



Missionary Musings

KAREN WELKER | JANUARY 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2022 was, for me, a year of developing and strengthening. Thank you so much for your prayers and encouragement. God has placed me in the most positive environment I have ever lived. And I have been renewed, changed, and invigorated. I have learned to confront my fears, to face difficulties with courage, and to believe and hope.

I am so thankful (now) that God brought me back to America. I have always said I am a late bloomer and I feel like I am emerging out of the ground for possibly the first time. There are many people responsible for this. Anita P. who pushed me into counseling that I didn't want, for Bruce & Alice who prayed with me, for my sister's family who have unconditionally loved me, for Globe staff whose encouragement borders on lying (joke), for my Charity Chapel church family, for Dr. Spriggs who has patiently taken care of my body, for Sherry G. who helped me find Dr. Spriggs, for Bob and Melissa Hill who have added me to the Member Care Team at Globe, Dr. Andy and his teachings, and for the countless other people that God has caused to cross my path to teach me so much in the last year.



There are two main reasons for this change: transformation prayer ministry and the overwhelming amount of love and support I have received from each one of you. Another piece was the Word of the Lord which was given to me by strangers at the Light the Fire Again conference in Pensacola. I am still working on believing what God said to me then.

I am not castigating myself for every error I think I make, I am speaking kindly to myself. These are major changes in my life. I am happy with myself.

Physically, I am doing well. After all the heart tests, basically my heart is strong, but doesn't always stay in rhythm but is not detrimental. Diabetes is under control with diet and exercise, and my heart is filled with joy. I still use a CPAP machine to monitor and control my breathing at night.

Last year, I taught a class at Charity Chapel on "heroes" of the faith. In 2023, I will probably be teaching from the book by Ed and Joshua Smith, "Effortless Forgiveness". Ed Smith developed transformationprayer.org. These principles are sound both theologically and psychologically. The first two books, "Process" and "Principles", are available on the website for free. It is helpful for all Christians, not just wounded ones like me.

When I was undergoing cardiac evaluation, a lady at church encouraged us to "claim a scripture", a promise from God. I chose Psalm 147:3, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." God has been healing my heart, soul, and spirit. Let me encourage you to choose a verse to trust the Lord for in 2023.

-Karen