



# ROYAL DAIS

## WELCOME SISTERS



Nancy D. Collins, Founder & President, Transforming Life Ministries, Inc.

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### You're Invited To...

Nancy's Upcoming Engagements

Overcomer's Ministry  
Abundant Faith  
Christian Center  
301 W. Reynolds  
Springfield, Illinois  
Friday, May 13, 2005, 6:00 pm  
Saturday, May 14, 2005,  
8:00 am-12:00 pm

"Loving God Out Loud"  
Women's Conference  
Crown Plaza Hotel  
Springfield, IL.  
Saturday, May 21, 2005

Just Talkin' Life Emotional  
HealingWorkshop  
Springfield Community  
Arts Center  
Saturday, June 11, 2005  
Registration: \$20.00

Christian Women  
Outreach Conference  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Saturday, October 1, 2005

For more information  
[www.tlifeministries.org](http://www.tlifeministries.org)

We are excited about another venue to share the love of Jesus Christ.

The **Royal Dais** is not an ordinary newsletter. **Royal Dais** speaks to the Daughters of a Kingly ancestry who've been given an elevated platform to bring encouragement and renewal through the testimonies in their very own lives. Each month you will gaze into the lives of women all over the USA with hopes, dreams, and testimonies; You will be moved to walk boldly in your God-given abilities and take the **Royal Dais** in your very own life because the King of kings and the Lord of lords, says you can.

Be encouraged as your **Sister's In the Trenches** share their experiences in ministry. It's always a blessing to have the answers to the "who, what, when, where and how's" of ministry. How about hearing it from someone who's actually living it!

Rejoice and shout with jubilation in the **Victor's Corner**. Revelations 12: 11 remind us that we overcame him (Satan), by the blood of the Lamb (Jesus) and the words of our testimonies. And love not our lives until death. Yes, this is a platform where you will hear stories of women who've met the enemy head on...and won!

Hallelujah!

**SouLessons** is a journey you will take with me each month as I share experiences from the heart.

Finally, we all know, nothing happens successfully in ministry without prayer. Please partner with us in prayer as we embrace this endeavor, knowing that our Heavenly Father is expanding our vision for the growth and development of Godly women.



Erma Davis remembers a childhood that was very challenging growing up. While her parents were present physically, she often felt their absence emotionally. The product of a family plagued by alcoholism and gambling, she

*"While eating steaks just days before, I was never grateful for food. When I found those sandwiches in the garbage, it was the first time I'd ever blessed my food. And I've been blessing my food every since".*

## THE VICTOR'S CORNER

### Celebrating Erma Davis in the Victor's Corner

mimicked what would be considered a warped understanding of parenting, while attempting to take care of her younger siblings.

At the age of ten, her mother and father separated.

At the age of twelve she moved in with her father. This started a downward spiral of emotional trauma and sexual abuse. During this time truancy set in, and school and education was no longer an option. At the age of fourteen she was raped by an acquaintance who was twenty-three.



She later entered into a relationship with him, and consequently he fathered her first son. This relationship continued to be emotionally and physically abusive. Erma dropped out of school at the age of fifteen. She remained in this relationship until the

*Continued on page 2*



Today I was reminded of a powerful encounter I'd experienced several months back. As I recalled the events of this experience, I thought of you.

Yes, I thought of you, as you and I were the same, in that very moment, and in that very space in time.

Before I take you there, may I pose a question? How often in our busy lives have we for-

## *By-Passing Samaria* by Nancy D. Collins

gotten what's really important? I mean...really. Let me paint a picture for you. Let's suppose...

You've known for about 6 months or more that you're going to speak at a women's conference in a nearby city. In preparation, you fast, you pray, you seek God for "the word" that's going to bring deliverance, healing, and restoration. Confidently you rest knowing He will answer, as He always does.

The day finally arrives and you're all prepared to leave. You're in your car and you realize you need to make two quick stops before you hit the highway. Your first stop is to the local Walgreens. Mission accomplished. Finally, in the midst of approaching your last stop you realize you can't get to

the gas station because you're approaching a one-way street. The only other alternative is to turn around and take a cut through Samaria... (oops, I really meant a near by alley). And there she sits. On a concrete stoop, liquor bottle in hand she sits. She couldn't have been any older than twenty-five, with long, stringy, blonde hair, clothes worn, smelly and dirty, she sits.

Let's pause for a minute and reflect on the earlier question. How often in your busy life have you forgotten what's really important? How many times in pursuit of purpose and ministry have you by-passed an opportunity

to do ministry in Samaria while on your way to the nations or perhaps the city. You could've even been on your way to the church. Nevertheless, that's something to think about, huh?

*"He left Judea  
and departed  
again into  
Galilee and He  
must needs go  
through  
Samaria" John  
4:3-4*

While I've attempted to draw you into my world for the purpose of teaching, let me take my rightful place in the story. Do you mind exchanging places with me?

