



## Love Gives Love Serves Love Does

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10*

# FREED for Fellowship

*by Liz Glover*

**F.** - Fellowship  
**R.** - Redemption  
**E.** - Equip  
**E.** - Empower  
**D.** - Discipleship

While traveling full time in the RV, Grady and I missed the practice of fellowship the most. Many incredible people crossed our paths throughout our journeys, but saying goodbye was inevitable and we usually never met again. Finding friendly people along the way was never difficult, however, rarely could there be a deep bond of fellowship because the RV community was as temporary as shifting sands in the tide. Residents were always pulling up stakes and drifting to the next destination, the next campsite, where they would be surrounded with an entirely new community of people who would also be pulling up stakes and moving down the road.

There is a huge difference between sociability and fellowship. You can be sociable without really connecting on a meaningful level. Social Media is proof of this. There is no substitute for the bond of friendship that comes from a community of people who share your interests, your convictions and your deep love and concern for one another.

## The cement of the community.

It has been said that "fellowship is the cement of the community." Hebrews 10:25 exhorts us, "... **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching**". The Apostle Paul was very aware that sheep wondering alone and in isolation were the most vulnerable prey for a hungry wolf or lion. There are many deceiving spirits in the world and when you have no one to encourage and exhort you to truth you may wander from the path and meander into false teachings. Who will sound the alarm for this defenseless individual?

"**Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up.**" Ecclesiastes 4:9-10. Who hasn't been in a place where you found yourself flat on your face and overwhelmed with the enormity of that sickness, or that diagnosis, or that broken relationship? When diagnosed with cancer it was our church community praying over us, encouraging us and meeting our needs in practical ways that carried us through the pain and the darkness. Despair would have triumphed without the strength of the Lord and fellowship of our church family.

"**Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone?**" Ecclesiastes 4:11. Having lived in Connecticut for 9 years I know the meaning of cold. My dear husband warmed my icy toes many freezing nights. There have also been seasons in my life where I found myself stranded in a very dark, cold and confusing place all alone. It was during these times that the intimacy of one good friend, rather than a whole community, was appropriate to bring Godly counsel and "warmth" to my soul.

"**Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.**"—Ecclesiastes 4:12. Being attacked is less likely to happen if you are blessed with the company of one (or 100) friends. A strong community protects and stands in defense when there are unfounded attacks.

Hebrews 10:24 says, "... **consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,**" When you are wounded all you can feel or think about is the throbbing pain from the wound. This pain can supersede the rational of the actual offense, especially if inflicted by a trusted friend or loved one. It helps to have a friend who is trustworthy to give you perspective, Godly counsel and to encourage you in the ways of our Lord.

As we consider the value of friendship and the importance of fellowship let's not neglect to come together as often as we can to hold each other up, encourage one another and exhort to love and good works. Let's especially remember to open our arms and embrace new members and welcome them as one of our own.

Go with God (and bring a friend!)

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24

Memory Verse for October

## Wednesday @ 6:00

**Walhalla Women are Emerging** to become more "Missions Minded." Our ladies are diligently working to make hats and scarves for the team going on the upcoming Mission trips to Mexico and Romania. These hats and scarves will be distributed to the homeless who will battle the elements this winter to stay warm. All ladies are welcome to join us in the Women's Ministry room in the Discipleship Building. It is located downstairs, the first classroom on your left. If you have not seen it, please make a point to visit on Wednesdays at 6:00. You will find servant leaders preparing for mission trips and providing God's love for those in need. If you prefer to donate **new hats** please leave them in the designated basket in the foyer at the church.

## Our Local Missions Project

Our Walhalla Women are partnering with Ashley and Tiffany Williams to update and remodel the Magnolia House near downtown, Walhalla.

Magnolia House began as the Men's Home of Ashtree Ministries and was used for men struggling with substance abuse and addiction. As members of NWCOG, the Williams have been dedicated to serving and supporting the men in the program and we, as a church body, have been blessed with the opportunity to serve through meeting practical needs.

## The Time Has Come for Transition

The men have moved to a different location and we are excited to announce the opening of the first of Ashtree Ministries, **Women's** Addiction Recovery Program which will be directed by Tiffany Williams.

Our "WE" group has toured the Magnolia House and have partnered with Tiffany to beautify the grounds and facilities in preparation for those who will reside there. We hope to provide elements of home and comfort for those women who need support in transition. Our Walhalla Women will be assisting with painting, decorating, landscaping, providing hygiene items, ministry support and prayer for women who will be housed there. Our desire is to help train, educate, and see the women FREED from the bonds of addiction.

**Fund raising** - As we prepare to repaint the interior we are raising funds by hosting a yard sale. Please see the details below. If you would like to donate toward the project please go to the page on our website and click the "donate" button:

[WalhallaWomen.com/MagnoliaHouse](http://WalhallaWomen.com/MagnoliaHouse)

For more information contact:

Staci Williamson - 864-903-4914  
Liz Glover - 843-819-4357

## "WE" Groups

**Lacey Stone** did an incredible job leading our Walhalla Women through the study of "Elijah" by Priscilla Shirer. As we finished our last evening of Bible Study on Sunday evening our ladies seemed to linger as we described the impact this study had upon each of us. We ended by discussing local needs within our church body and how we can practically meet those needs within our group. Our motto, Love gives, Love serves, Love does, certainly made itself evident in this precious time of "Bearing one another's burdens and so fulfilling the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2.

If you were not able to join us for the Bible Study, no worries. You will have a chance to study on a smaller more intimate level as we fellowship together in small groups meeting at "Host Homes" and led by a small group leaders.

You may go to the website to find our more information or to sign up.

[WalhallaWomen.com/Events](http://WalhallaWomen.com/Events)



## Magnolia House Yard Sale

October 13 & 14

8:00 - 1:00

*Now is the time to do your fall cleaning!! We are collecting yard sale donation items to raise funds for interior paint for the Magnolia House. Please, only bring items that are in good working order and are clean. Make sure to bring clothing items on hangers for ease and better display.*

*Drop off at the 2 story white victorian house located behind Free's Radiator Shop:  
Hunter Ave, Walhalla, SC*

*Please call Liz Glover (843-819-4357) to meet you at Magnolia House to receive your donations.*