

Good News Today

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2025

ALTURAS, CA

“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” **Colossians 3:13**—“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” **John 15:13**



The Month of Hearts

February, the month of hearts. Everywhere I turn, I see them—on cards, in windows, store aisles, boxes of candy, and on sticks nestled among the flowers in beautifully arranged bouquets.

At the same time, this undeniable symbol of love reminds me of the heart of a Father who sacrificed His Son for all of us. What does that mean? His heart always beats for the lost, for the rich and the poor, for the afflicted—for the whole world. His love is not limited to only February; it is eternal, steady, and unchanging, twenty-four-seven, every day of the year.

The Father's love for His creation is so passionate that He desires none to perish—*no, not anyone*. And yet, in His perfect love, He allowed His Son, Jesus, to be sacrificed for all of us. As He hung on the cross, dying, Jesus looked upon those who crucified Him and said, *"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."* Then, with His final breath, He declared, *"It is finished."*

That was the Father's gift to us—the gift of Salvation, the gift of love. Yet another gift remains—the **Freedom to Choose**. That was never taken from us. It will always be our decision to embrace an **Everlasting, Loving Relationship** with Him or reject it and turn away. *His Love was never meant to be forced upon us, only offered with Love, Forgiveness and Grace.*

As we notice all the heart shapes surrounding us this month, may we see them as symbols of the greatest love of all—the ultimate love of a Father and Son whose hearts will eternally beat with a desire for us to live with Them forever.

Blessings,
Mike Lewis

HIS NAME

The Name

*They did not heed to what was said, in Eden, a peaceful place to dwell,
A serpent twisted the simple words; they passed the blame but only failed.
Cast outside and cursed with tilling toil and birthing pain,
Yet Mercy knew a day would come, a promise foreseen to break sin's chains.*

*Through ages a hope remained, often foretold by voice and sign,
Prophets spoke, a Redeemer soon to come, He, both a humble man and divine.
Upon the cross, He would take it all, the final sacrifice—complete and paid,
In the tomb He rose to life, defeating death, the stone was rolled away.*

*Now we wait, His faithful Bride, with hearts that yearn to sing,
To our Groom, who will claim His own—Oh, the sound of joy will ring.
He'll lead us to the Father's House, and His Glory forever we'll proclaim,
"He is Christ alone, the Lion — the Lamb, the Name above every name."*

M. Lewis
Grace House Publishing

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” Mark 12:30

A Merry Heart Does Good Like Medicine

Proverbs 17:22

FELLOWSHIP OF THE UNASHAMED



Elinor Young

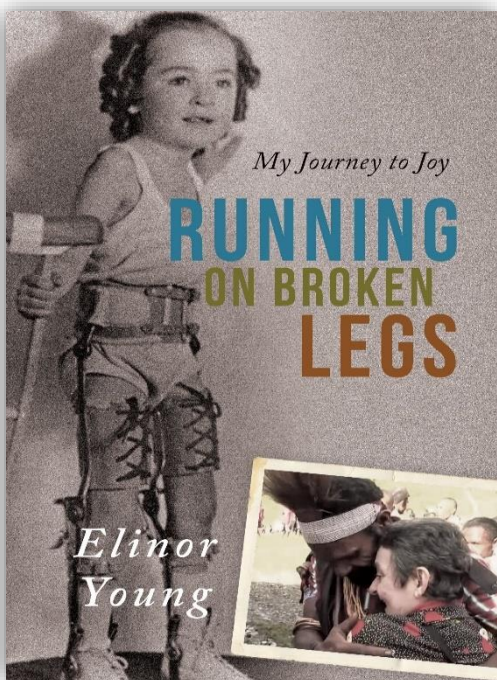
When God calls someone to a task, He equips them—no matter how impossible it seems. Elinor Young knows this firsthand.

At five years old, Elinor contracts polio. Though the disease does not take her life, it leaves her weak and physically disabled.

A few years later, when a guest speaker at church asks if anyone feels called to be a missionary, Elinor grabs her crutches and hobbles down the aisle. She knows God will be faithful despite her weaknesses.

Running on Broken Legs is Elinor's story of how God's still, small voice leads a young girl across the ocean to a people whose language she does not know but whom she grows to love.

It is a vibrant reminder that our usefulness to God does not come from overcoming our weaknesses. Rather, we become useful when we recognize our weaknesses as an ongoing call to depend on His grace and the work of His Spirit in us and through us.



<https://elinoryoung.com>

TRUE HOPE

I'm concerned that most people (believers included) look at hope like it's some kind of mystical wishful thinking.

The Apostle Paul says this about hope in Romans 15:13, "I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." We should expect to be filled with joy and peace because of our real and dynamic relationship with the Holy Spirit ... not due to wishful thinking! Also, it's imperative from a Biblical frame-of-reference to remember that we cannot experience this real and sincere sense of joy and peace by our own will power, but only through the power of the Holy spirit who lives within us!

As believers, instead of defaulting to a perspective of saying, "I hope something will happen," we have every reason to live out on a daily basis the Biblical definition of hope, which is, "Confident expectation."

Everything we do in our lives comes down to what we do with Jesus! How we identify truth from God's message to us through His word, as well as through the leading of His Holy Spirit, will impact every aspect of our lives here and now ... and for how and where we will live forever in eternity.

Read Jim's full blog at www.mightywind.org/blog 2/23/25

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EVERLASTING

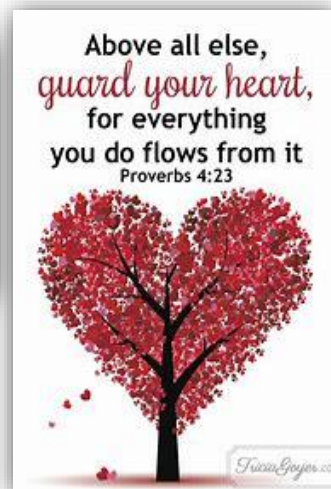
A Love Everlasting

*His love is kindness,
His love is everlasting.
Let Him lead—light your path
Through every trial—every temptation,
He will never leave you,
His love is never condemnation.
His love—a new beginning,
His love—unending.
Do not be afraid or slip away,
Today is the day—His love to embrace
His love is kindness,
His love is everlasting.*

*M. Lewis
Grace House Publishing*



HIS



LOVE