

## On the Way to Glory



**The season that my three adult children, Elijah, Uriah, and Alisha, left home for college was bitter-sweet.** We were family-oriented, which has made us tight-knitted today. Our earlier family activities centered around our children. We provided the necessary cultural experiences

for assisting them to become productive adults. They attended the various museums, weekly trips to the library, petting farms at the zoo, Sea World, bike riding as a family, nature walks, Friday's game night, and amusement parks. Our yard was always full of a host of other children that we ministered to and included in our outings.

At an early age, Thomas and I modelled the importance of family, quiet time, and academic excellence. We had weekly Bible study at home with our children, arts and craft, coloring books depictions of God's love for them, such as Jesus sitting and conversing with the children. There were summer Christian camps where more solid food was provided: the sin nature of humanity and the consequence of such. Perhaps, it was too much or not enough. For as they entered teen years, there seemed to be a forsaking of home and God. For at the age of fourteen, my sweet and respectful children became strangers. No longer was the home the centermost place for learning, fun, and living out Godly principles. Now, peers, tv, and other outside influences became their new way of living and being. It was so traumatizing that I conducted a workshop at a large conference titled, Whose Kids Are These? I imagine God has asked the same question, as He watches His beloved assimilate and forsake what is right in His sight, to appease the flesh, ego, and others.

As we continue observing the Lenten season and the quickly approaching Holy Week, my heart is overwhelmed with sadness and joy concerning this holy season. It is bittersweet. We take weeks to reflect on God's heart and what God expects from us, as we journey on this side of glory. However, as the

world becomes darker and influences from the enemy of the heart becomes stronger, the Church, God's beloved children, are becoming wild and unrecognizable. There is political unrest, racial dissonance, bitterness, misogyny, misogynoir, and hatred of those who are different. The marginalized who we should take care of are being overlooked and programs to help them are being quickly removed. Threats of genocide of inner-city youth has been promised, and I am sure it will be attempted. College students, exercising the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment of freedom of speech, are being jailed for speaking boldly to power in support of the marginalized within our society. Government workers who protect national security, educational programs, and civil rights, and being fired at a whim. In this season of reflection and remembering the cost at the cross, may we speak to injustice. I can hear God's heart echo that of mine years ago, "Where are my beloved children?"

On our way to glory, have we forgotten what that entails? Have we forgotten the love God showed in giving His only begotten Son that whosoever believe would have everlasting life (John 3:16-17)? That belief involves a faithful walk of love, care, and compassion for others, as we journey on this side, on our way to glory.

Therefore, may the final weeks of reflection and new directions of living and being, that the Lenten season affords, move us forward in that love and obedience. Allow this sacred period of reflection, self-denial, and operating in other spiritual disciplines mark a beginning and not an end. Let us move forward forsaking pettiness and embrace one another with the love and mind of Christ (Phil. 2:3-5) that promotes otherness. Otherwise, all our efforts for forty days will simply be 'external' exercises.

In closing, on Easter Sunday, many within the world will show up in their finery and leave the same way spiritually. However, our spiritual journey to glory should represent a higher purpose that embodies Christ's love, suffering (Phil. 3:10), sacrifice, His life, death, burial, and resurrection. Then, this season of remembering and rejoicing becomes a year-long engagement versus a 40-day commitment to God, whom we serve and say we love. Then, our journey to glory becomes less about us, our rituals, and sacred seasons. Rather, our journey becomes more about our love for God, His expectations, our obedience, and the reward in glory—to remain in His presence forever more.

*Our children and grandchildren are productive adults within our society (Prov. 22:6).  
I am confident that God's beloved heirs will follow suit on their journey to glory.*

Dianthia is available to connect with Chapter Reps' regarding personal or chapter concerns Monday-Thursday from 7pm-10pm Eastern.

## **ZOOM INFORMATION**

Dianthia Gilmore is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Zoom Meeting with MC Reps

Time: Apr 15, 2025 20:00 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88048957056?pwd=ur5FqctJ49B6wATtgkCgmcB4fEDMJ.1>

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