As I drove pass the young lady sitting in the alley, I immediately felt the

prompting from the Holy Spirit. Stop! I heard. "But Lord, I'm running behind. Stop! I heard again. At that moment I placed the car in reverse and backed up. I rolled my window down trusting that since God told me to stop, that He would surely fill my mouth. In obedience, I opened my mouth

## THE VICTOR'S CORNER CONT'D.

age of nineteen.

After separating from her first son's father, she discovered a way to take care of her self financially. An independent street-wise girl, she began selling drugs to keep a roof over her head. It wasn't until Erma met her second son's father that she began to use. During this time, her need for necessary goods decreased and her need for drugs and alcohol increased. The street-wise seller became a helpless alcohol and drug abuser. She says, she knew she was in trouble when she began to take her bill money to purchase drugs.

It seems as though Erma encountered many empty relationships in her search for safety and happiness. However, this particular relation-

ship left her empty enough to desire more. Even feeling powerless against her addiction, she desired more.

Erma's latest relationship gave her access to as many drugs as she could handle. She says, "I had all the drugs I wanted. I ate whatever I wanted. I ate steak everyday". Soon this relationship left Erma, abandoned and homeless. Living in a hotel, her boyfriend, packed her things, checked out, and moved home with his wife.

She recalls walking the streets along with her father, looking for abandoned buildings to sleep in. She says for three to four days she searched for and ate food from the garbage. She remembers finding sandwiches for she and her father to eat.

She said, "While eating steaks just days before, I was never grateful for food. When I found those sandwiches in the garbage, it was the first time I'd ever blessed my food. And I've been blessing my food every since".

In May 2004, Erma remembers loosing her two boys to the Department of Children and Family Services. She recalls this experience being one of her lowest points. She remembers going for four to five days at a time without sleep. No matter how hard she tried, for two years, it was hard to stay drug free. She remembers being told there was nothing she could do to get her boys back. Feeling hopeless, what else could she loose other than her life. This time it had to be about her. So her prayer became... "God, I need one more time to get

clean. This time around I want to do it for me!"

At this point Erma checked herself into a drug rehabilitation program. Since that time she has completed her program. She's now a part of a transitional housing program for women. God has restored her family. She now has her boys back. She has her driver's license, a new vehicle, a full time job, and she's in school completing her GED. She also has strong loving women around her, encouraging her in her deliverance process.

When asked about what has brought her the most joy about coming out of addiction, she says:

*"I found God, I'm glad I came through with my life, and God restored what I lost!"*

**Erma Davis is 27 years old and resides in Springfield, IL.**

and life- changing utterances escaped my lips...and the encounter continued!

"Hi, what are you doing?" I said. "Nothing" she responded. "Why are you sitting here all alone?" "I don't know" she stated. "Do you always come here?" I asked. "Yes" she responded.

The force operating within me was sooooo strong! Yes, God was up to something. Yes, He had a plan. "Do you know Jesus?" "No" she replied, accompanied with a little smile. "Do you want to know Jesus?" I asked, not really knowing what to expect. "Yes" she stated. Wow, that was easy, I thought. I then told her I was going to park my car so we could talk.

That day I introduced Melinda to Jesus Christ. I held her hand, embraced her,

and watched the tears stream from her eyes as I told her how much God the Father loved her. I told her that God had a plan and a purpose for her life. I even invited her to come with me to the conference. She accepted.

I knew God was in this meeting, so I felt comfortable taking Melinda with me. Just to ease your mind, I don't ordinarily pick strangers up and allow them to travel with me. Besides there was another woman traveling with me.

That evening Melinda received several meals, clean clothes, a bath, encouragement, and several friends. Something she probably hadn't experienced for a very long time. And although she was out of her comfort zone, in my heart I know she felt the love of Jesus.

As I thought of her that day, I was so excited about the prospect of what God could do in her life. I imagined her whole, delivered, and set free. I had even come up with a plan. Wednesday night service... surely I could pick her up. Sunday morning service.... she could ride the church van. Drug or alcohol rehabilitation...counseling...yes, total freedom!

Melinda ended up leaving the conference hotel late that night with several guys she contacted. Today I don't know where she is, but I do know I learned some very valuable lessons through my experience with her. I pray you are uplifted and inspired by them as well.

Ministry does not always take place on a platform or simply in a coliseum

within view of hundreds or thousands of people. Ministry is who we are and not what we do! Encounters similar to my encounter with Melinda should be the norm and not a by chance phenomena. Everyday we should be looking for an opportunity to impact just one more for Jesus!

God supplies seed to the sower. When He gives us seed, we should sow it in faith believing. Genuine faith is blind. It can't see. I had Melinda's life all planned out is less than 12 hours. The compassion and hope in my heart far exceeded the boundaries of God's sowing and reaping principles. God spoke to my heart and said, "Nancy, a farmer never plants seed, and sit in the field until it comes up". What a revelation!

That night I released Melinda, praying that our encounter had left internal and eternal implications stamped on her heart. I think of her often, but I trust the seeds sown will bring a harvest in her life in due season.

