
Press On!

Webzine

An External Review
Do You Need a Makeover?

New Beginnings
In Seven Years



My Testimony
Someone Else's Perspective Isn't My Reality

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EDITOR'S NOTE

We may not know what's best for us, but God does. That's why He takes us through a journey that we can only successfully navigate with His help.

This issue of *Press On! Webzine* has articles that I hope will encourage others to stand up for themselves and to be in the will of God. The articles are some of my most transparent yet. They document a few experiences I went through in 2012 in hopes that it will help you on your journey.



Sometimes people say things that can throw us off, such as, if you're single, "When are you getting married?" "My Testimony: Someone Else's Negative Perspective Isn't My Reality" discusses how I handled one such encounter.

And my godmother's, Pennie Edwards, words came true in the seventh year. Read "New Beginnings" to find out what she told me. "An External Review" outlines the tool that I use to stay on track. In it are several questions that I ask myself (and you can, too) to determine if my style is outdated.

These are just a few articles that appear in this issue.

Copy and paste <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byHCcDCnV0Y> onto your browser to view the Christmas video dedicated from me to you. And I wrote an article, "Why I Love Christmas."

Thank you for reading and sharing *Press On! Webzine*. Don't forget to e-mail me your comments at pmoore@pressonwebzine.com because I love reading them.

Take care. ■

Phenola Moore

Unless otherwise noted, all scripture is King James Version.

*"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 3:14*

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Why I Love Christmas?

By Phenola Moore

I love Christmas because every year I am reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made for me more than 2,000 years ago. God looked through time and saw this little girl who would need someone to save her from her sins.

So He sent his son, Jesus, born in a stable to the virgin Mary. He left all the glory and splendor of Heaven for me (and you).

My Savior loves me and, in turn, I love Him and am able to freely love others. So every time I hear or see something that relates to Christmas, I am glowing from the inside out because I was given a gift that money can't buy, salvation and the promise of living an eternity in Heaven!

Yes, I love to celebrate Christmas and give gifts to others, but the gift God gave me is immeasurable. I can never repay Him, but I can share with others the good news that He proclaimed through the written word and His love.

Merry Christmas! :>) ■

Meditation:

“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:8-11

An External Review

By Phenola Moore

My articles usually touch on the internal, but we can't neglect the external because sometimes it's a reflection on what's going on inside. Every few years I take a look at the outward me and ask myself the following questions:

Question: Am I taking care of my temple (body)?

Answer: Somewhat. My eating habits are pretty good because I learned about the right food portions and healthy ways to prepare food years ago. Do I always follow that healthy eating regimen? Well, most of the time. :->

Exercising regularly was a no until a few weeks ago because for the last year and a half, I suffered with back issues. Now I am able to walk a little and I am moving forward with exercising. Although I am not supermodel size, which is not my desire, my body is toning up and I feel better about my appearance.



Question: Do I need to update my look (clothing)?

Answer: Probably, since I've been about the same size since high school, give or take a few pounds. That means I have been able to hold onto a few pieces I probably should have let go. I usually go through my closet after every season and give away items, but I must admit that I have some "goodies" that I have kept way too long because I hate to part with them (ask my sister).

If you can afford it, now may be a good time to replace those fad items in your closet. And I'm talking to myself, too. LOL

Question: Do I need to update my hairstyle?

Answer: No, because many women wear their hair natural. But a telltale sign that your hairstyle is outdated is if no one in the room is wearing theirs like yours (unless you are a trendsetter), or you look through the latest hair magazine and no one has your hairstyle. If this is the case, it may be time to try something new.

I must confess that I've been experimenting with several different hairstyles this year. If you visit my social media pages, you've probably seen my photos. LOL I love the diversity because it feels like I am playing dress up every time I leave the house.

Yes, I still love my natural look, but I try to mix it up with a few more options. ►

◀ An External Review

Question: Is my hairstyle age appropriate?

Answer: Yes. But if you have been wearing the same style for a while you may want to look for other options. Ask your hairstylist for tips, visit a virtual hair salon website such as www.thehairstyler.com, or go to the beauty supply store and try on wigs to see what style looks good on you.

An example of a makeover where someone's look was updated is when Brad was on the Rachel Raye's "Reveal of the Ultimate Bachelor" episode. His mother entered him because he hadn't had a hair cut in four years and was ready to start back dating after his divorce. Copy and paste <http://www.aol.com/video/reveal-of-the-ultimate-bachelor-makeover/517568579/?ncid=webmail2> onto your browser to see him before and after.

Now that I've taken an external review, I feel a little more updated. If you are interested in taking one, too, you may want to ask yourself these questions. ■

AVON MAKEUP MAVEN

2012 AVON Makeup Maven Winner for
District 2653 — **Phenola Moore**

I won for my district! And I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took the time to watch and/or forward my eye make-up tutorial video*. I really appreciate you.

Take care. Phenola

*To view the video, copy and paste <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ganogHwA6ww> onto your browser to view.



