



Restored Hope Network™

"And such were some of you..."

Restoring Hope

Proclaiming Truth

Equipping Churches

The Hope Update

JOHN 8:32, 36

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Monthly Devotion

Hope Happening

Anne Paulk



Executive Director

By Robert Gagnon

Transformation by Staring at the face of Jesus

In 2 Cor 3:18 Paul states that "we" believers in Christ, "with uncovered face, looking at the mirrored glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image, from glory to glory, just like (Moses' transformation) from the Lord, the Spirit." Then he refers to "the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For it is not ourselves whom we are heralding but Jesus Christ as Lord... For God has shone in our hearts the illumination of the knowledge (the illumination that comes from the knowledge) of the glory of God (shining) in the face of Christ" (4:4-6).

The context for Paul's remarks is his exegesis of Exod 34:29-35, the temporary glory of God that shone on Moses' face whenever he stood in the presence of God, a glory that brought fear to the Israelites. Paul contrasts this manifestation of God's glory with the permanent and

Continued on back page



Our members have over 23 events all over the US over the next two months, so it is definitely difficult to select just one to highlight. To find out about these events, take a look at page 2. Another way to find out more is to go to our website and click on the Facebook or Twitter button and select "like" or "follow". A very popular event topic right now is "Homosexuality: How Should the Church Respond?"

We are also entering 40 days of fasting and prayer from Oct 15th-Nov 23rd. Hosted by Desert Stream Ministries and Restored Hope, we will focus on praying for the ministries and Church in the US and world. To join us, visit us on Facebook where we will post the link to each days' prayer requests.

Our culture is awash with many challenges—from same-sex 'marriage' to confronting ISIS—but one major trial is the idea of 'gay Christianity'. Non-practicing, "gay Christian" is becoming a darling in portions of the evangelical world.

The individuals calling themselves gay Christians may not be acting upon their feelings, yet keep the sinful desire close—so close as to place the label before their primary identity—Christian. And along with identity comes a friendship idolatry that approximates a gay romantic relationship without the sex.

Into this mix of cultural tides, Restored Hope remains a place of hope for those seeking God's kind promises. Not only do we know that Jesus loves those who struggle with same-sex attractions, we know that He transforms the inner person into His image. Thus single and married individuals are not doomed to endless inner conflict.

"Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul." 1 Peter 2:11



Transformation By Staring at the...

Continued from front page

inviting glory that shines on Jesus' face, who (unlike Moses) is the very "image of God," a spotless mirror of God's magnificent being and essence.

We can't actually see Jesus' face. The usual image that we have of him with beard and long hair may not be correct. Some of the earliest depictions of Jesus show him beardless with short hair. Some early Church Fathers, mindful of the prohibition of images of God, disapproved of pictures of Jesus' face. Indeed, the New Testament gives us no description of the face of the earthly Jesus on which to dwell.

When Paul talks about the light of God's glory shining from Christ's face, he directs our attention to the gospel about Jesus, whom we proclaim as Lord (4:5)—whose love for us was epitomized by becoming sin on our behalf, reconciling us to God, rising from the dead, imparting to us the Holy Spirit, causing us to experience the life of Jesus as we die to self, and assuring us of glorified resurrection bodies in the future (4:7-5:21). Looking on Christ's face was a metaphor that Paul used for reflecting on Jesus' actions on our behalf that have brought so much true life. It is the steady reflection on these that brings about our transformation.

**Let us gaze on
such beauty & live.**



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PO Box 22281, Milwaukie, Oregon 97269
Phone: 503-927-0869
Email: info@restoredhopenetwork.org

www.restoredhopenetwork.org

Ministry of the Month

Mending the Soul: Understanding and Healing Abuse

New Pathways/Elton Moose

Mission Statement

To provide counseling, education, and support to persons who wish to change their homosexual lifestyle. To provide support to the families and churches of homosexual individuals.

Vision

Provide Godly counseling and support for those struggling with unwanted homosexual feelings. Educate families and churches on how to respond to a loved one in a homosexual lifestyle.

Professional Christian Counseling

An NCCA licensed Clinical Pastoral Counselor and Certified Sexual Therapist offers one-on-one counseling. The counselor is trained to counsel homosexuals and those with sexual addictions. Fees are based upon a person's income. Please contact us for further information.

Support Groups

Weekly meetings are held in Springfield and Cedarville, Ohio. Members discuss their struggles and discover how they can overcome homosexuality through Christ. Prayer is a part of every meeting.



newpathwaysohio.org

RHN is a non-profit 501(c)3 ministry. Your gift is tax-deductible. We are thankful for those who invest in and partner with us in this mission of hope.

Upcoming Events

October

■ Oct. 15 – Nov. 23, 2014

"Pierced for the Bride: Restored Hope Network joins Desert Stream's 40 Days of Fasting & Prayer"

For more information:

[Facebook.com/RestoredHopeNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/RestoredHopeNetwork)

November

■ November 1-7, 2014 Kansas City, MO

National Living Waters Training

<http://desertstream.org/events/leadership-training-2/>

■ November 9, 2014 Seattle, WA

"Homosexuality: How Should We Respond?"

Director Jeff Simunds

www.toweroflightministries.org

■ November 15, 2014 Fountain Valley, CA

"Out of a Far Country: The Gospel and Holy Sexuality"

Shoreline Baptist Church
(626) 963-6683

■ November 30, 2014 Bakersfield, CA

"A Christian Response to Homosexuality"

Director-Pastor Philip Lee speaker

Rock Harbor Church

www.rockharborchurch.net

For complete listings:

www.restoredhopenetwork.org

and select Events/Regional Events

