

# Transformations

MAY / JUNE 2016



**W**E WERE JUST WAITING FOR THIS, 25 degrees, finally! It's May 22 and a warm sunny morning! We knew it would come. It's been a cool spring. In fact, we wanted to get a good start on our lawn so we had it aerated and de-thatched three weeks ago. Then we got busy over-seeding with premium grass seed and a good quality soil mix. With most of the lawn seeded, we thought we'd check the instructions on the bag. Oops! "Apply seed when daytime temperatures are at least 20 degrees." Ouch! So, as we look forward to re-seeding under proper conditions we are reminded that often we don't wait well. Waiting for the right timing, for God's timing is so important in doing marriage, and life, well. 'Waiting' and 'patience' are essential in God's design for marriage. This is our theme in this edition of Transformations.

## RSM Opportunities

**Marriage & Family Workshops at Fair Havens & Muskoka Bible Center: July and August** – Dave and Linda and Dianne Nolson will again be offering family workshops at Fair Havens and MBC in July and August. Ask us for exact dates of these workshops and please join us "up north" if you can this summer. We look forward to seeing you!

**Marriage Discipleship Series** – the Marriage Oneness System is helping us spread the marriage discipleship ministry – 'Couples reaching couples.'

See the RSM website [www.rsm-helps.com](http://www.rsm-helps.com) for details on upcoming events.

## Impacting Marriages and Families

*God's Spirit is transforming marriages and families as we come alongside in the living room. We hope to encourage you with these stories. (Note: names have been changed.)*

One of the common problems in our marriages today is that we are so strongly conditioned in every area of our lives to expect instant gratification, to want results NOW. Speed is almighty. One national technology retailer boasts the tag line 'I Want That'. And with credit, it's yours.

God's design for marriage, and for maturing in every area of life, doesn't work this way. It



seems we can't wait long enough for each other to grow up as husbands and wives. We have so little patience for each other. We get stuck in a place where we want our needs met by our spouse now.

Think about it...when a young man and a young woman first set sail into the 'New World' of Husband-ing and Wife-ing, neither has the faintest idea of what will be required of them in an actual marriage. How does a young husband, who has been focused on satisfying his own needs, mature into a man who will love his wife well? And how can a young wife possibly have any understanding of what it will require of her to become the woman who will be her husband's suitable helper?

—continued on reverse

**rsm**  
resuming life

RSM exists to restore God-centered unity in marriages and families



RSM is now on Facebook and Twitter. Please help us by "liking" and "following" us. Thanks!

*Thank You...* to all the members of our RSM Family. As RSM grows, we value connection with people who really care about restoring and building marriages and who believe in this ministry. Ask us how to become a member.



### Executive Director's Message –Scott Halse

It's often said that marriage is hard work. This, of course, is true. But it goes beyond this. To be yoked to one another means to take on one another's burdens. When Jesus told his disciples that the greatest love anyone could have was to lay down his life for his friends, he surely had his own passion partly in mind (John 15:13). But whether or not we ever face the threat of real persecution and violence, for all married men and women there is a constant tension between choosing our own happiness and that of our spouse. This is hard, but we have a sure hope for victory, because Jesus also tells us that He will send the Helper, the Holy Spirit, to guide us in all truth (John 16:13). So we have a command and

a promise: first, we are to give ourselves to our friends (and this certainly includes our spouse!); and second, that we are empowered by the Spirit of God to accomplish this self-sacrificial love. My prayer is that the RSM workshops at Fair Havens and MBC this summer will help equip the saints in our desire to fulfill Jesus' new commandment: that we love one another, just as Jesus has loved us.

### The 'Marriage Oneness System'

The 'Marriage Oneness System' DVDs and Workbooks are available. Couples are building oneness in their own marriage with this DVD and book and then sharing the experience with other couples. Churches are using this marriage discipleship resource to train marriage ministry leaders. Do you have your DVD and book yet? This is all about *'couples reaching couples.'*



### RSM Affiliated Ministry: Dianne Nolson-GriefShare

At RSM, we are anticipating God's presence as we teach precious truths from His Holy Word at Fair Havens and MBC in 2016. We see the beauty of creation by our Almighty God all around us at the campground. Our prayer is that God will work in the inner lives of hurting people as they turn to God and they, too, exhibit God's strength and beauty in their daily lives.

PRAYER\*: "Lord, I praise You that You are a praiseworthy God, both perfectly good and unimaginably glorious. And I thank You for how Your praise heals, clarifies my vision, changes my perspective, strengthens my heart, and produces joy upon joy. Help me to see You as You are so I will praise You as I ought." Amen.

\* Timothy Keller, *The Songs of Jesus*, p.61

### Thank you for giving!

RSM is a faith ministry. God faithfully supplies our financial needs through His people. When we are asked about the cost of our coaching we are glad to say there is no fee because God moves in the hearts of people like you who believe in building and restoring marriages. We do expect people we coach to invest what they can in this ministry because the Bible principle is **"Freely you have received, freely give."** Matt. 10:8. Your partnership in this ministry is strong encouragement that God is with us. RSM is HIS gift to all of us. Thank you.

## Impacting Marriages and Families (continued from front)

### Bible Principle: Harvest Thinking

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* —Galatians 6:9

Bev and Ron are like many couples today. They love the Lord and they know He loves them. The problem is they, and their relationship, aren't yet mature, leaving them with very little **patience** for each other. They complain their needs are not being met by one another. However, they aren't considering the importance of **waiting** for each other. As we wrote earlier, husbands and wives are not made overnight. Ron is still maturing as a man and husband, and Bev as a woman and wife.



**'Harvest Thinking':** As Christians, we have a marriage advantage, but do we use it? We have the energy and wisdom of Christ as our resource. The verse above gives us the principle that if we do not get weary in doing good, if we don't give up, at the proper time, we will reap a harvest. Farmers know the harvest principle. The hard work of farming isn't joyful. Husbands, wives, and farmers all must endure the often lonely, thankless task of sowing seed. They are not "weary in doing good." A good marriage is the harvest of years of turning to God for His help in doing good in our marriage roles. God says we will reap a harvest in the proper time, if we don't give up, if we're **patient**, if we **wait** for each other.

### The RSM Team

**Ministry Directors** – Dave & Linda Halse  
**Affiliate Ministry** – Dianne Nolson, Counseling  
**Admin Director** – Scott Halse  
**Admin Assistant** – Tina Cowie  
**Directors & Officers** – Peter Yates, Liane Wright, Nathan and Anita Gibson, and Jim Peel

dave@rsm-helps.com  
Tel 905.240.2879  
www.rsm-helps.com

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