Together, We Can!

In the 2012 presidential election President Barack Obama garnered most of the African-American, Hispanic and women votes. I thought, if we can band together to elect and reelect the first African-American president, unified, we can do great things.

Therefore, I decided to do my part by spotlighting entrepreneurs on my social media pages. If everyone who reads this article takes one business, whether it's your plumber, hairstylist, electrician, etc., and recommends that person to someone else, we could help the economy out of this economic downturn and grow financially as a community.

Are you with me?

Phenola

Why Pray?

By Phenola Moore

A few months ago, my relative was in the hospital and the doctors were considering surgery. They thought they saw something that required an operation and needed to conduct one more test to confirm it.

After the surgeon left the room, my mother took out her anointing oil and anointed the painful area on her and we prayed.

When the surgeon came back with the test results and he told us that he didn't see any reason to operate. We praised God for whatever they thought they saw was no more.

So why do I pray? Because prayer is how I communicate with God and He with me. I tell Him things He already knows, but wants to hear from me anyway because that's how much He loves me.

Scripture instructs us to pray in 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Matthew 6:5-7; Matthew 6:9-13 and Mark 9:28-30. Jesus prayed, so we know prayer is vitally important to our spiritual and physical lives (Luke 22:31-32; Matthew 26:36).

I've seen people get healed, break habits, get their lives restored, and be saved through the power of prayer. It's kept me sane in turbulent times and instructed me on the path I should follow.

So why do I pray? Because praying is my life support. ■



Meditation

“But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly,”
Matthew 6:6.

My Testimony: **Someone Else's Perspective Isn't My Reality**

By Phenola Moore

An acquaintance told me that she knew my life as a single woman was probably lonely, and expressed empathy towards me. I told her that I wasn't lonely, but content until God sends me a mate. I could tell from the expression on her face that she didn't believe me.

I immediately envisioned the scene from the Christmas show, "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer," where all the broken toys are placed on the "island of misfit toys" because children no longer wanted to play with them. Is that what she thought about me and others who are at this stage in life?

I am so glad that I've always received positive affirmation from my family. My parents don't nag me about when I will marry. They know me well enough that when the right one comes along I will say yes.

Also, I am blessed to be a member of a church, First Baptist Church of Glenarden, where singles aren't looked down upon as second class citizens. We are embraced and valued as we contribute our part toward Kingdom business.

Maybe that's why I've never felt inferior because of my singleness and you shouldn't either. I am elated for my married friends who have found their soul mates because, to me, that's confirmation that God is still granting "the desires of our hearts." :->)

On the other hand, people no longer ask me questions like when am I going to get married, but say things like "I know it's hard to find a good man" or "I'm glad I am not single during these times because the pickings are slim." I give them a half smile and move the conversation along.

I could have accepted her pity towards me, instead I chose to write this article to encourage other singles to stay hopeful. Don't allow other people's negative comments or unsolicited concern for your future to discourage you.

Whether you choose to be single for life, a male waiting to find "Ms. Right" or a female waiting to be discovered by "Mr. Right," know that you are important, and don't allow someone else's negative perspective to change yours. ■

Meditation:

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content," Philippians 4:11.

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New Beginnings

By Phenola Moore

About eight years ago, while visiting with my godmother, Pennie Edwards, I shared how elated I was that God had directed me to the First Baptist Church of Glenarden.

A year later, I told her about the ministries I had joined, the gift that God had revealed to me (writing) while in one of the ministries, and how I was really enjoying being a part of all of them. In the midst of the conversation, she said, In about seven years, you will find your true fit and be settled in the church.”

Fast forward seven years later, we were having another discussion and I revealed that I had resigned from two of the ministries because God told me that my season for those ministries was over.

Immediately, it was like a light bulb going off in my head. I looked at her and the words from her lips were, “Didn’t I tell you that in seven years, you would find your true fit in the church.”

I acknowledge that she was right because after leaving the second ministry (which was very hard) I entered into a season of contentment regarding ministry work.

I was being pulled in so many different directions that my God time was being negatively affected, and I never want to be too busy for Jesus. God showed me that the ministries I am currently serving in are a true fit.

I know, biblically, seven means completion *Biblical Associations, Seven – Completion*, (<http://dentonpbc.org/Number7.htm>) and the article, *Meaning of Numbers in the Bible – The Number Eight*, states “Eight is 7 plus 1. Hence, it is the number specially associated with Resurrection and Regeneration, and the beginning of a new era or order,” (<http://www.biblestudy.org/bibleref/meaning-of-numbers-in-bible/8.html>).

So I am living in the year of new beginnings. Although I didn’t understand my godmother’s comments more than seven years ago, I do now because I am almost giddy at the place God has me in. ■



Godmother Pennie Edwards

Meditation:

“And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.” Genesis 2:2-3

Leadership 101: You Can Handle the Power

By Phenola Moore

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power,” Abraham Lincoln.



Jim*, a mild mannered assistant leader of a group I joined, was on top of his game until he became the leader. Almost immediately, he took on a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde personality.

