

HIDDEN

Hidden Potential



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To Be or Not to Be

by Stephanie Hurd



Fear. That's something I know about. I used to be afraid all the time. Nobody knew it because I was good (too good) at faking it and/or avoiding situations that put me at risk. I've learned that "playing it safe" may keep me from failure and embarrassment, but it also keeps me from being the person God has called me to be. God began coaxing me out of my fear and into my potential several years ago when I took a RoadMap Bible study class on the book of Romans, led by Pastor Dick Read. I managed to stay "invisible" until we started talking about righteousness. How can we "be" righteous if we don't "act" righteous? How can we "be" righteous if we still sin? Our class was struggling with this so I did what I always do—I prayed (silently), asking the Lord for understanding. My brain thinks in metaphors, and the moment I prayed, a metaphor popped into my head. Suddenly I understood righteousness in terms of motherhood: When I had my first child I became a mother. Henceforth, I will always "be" a mother. However, I didn't actually know "how" to be one—I had to learn how. Now regardless of my performance, my "status" as a mother doesn't change.

I responded to this answered prayer with, "Oh! I get it. Thank you, Lord!" Then I heard a voice in my head—one of those wonderful, rare moments of God speaking directly. He said, "Now share it. It's not for you alone." Gulp. Instantly, my heart started pounding and my face flushed because I was terrified to speak in front of the class. But the instruction was so clear I committed myself to the task by shooting up my hand. Pastor Dick called on me, I shared the revelation and the discussion continued along that vein. Linda Marshall leaned over and said, "I've never understood that passage until now. Thank you for sharing." I was encouraged. The Lord gave me something I was supposed to share, and then He gave me the courage to share it.

The Lord has shown me being afraid works against me when I let it rule me—causing me to actively avoid situations where I might fail or look foolish. But being afraid works for me when I use it to draw closer to God—knowing the only way I'll get through a situation is with prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit. I've discovered the more I allow God to get me out of my comfort zone, the larger my comfort zone actually becomes. The things that terrified me a few years ago don't seem so bad now. And every time I "take a risk" for God—whether I succeed or fail—I get a little braver and my light shines a little brighter. I am a new creation in Christ—at my core being, that's who I am and with God's help, slowly but surely, that is shaping who I will be.

Announcements

A full list of announcements is available at www.asburytulsa.org/announcements.

Joining Asbury Luncheon, August 9, in Parlor

If you are interested in joining Asbury or finding out more about us, please plan to attend the Joining Asbury luncheon August 9, from 12:15–2:15 in the Parlor. Child care is available for 6 weeks to sixth grade.

Register at www.myasburytulsa.org. For more information, call 918.392.1191.



August 9
8th Annual
Restore
Hope
Sunday

Last year, Asbury raised more than \$140,000! According to Restore Hope records, 60 percent of all client households are “extremely low income” and well under the poverty line. Last year, Restore Hope gave more than 163,000 pounds of food to more than 4,500 families, kept 721 families from becoming homeless, and continues to give out more Bibles each year. Six hundred and two Bibles were given out this year, which is an 80 percent increase over the past two years. More than half of those assisted by Restore Hope are children 18 years of age and under, 45 percent of those assisted with Restore Hope’s food program are children in Oklahoma. One in five Oklahoma children is at risk of going to bed hungry.

Contribute to the drive with a financial gift or canned food. However, cash donations give Restore Hope MORE wholesale buying power at the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and beyond. Your donations give Restore Hope the support resources needed to help families out of their current crisis and onto a path of economic and spiritual vitality. We will have volunteers at the donation tables before, between and after services on August 2 and 9.

Tables will be open around the church from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. NOTE: No glass jars or out of date food, please. Checks may be made payable to Asbury UMC with Restore Hope in the memo line.

Have a Life-Long Impact!



The 2015–2016 school year is approaching, and we still need 60 adult volunteers to partner with ages 16 months through pre-K. Our volunteer model follows the school year calendar. Your commitment is two Sundays a month. That's one service hour from August of 2015 to May of 2016. We want to allow our volunteers time to truly engage and develop relationships with our children over time. Just this morning, I heard Pastor Jim describe the impact an older church member had on him in Sunday School. One hour with a child on a Sunday morning can have a life-long impact!

If unable to fill these opportunities, we will close some of our younger classrooms in August. We ask that you give prayerful consideration to volunteering in children's ministry. Please contact Heather Horton at hhorton@asburytulsa.org or **918.392.4581** if you are interested in serving.

This isn't child care; it's an investment in spiritual development for adult and child.

Tom

Dr. Tom Harrison
Senior Pastor





Looking For A Change?

At Asbury, we believe God changes people. If we are open to His Word, if we listen to His voice, if we *want* to grow...He can do amazing things in our lives. That's why we are passionately devoted to providing all we can to help you develop your full potential in Christ. Worship with us. Learn with us. Serve with us. You'll be amazed at what He develops in you.

Worship *with us*
on **Sunday**

8:00 am—Traditional Service In Mason Chapel

9:15 am—Traditional Service in Sanctuary

11:00 am—Modern Service in Sanctuary

Order of Worship | July 26, 2015

8:00 AM

WELCOME

Dr. Guy Ames

PRELUDE

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Hymn #140

Dr Pat Calhoun
Rhianna Calhoun

CREED / GREETING / NEW MEMBERS

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SELECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

Dr. Guy Ames

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:24–27

MESSAGE

Hidden Potential
Rev. Jon Odom

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

Dr. Guy Ames

POSTLUDE

Daily scripture readings for the upcoming week:

July 27: 2 Timothy 1:6–14

July 28: Matthew 5:13–16

July 29: Colossians 3:1–4

July 30: Colossians 1:15–23

July 31: Romans 5:1–11

August 1: Luke 5:12–16

Next Week: **Hidden: Hidden Life**

Order of Worship | July 26, 2015

9:15 AM

PRELUDE		Rosanna Corrales
WELCOME		Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton
CALL TO WORSHIP		Johnny Fuller
CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS	<i>My Faith Looks Up To Thee</i> Hymn #452	
	<i>Standing On The Promises</i> Hymn #374	
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>What Grace Is Mine</i> Angie Cockrell	
PASTORAL PRAYER		Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton
DOXOLOGY		
OFFERTORY		
SCRIPTURE		Matthew 25:24–27
MESSAGE		Hidden Potential Rev. Jon Odom
PRAYER REFLECTION		
SONG	<i>Change My Heart Oh God</i> Angie Cockrell	
BENEDICTION		Rev. Jon Odom
POSTLUDE		Rosanna Corrales

Connect with our pastor:

Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton | gmcgee-denton@asburytulsa.org
twitter.com/runthehumanrace

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Order of Worship | July 26, 2015

11:00 AM

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:24–27

MESSAGE

Hidden Potential

Jon Odom

SONGS HEARD TODAY

*You Make Me Brave
Beautiful Things
Nothing But The Blood*

Worship Pastor: Dick Read

Worship Leader: Chris Cleveland

Connect with our pastors:

Jon Odom | jodom@asburytulsa.org | twitter.com/jonodom

Dick Read | rdread@asburytulsa.org

Notes:

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