

Cont'd. from page 1 (Smith)

You may have noticed that this is the only newsletter published this year; this is because we lacked funds to publish quarterly as in previous years. We have used all available funds to remain true to our mission and continue to service families who need us. We are requesting your monetary support to purchase postage, office supplies and school uniforms as well as fund the Secret Santa Project. This year the need will be much greater as the economy continues to recede and more people who have little find themselves with much less. Please help us to offer them comfort, encouragement and hope as they regroup.

As God has blessed you, please be a blessing to others. There are several ways to make a donation -- cash, check, money order, or Pay Pal. Please make all checks and money orders payable to:

Angel Wings Ministries, Inc.
2355 Nutmeg Terrace
Baltimore, MD 21209

Or go to our website: www.Angelwingsministries.org and use the PayPal access.

We are always grateful to you our faithful donor. Thank you in advance for your donation to Secret Santa and the Angel Wings Ministries general fund. **Please complete the enclosed form and return to us by DECEMBER 11TH.**

PLEASE NOTE: ALL FINANCIAL GIFTS TO ANGEL WINGS MINISTRIES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

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with attending convocations, local workshops especially for men? There are some paperback books in grocery stores and bookshops which are specially written and designed for males and their unique perspective. One such book was printed as early as 1972 for men at work, called *Man-Talk*, by Harper and Rowe. Topics range from the economy to love, from business to daydreaming, from holidays to family time. The book covers a whole gamut of relevant issues that could touch the heart of any working man or woman. Finding and reading a book of prayers that express the feelings similar to your own may be the perfect way to start the journey toward making up prayers of your own. Until then, why not read the book of Psalms? The author David was a **real man**, the apple of God's eye. His feelings toward God are all over the written page. Each psalm or song is a prayer. Remember: A journey of a 1000 miles begins with one step. ■

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the current ones. Sometimes it will involve you having to adjust or modify your pricing structure or product offerings but if you are in it for the long haul, you must do anything in your power to maintain your business. Every small business isn't in trouble and neither does every small business fail but the vast majority of the small businesses are in some form of trouble. A lot of pressure is being placed on President Obama concerning the economy and many people are questioning why the economy hasn't turned around yet but I am not one of them. I understand that this mess didn't happen overnight and we won't get out of it overnight. My advice to anyone wanting to start their own business is to go ahead and do it. Although this economy is bad, people are still in need of different products and services and your business may be that one that fills the need. To the small businesses that are struggling right now, evaluate your situation and see if it's financially feasible to wait this thing out or not. Don't be afraid to make the business decision to call it quits. And for those businesses that are going well, don't relax and become too comfortable with the status quo, keep expanding and stay on top of your competition. ■

Published By: Angel Wings Ministries
2355 Nutmeg Terrace
Baltimore, Maryland 21209
(410) 466-7364 Angelwingsmin@aol.com

Rev. Deborah Shepperson Smith,
Founder & CEO

Bishop William Payne,
Pastor and National Affiliate
Universal Ministries World Wide
1927 East 32nd Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46218

ANGEL WINGS MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

Fall 2009 Angel Wings Ministries Volume XI, Issue 3

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Mission Statement
Angel Wings Ministries, Inc. is a non-denominational spiritually based outreach program dedicated to assisting children, individuals and families in poverty or states of transition; we promote self-sufficiency and self-empowerment.
Educate..... Serve..... Inspire

Season's Greetings: By: Rev. Deborah Smith

It's that time of year again! Angel Wings Ministries begins our annual fundraising efforts to raise money for Secret Santa and the Angel Wings general fund. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A couple of years ago one of our great benefactors gave us a letter to print using the lead-in sentence "*It's Not My Turn to Eat.*" Even though I know these things do exist, I could never say that I experienced it. But over the weekend I met a wonderful young student from Texas who, in an unrelated conversation, revealed that when she was growing up and the cupboards were low her mom told her and her siblings to take a nap. This struggling young student at a Historically Black College has not forgotten those times when the cupboard was bare; she is committed to a higher education to improve her life and those of family members she left back home.

2009 has challenged all of us to tighten our belts and use all the creativity we can muster to create a world we want to live in and strive to be the best we can be. "For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and love, and of sound mind." II Timothy 1.7.

Cont'd on page 4 - Smith



Your donations at work.
The Angel Wings Project, Meet Me Halfway Mentoring Program and the Missionary Ministry of Wayland Baptist Church provided these students with uniforms for the 2009 school year.