He became high minded, and it was almost impossible to work with him because of his negative personality change. Needless to say, membership diminished and God eventually moved me out of that group.

So how does a person go from easy to get along with one day to impossible to deal with the next? Is it the new found power that takes them there? Maybe.

Leaders should have the right perspective, keep people around that they are accountable to, and pray that God will give them a daily dose of humility.

The right perspective is for leaders to realize that they didn’t get into leadership positions by themselves. People either voted them in or they were appointed because someone saw leadership potential.

Yes, new found fame can easily inflate egos, but leaders should surround themselves with people who will agree with them when they’re right and challenge them when they’re wrong.

We’re only human and sometimes praise can give a false sense of superiority. Leaders should ask God for the wisdom and knowledge that Solomon asked for in 2 Chronicles 1:10.

Finally, it takes a surrendered spirit to lead people effectively. ■

*Name changed.

Meditation:

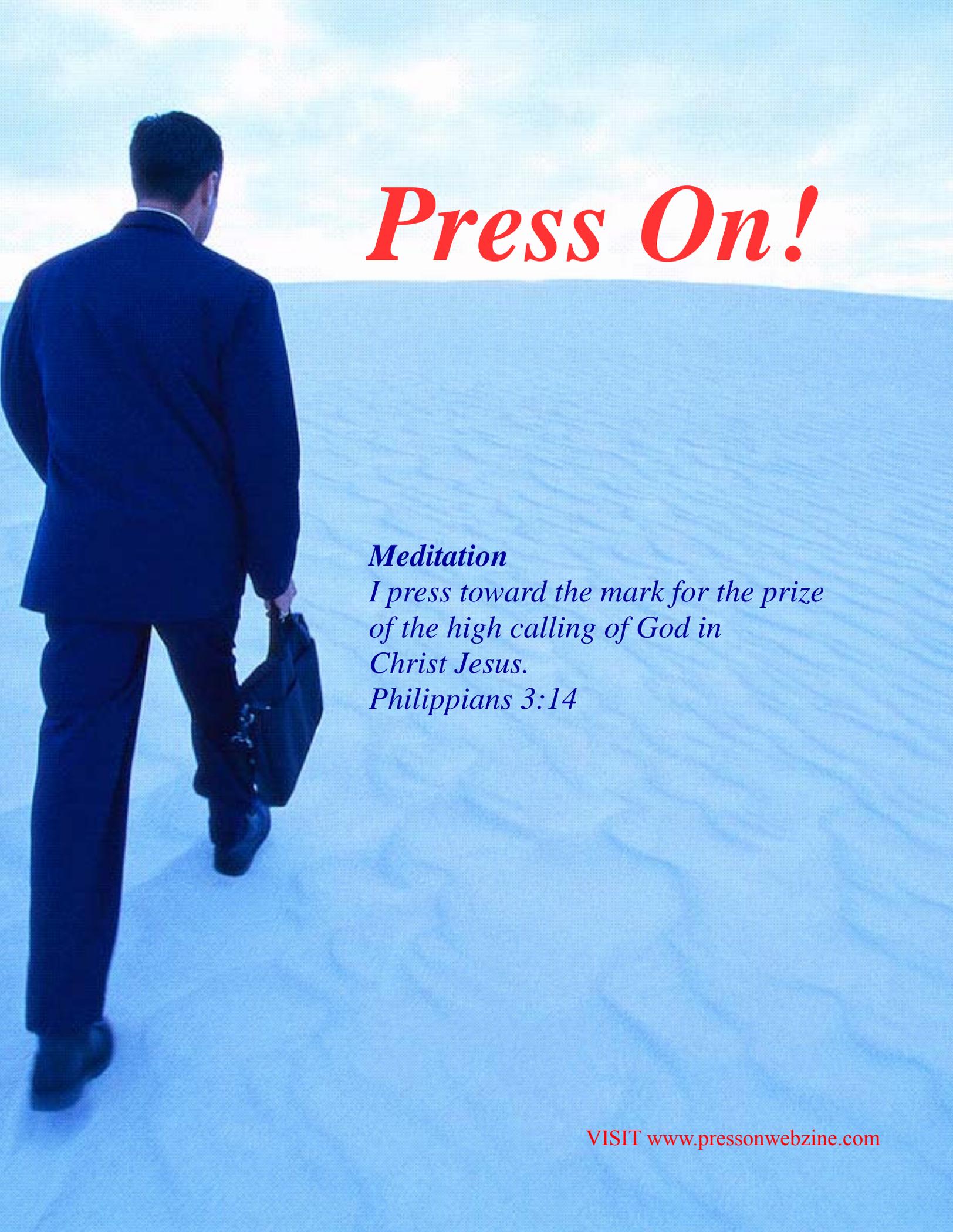
“Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?” 2 Chronicles 1:10.



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Press On!

Meditation

*I press toward the mark for the prize
of the high calling of God in
Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 3:14

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