We gingerly carried the awkward bird cage with as much stability as possible, only to suddenly hear a flutter of wings and see our pet parakeet fly up high in the trees! Though low enough to see, he was high enough to stay out of reach.

How did it get out??? In our shuffle, the bright bird captured sight of a gap in the cage to squeak through and thought it advantageous to make use of that little escape route.

What an ungrateful parakeet! We've fed this parakeet, we've given him drink, we've kept him and his mate quite protected. We've put toys up in their cage! And he has the nerve to fly away!?!?! How ungrateful and untrusting can a bird be???

Is that the way I am? Do you ever struggle with that? In our ignorance of how much our Heavenly Father cares for us, do we complain about the freedoms and benefits that seem to be "out there somewhere"? Do these desires smother out the blessings we are receiving?

Are we like the parakeet, feeling caged up in an environment or by activities or something else, and all we can think of is that "the sky is bluer on the other side of the cage"? Do we have misconceptions about our Master, our Creator, our Jesus, our Father? Just how do we see Him? Does that view have anything to do with our peace or contentment in the circumstances in which we find ourselves?

My parakeet's trust in me as its master is still pretty low. It does not just fly to me

willingly; it doesn't want me to hold it. When I move toward him, he tries to get away. No wonder he wants to get out of his cage, which is the safety device I have him in knowing he wasn't made for the wild atmosphere.

**Is it possible that my trust in Jesus is relational to my view of Him? Do I see a Jesus with His hands on His hips watching my every move, waiting to correct me? Or do I see Jesus as a loving Father, full of tenderness and lovingkindness (Col. 3:21 AMP), gentle and humble and willing to teach me (Matt. 11:28-30)? Or as the Holy Spirit is described in John 14:16 AMP—a Helper, Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor, Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby.**

If I see Jesus with the attributes listed above, is it possible that I might be glad to have Him as my Guardian in my circumstances rather than "flying off into the wild" depending on the strength of my own "wings"?

My little parakeet was found by a neighbor about a quarter mile away two days later after two lone nights in the wild. The bird was on the ground looking for food and water.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2





## SEMINAR SCHEDULE

HOPE MINISTRIES PRESENTS:  
**HEALING**  
FOR THE HURTING  
**HEART**

Visit [kansasHOPEministries.com](http://kansasHOPEministries.com)  
for more information.

### Verdon, Nebraska

Haven of Hope Church

**August 22-23, 2020**

Saturday & Sunday  
10:00am – 4:30pm

#### To RSVP

Call or email Al Garber:  
(660) 723-1014 or  
[altongarber@gmail.com](mailto:altongarber@gmail.com)

### Hutchinson, Kansas

Pleasant View  
Activity Center

**October 2-3, 2020**

Friday Evening & Saturday

#### To RSVP

Call or email the  
HOPE Ministries' Office

## The Tale of the Parakeet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This neighbor noticed it was not a bird fit for the wild environment. When the bird flew to a table, the man put out his hand and the parakeet stepped up on his hand. A few hours later we had our bird back—a few feathers less and pretty scruffed up. Today, a week later, he's back to normal chattering away in his cage.

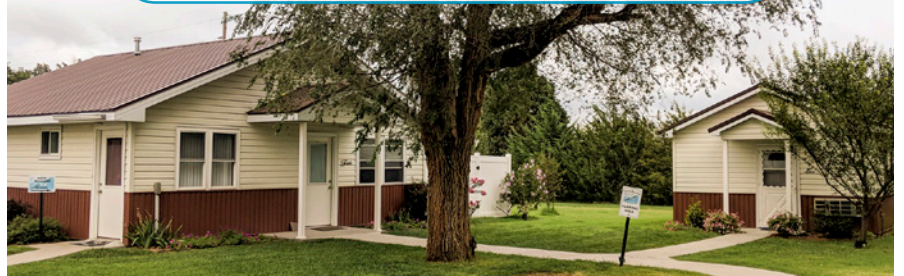
## Open House

Come and Go

**Sunday, September 13, 2020**

**2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

at HOPE Ministries



**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF MINISTRY**

## HOPE Ministries' Activities

APRIL – JUNE 2020

### 8 Couples

3 New Cases  
1 Follow-Up Case  
4 Premarital Couples

### 12 Ladies

5 New Cases  
6 Follow-Up Cases  
1 Intro Session

### 7 Men

2 New Cases  
5 Follow-Up Cases

**28 Follow-Up  
Phone Calls**

# At Rest in My Father's Love

A SINGLE CLIENT SHARES

TESTIMONY TIME | Page 3

When you are not at rest in the Father's love, you compete for identity, you move into aggressive striving, trying to earn love and acceptance. How well I can identify with striving for identity, trying to earn love and acceptance by "doing," not grasping the truth that in Jesus I can "be."

**I had no idea about all the pain and baggage I had chained up in my heart and how deep the hurts were from my past that I was carrying. Hurt people hurt people and I know I have proven that to be true. It grieves me deeply to think of all the pain I have created for those around me all these years. But I am so thankful Jesus saw my heart's cry in the midst of all the pain and hurt and provided an opportunity for me to be freed from my past.**

I am thankful that my past does not need to define who I am in Jesus today. His grace is sufficient. All these years of striving to "do" instead of "being" I have been saying that the work of the cross was not good enough for me. How I must have grieved the heart of Jesus!