You may ask, "Where is Samaria"? Samaria is anywhere God sends us to share the witness, love and fellowship of Jesus Christ.

A word to you my Sisters, never by-pass Samaria again!!!

## SISTERS IN THE TRENCHES

FEATURING PASTOR DAWN MARIE HUDDLESTON



**1. What area of ministry do you operate?** I am really just a radical worshipper at heart. I operate in the ministry of worship through music, worship through the written word, and worship through the spoken word.

Currently the Lord has led me to develop an interdenominational evangelistic ministry that helps people reach their full potential in Jesus Christ through Christian music concerts, teaching seminars, conferences, and a

local book club.

**2. How long have you been in ministry?** I began giving gospel concerts at various local churches at the age of 6, but the Lord really began to call me into serious ministry at about age 21.

**3. What ignited your thrust into ministry?** At age 27, I learned about the Holy Spirit, and what an intimate relationship with the Lord meant. It was at this age that I began diving into the scripture. My entire life I had ministers, parents, and teachers telling me what was in the bible, but now I was ready to find out for myself.

I found out that many things had

been taught out of context, or to achieve a certain desired behavior. This really

peaked my interest, and I began investigating for myself God's truth, promises, and will for my life. It was also at this age, that the Lord began calling me into the ministry. When I first began sharing my new faith and call with my family, friends, and pastor, they were less

than enthused. I believe at age 27 I began building my foundation, not in my religion, or what I had been taught, but in my Savior. I



*Isaiah 61:3 says "to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified."*

finally began to understand how deep his love was for me and I developed a deep passion to share that with others.

**4. What do you enjoy most about ministry?** Maintaining an intimate relationship with Jesus while helping people and seeing them begin living a life of victory through the restoration power of Jesus Christ. There is nothing like watching Jesus turn someone's life from a pile of ashes destroyed by the enemy to a

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thing of beauty for everyone to behold. I love watching Jesus be glorified!

**5. What has been your greatest challenge?** Because I do not pastor a church (a particular body of believers) it has been difficult for people to understand what we do at Huddleston Harvest Ministries. Our goal is to go inside and beyond the church walls, out into the world, with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Often it is difficult for people to understand that we don't fit into the normal structure of the church. We have taken God out of the box and He is showing us new ways to reach out to His lost and dying world.

**6. Highlight your testimony and relate it to your call to ministry?** My life is a true living example of how God can take the ashes of

our lives and turn them into a thing of beauty for everyone to behold.

I was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, in the 'rough end of town', I soon learned to depend upon the God for survival. At age 17 I married and 'jumped from the frying pan into the fire'. I've endured a variety of abusive relationships during my life, forcing me to deal with abandonment, physical abuse, and homelessness, giving me a 'hard knocks' 'real life' education.

After 11 years of marriage, I found myself abandoned by my first husband, and starting over from scratch with no one but the Lord by my side. I began crying out to God. God answered, and my life has never been the same.

I was re-acquainted, and then married an old high school classmate, Trent Huddleston. Next the Lord be-

gan rebuilding my life with a supernatural restoration that only God can do.

In 2000 I began teaching the Word of God, and was ordained to the ministry through Spirit of Faith, Inc. in Jacksonville, Illinois.

Why the name 'Princess Warrior?' I was given the name Princess Warrior by my local pastor when I was going through some great trials. I am a Princess because my heavenly father is the King of Kings! Warrior was earned during my great struggles of abandonment, abuse, and homelessness.

My life is an amazing testimony of the powerful, saving work of Jesus Christ. I believe and teach that no matter a person's background or mistakes, God has a place for them and can help them on their path to fulfilling their potential in Christ.

**7. What has been the im-**

**pact of your ability to touch others lives through your testimony?** Jesus was the only reason I survived my trial. The enemy had a plan to steal my joy, kill me, and destroy God's action plan for my life. Jesus was the only one who could give me victory over such a horrible series of events. Now it is my desire to honor Jesus by sharing my experiences of victory with other women who just need someone to pick them up, place a crown on their head, and remind them that they are a beloved daughter of the King, they are his Princess Warrior. That is what we pray to do with my Heavenly Father's help at Huddleston Harvest Ministries. Bringing real ministry to real people with real problems; therefore bringing in the harvest one life at a time.



*Transforming Life Ministries, Inc.*  
P.O. Box 6554  
Springfield, Illinois 62708

[www.tlifeministries.org](http://www.tlifeministries.org)

Nancy's Book  
*"Talkin' Out The House*  
A Voice of Hope and Healing"  
Now available on  
Amazon.com

Email us with your questions, comments or prayer request at [Royaldais@tlifeministries.org](mailto:Royaldais@tlifeministries.org)

**About Transforming Life Ministries, Inc.**

**Transforming Life Ministries, Inc.** is a not-for-profit, 501(C)(3), multicultural, non-denominational ministry whose mission is to encourage, empower, and engage the hearts of diverse women as they seek their purpose. All contributions to this ministry are tax-deductible.