The State of the Economy and the Small Business Man

By Bill Craig

Contrary to what economic analyst have been saying about the economy over the last year, the economy overall has been in the tank



for years now. The negative effects have been felt by small business owners long before the experts and the national media decided to let everyone else in America know. As a small business owner, I have been struggling to survive in this turbulent business climate for some years now. The small business owner is always the first to suffer more because many of us don't have the financial backing from banks like the larger companies enjoy. An if you happen to be a minority owned small business its even harder because you have to deal with age old problems as well as the current new problems. Often when small business owners suffer financially they are forced to cut staff and most cases close the doors. The latter was the case in our situation. Fortunately due to the nature of the business we are in, we are still able to function but just from the home office. My business partner and I saw years ago the direction of the printing industry, which is our field of operation, and began to broaden our product offerings so as to appeal to a wider base. With thousands of businesses, small and large, closing everyday it is miracle to make any money in this climate. As small business owners, we have to double our efforts to attract new customers and keep

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Prayer List

A. Hendricks • Deborah Morgan
Bishop Tyrone Griffin
Meet Me Halfway Families
Thomas Lowery

**We Remember Our Faithful
Readers and Supporters**

PRAYER POWER, by J L McLellan

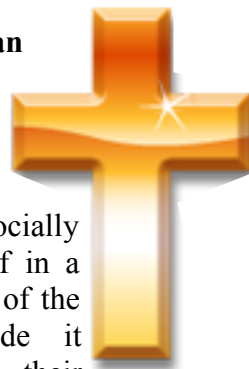
“Real men love God!” You’ve probably seen that slogan—or something like it—on bumper stickers, indicating that it’s now socially acceptable for men to express belief in a higher power. While the prevalence of the Twelve Step programs has made it fashionable for men to admit to their chemical dependence as an “illness,” perhaps the need for help from an outside source is now equally as acceptable. Prior to the wild decade of the 1960’s men had all but abdicated their responsibility as priest of the home. Meanwhile, the women’s lib movement all but stripped men of their political and social role of “head of the house.” Before then, mothers were taking the children to church; attending worship as well as nurturing children with a spiritual foundation were considered as “women’s work.” American men showed their faith by “living by the good book” and providing for their families. It was “not cool” for fathers to share their faith, to go to church, or to pray.

Nowadays, with the rise of other religions in the US, Christian men once again find themselves being held accountable for leading the family and sharing one’s own faith. Men who once remained quiet in church—or absent for that matter—are now placed in the position of leadership in the home and in the church, with the expectation of being a role model for children and youth. Yet, with little or no experience in the area of devotion, the question becomes, how can a man admit he has no background in understanding the Bible or in private devotion? Where does a **real man** learn to pray?

While it might seem obvious that the male gender has dominated the church for centuries, the ugly truth is that most laymen would rather not be called on to pray individually. If the truth be told, most women in church would rather not be called on for spontaneous prayer either, but at least they will offer to go home and pray for you at some later unspecified time. People in the pew tend to call upon the pastor to “lead us in prayer” or to simply say the grace at church functions. **Real men need to learn how to pray!**

May I suggest some small group sessions at church, some books or videos with prayers included, along

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Of Men and Of Angels

Paul D. Smith

As usual I was asked to contribute an article to this newsletter only hours before it was due to be edited! Thank God I had a very strong and devout father, James B. Smith, who would read the scriptures to us before each Sunday dinner. We were not allowed to touch a crumb until he finished the reading the selection for that Sunday. It was divine intervention that I thought of those memories from so long ago: us sitting at our dining room table listening to Dad reading scripture, while smelling the good old chicken and dumplings that Momma had labored over. Along with that, add the smell of all the aromas of kale and mustard greens and Aunt Pearl’s rolls. Yummy my, my!

My six sisters, my brother and I sat restlessly waiting to sink our teeth into the heavenly food as my father Deacon Smith read formally from the Bible. I remember one of his favorite scriptures: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and I have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal...” [1 Corinthians 13:1-13]

This 13th chapter of Corinthians speaks of love and charity. In a time such as this when we are challenged on every side--money, jobs, housing, education, and health -- how do we demonstrate love and how do we share? The question becomes how do we show charity, how do we give? The biblical prophet Malachi 3:7 plainly states that you must give to receive. We must give of our time, talent and monies. Although right now my finances may seem fleeting, I find myself still sharing meals. Try as I might to cook for two people I end up cooking more; I share meals with others. You would think that after 35 years of marriage I would have figured this out. I do complain about not having enough money, time and work, but with the understanding from the ones I love and those that love me, I am blessed to know the words of God have been planted deep inside my mind and my spirit. Yes, there are some present-day prophets who help to guide me with words of wisdom through these troubled times. But I am grateful to my Dad who introduced me to the Bible, and practiced what he preached.

“...And now abides faith, hope and charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.”
1 Corinthians 13:13.

“God is a very present help in time of trouble; a shelter in the time of storm.”

GIVE!!



Make a donation and help us today!
Call 410-466-7364 Or visit us online
at angelwingsministries.org