Satan bombarded me with so many lies—lies that I am an

impossible person, not valued, unwanted, no purpose, I am a mistake. These are a few of the many lies I believed about myself. Jesus freely forgives, and I want to give Him all my fragmented pieces. He alone can make something beautiful out of my life.

My testimony is that God is so good! He has given me so much. He saw beyond my pain and knew how desperately I wanted what was right. I am on a journey. My heart is more at rest and peace than I have ever known it to be. He continues to work in my heart, showing me areas where I need to let go, areas of surrender. He wants to show me His love and acceptance of who I am in Him. He is enough and He wants to stamp that in the deep recesses of my heart. My whole heart wants that, but to re-program a mind is not an overnight change.

I am thankful for the times of victory—of being able to identify the lies I tell myself, and speak truth to my heart instead. I am learning to agree with Jesus and what He has to say about me. He has met me in my brokenness, and has reminded me that a broken and contrite heart He will not reject.

## Learn More about the Father's Love



"Do you rise up every morning feeling like a son or daughter, secure and confident in your Father's love and living to give that love to others?

Or do you get up every day feeling like a slave, struggling constantly with fears of failure or rejection, unable to trust and wondering what you have to do to appease the Master today?"

— Jack Frost, *Spiritual Slavery to Spiritual Sonship*

### YouTube Suggestion:

"Experiencing the Father's Embrace" by Jack Frost

### Verses about God's Love:

[www.fathersloveletter.com](http://www.fathersloveletter.com)

### Book/DVD Recommendations:

*Spiritual Slavery to Spiritual Sonship* by Jack Frost

*Experiencing the Father's Embrace* by Jack Frost

**"You will treat yourself and others according to the way you think God feels about you."**

— Jack Frost, *Spiritual Slavery to Spiritual Sonship*





# Come and Rest

BY GENE L. MILLER

2020 arrived with rumblings of a new virus in some remote area across the globe, then in distant US cities, and finally our own state and nearby cities. Social media posts by credible experts and those self proclaimed led to polarization on both sides of multiple questions, only rarely resulting in dialog that answered honest questions and led to informed answers.

The underlying sense of fear was almost palpable. People passed each other with averted gaze, as if eye contact was a transmission risk. Hygiene items and other staples were in short supply, hoarded in quantities to last years, or stashed to turn obscene profits as demand increased.

One troubling attitude surfacing in Anabaptist circles is an underlying distrust of authority. Their posts push conspiracy theories: false statistics from the government, empty hospitals as proof

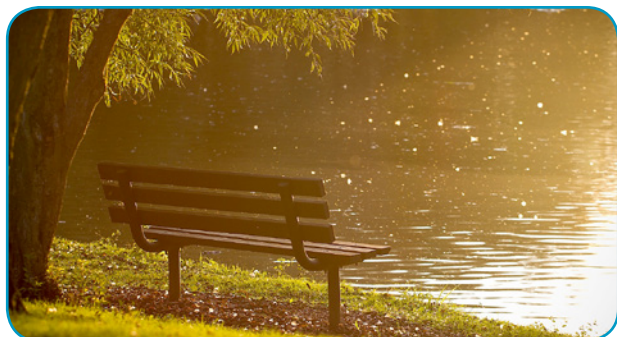


the pandemic isn't real, known "cures" officials covered up to exacerbate the crisis for their own agenda. Some asked for pictorial proof from hot spots, even as local Anabaptists reported their daily contact with the broken

and desperate, both their acquaintances and complete strangers. Some clearly saw the president using it to ensure his re-election, while others knew it to be his undoing. Especially troubling was the flavor of, "they don't really have the authority to enforce their guidelines"—often a thinly disguised version of, "they won't tell ME what to do!" This inability to trust authority may ultimately reflect our distrust that our Father truly has our best in mind.

One clear truth superseding today's social climate is that God did not intend us to live out of the fear we so easily feel. II Timothy 1:7 says, "For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." When we act out of fear, it paralyzes our ability to think clearly, cancels out our desire to offer the good we have to others—and to trust them to extend us the same—and robs us of the strength to move proactively rather than reactively.

If you are like me, you may have tuned out the clamor long ago, deeply weary of a fight that has turned against each other rather than against the issues—and ultimately, the enemy. Jesus invites us to "come unto Me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:28-30. There is comfort, healing, love, rest, peace to be found in turmoil; let's seek it in the Right Place!



## Board Members

**Nevin & Joann Nisly** *Director*

**Arlen & Gloria Mast** *Chairman*

**Julian & Bertha Nisly** *Secretary/Treasurer*

**Gene L. Miller** *Board Member*

**Chris & Jolene Yoder** *Board Member*

**Michael & Jolene Hershberger**  
*Board Member*

**Wayne & Kimberly Yutzky**  
*Board Member*



## Financial Information

Because we desire that no one is hindered from coming due to financial pressure, we do not charge for counseling. We are grateful for those who have stood with us, and trust in God's continuing provision through His people.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are accountable to our board for the finances and the operation of HOPE Ministries. If you wish to know more details about our finances, please contact Julian Nisly, our treasurer, at 620-664-5304.

### WAYS TO DONATE

1. Visit the website
2. Mail a check
3. Phone the office

We invite your prayers and financial support as the Lord lays it on your heart. Tax deductible receipts will automatically be issued for checks of \$50 or more.

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