

# HopeSPEAK

## Dear Hope of Survivors Family,

What a busy and exciting quarter it has been! You're in for a special treat with this newsletter and updates from around the world. The Hope of Survivors was represented at multiple conventions, conducted a *Faith & Fidelity* seminar for pastors and church leaders in the IA-MO Conference, expanded its website with new languages, participated in a fundraiser, announced the next *Hope & Healing* Conference to be held in Indianapolis, IN, and so much more! All of that while grieving the death of my father and recovering from a virus I picked up during our study tour in Israel, Egypt and Jordan. I am truly thankful for God's mercy and my husband's tender, loving care.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the Winter 2011 GuideStar-KIMBIA Nonprofit Giveaway. While The Hope of Survivors received several 5-star reviews, we didn't reach the most reviews of any non-profit and, therefore, did not receive the \$5,000 grant. Still, it was affirming and encouraging to all of us to read what you had to say about The Hope of Survivors. If you haven't read any of the reviews yourself, I would encourage you to do so at <http://greatnonprofits.org/whitelabel/reviews/hope-of-survivors>. Our hearts were touched by your reviews and we trust God will provide the funds needed in His time and way.

I'd like to especially thank Rainer Lechtenböcker for his prompt and professional translation of the new German website. Now The Hope of Survivors offers help to victims and information to church leadership and congregations in eight different languages! Praise God! Check it out at <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/german>.

We look forward to seeing what good things the Lord has in store for the ministry—and for those we serve—in the months ahead. We are truly grateful to each of you for your prayers, time, talents, and support. You've enabled The Hope of Survivors to be a literal lifesaver (by God's grace!) to hundreds, if not thousands, of victims of pastoral sexual abuse around the world.

God bless you,

*Samantha Nelson*

Samantha Nelson  
Vice President & CEO

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## What About Me? Where Could I Ever Take This Shame?

—Kimberly Erickson

### The Question:

As the “family of God,” the church functions—and often *dysfunctions*—accordingly. Perhaps even more than a traditional family, the church should provide its members with a positive environment of enlightenment and growth; a safe dwelling for those who are vulnerable and need to trust the father figures they know as pastors and church leaders in positions of authority and control. Unfortunately, scripture renders a tragic outcome when the humanness of those who carry the authority of God influences their commitment to protect and never harm those in their care. This scenario is no more vividly described than in its portrayal of Amnon and his obsession with Tamar which left her victimized, outcast and shamed.

Second Samuel describes a father’s transgressions passed down to the next generation as King David’s sin is reenacted through his son. Though David was devoted to God (1 Kings 15:3), he observed Bathsheba from far away. Already the wife of another man, she was not available even to the king, yet he became obsessed with having her. David fell to his own temptations; he and Bathsheba suffered horrible consequences. David’s actions had nothing to do with love, and everything to do with obsession and power; rather than protect the wife of his soldier, David took her for his own pleasure (2 Sam. 12).

No surprise that David’s first son and heir to the throne fell to the same temptation. As a priest of God (2 Sam. 8:18), Amnon was keenly aware of the consequences of his choice. The lovely, young Tamar was *not* available to Amnon! She was a virgin daughter of the king and David’s household should have been a place of safety and protection for her.

Amnon “became sick” as his every thought was consumed with how to have her. “I’m in love with Tamar,” he told his friend. Yet everything about his scheme to get her alone was anything but love. In his father’s footsteps, Amnon used position and power to fulfill his own desire, with no thought of the tragic consequences for Tamar.

Amnon did not suddenly fall to an unexpected temptation. He clearly planned to have Tamar summoned to his side, setting the stage to have sex with her. Pleading with him to consider that his actions would ruin her life and her very existence, Tamar wisely perceived the long-term consequences of his act. Foolishly, Amnon’s only concern was to satisfy his immediate need.

**“What about ME?” she pleaded. “Where could I ever take this shame?”** Amnon was about to commit

both incest *and* rape, an act mirrored in the church every time a pastor or church leader takes advantage of his role of authority and power by sexually and/or emotionally using any woman within the household of faith. He abuses his fiduciary responsibility and distorts his fatherly role so that his actions do in fact mimic Amnon’s *obsession, rape and incest*. Not only is a woman’s body violated, her trust is ravished, and her personhood is potentially fatally compromised by the rape of her very spirit. Like Tamar, her existence and future feels fatally wounded. *Where could she ever take this shame?*

Amnon’s first act was compounded by his resulting hatred for Tamar. He despised her and ordered her to get out, because what Amnon felt initially for Tamar was not about love, but selfishness; love does not demand its own way (1 Cor. 13:5); Amnon’s actions towards Tamar were not consensual but overpowering.

Tamar pleaded once again with him. He had already ruined her future; no man would ever take her as his wife; she would bear no children; she had no future, no hope. Because he violated her, Amnon was required by law to marry her and never divorce her as long as he lived (Deut. 22:29). She begged him not to cast her out, for this would be an even greater crime than the one already committed.



Yet Tamar’s cries fell on Amnon’s ears like the seed Jesus described falling onto the thorns (Luke 8:14). Amnon had his assistant cast Tamar out, barring the gate so that she would be unable to return. How many times has the church reenacted this event when a woman already consumed by the shame of what has taken place with her pastor, has the courage to speak? When the act is no longer secret, too often the woman, violated and shamed, is cast out of the church with the doors slamming vehemently behind her.

To compound her shame even further, Tamar’s one hope, her brother Absalom, hides her and urges her into silence in the effort to protect the family name. “Don’t let it upset you so much. He is your half-brother, so

don't tell anyone about it" (2 Sam. 13:20). Aren't these words echoed over and over again as the church silences her victims for the sake of "the good name of the church" and the protection of the pastor and his family?

Amnon's place in life appeared unchallenged. Disregarding the impact of his actions in every way, they eventually cost him his life. He had the power to act with distinction and to lift Tamar's face in honor, or fully destroy both their futures.

Tamar begged, "What about *me*? Where could I ever take this shame?" This question is echoed through the voice of every woman who has been disregarded in the same way. "What about *me*? Where could I ever take this shame?"

#### The Answer:

Where does she carry the shame? Jesus came into the world not only to carry the burden of sin but also its effects—including shame, lifting it from her shoulders and erasing it from the inside, out. As with Tamar, the victim of clergy sexual abuse often carries the burden of the offense in the form of shame and fear. True love casts out fear (1 John 4:18) and God lifted the burden of fear and shame upon the cross (Hebrews 12:2).

Jesus' own mother felt the fear and potential shame of being pregnant, knowing that her betrothed intended to quietly end the engagement. But Joseph—a descendant of King David—did not cast Mary away as Amnon had cast Tamar out. Instead, he listened to what was right. At the very time that Mary was big and pregnant she was not confined to hiding in shame, but was able to openly proclaim:

*"My soul magnifies the Lord! His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation! He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly!"* (Luke 1:46-55)

This Advent Season our pastor discussed reclaiming the innocence of a child in expectation of Christ's coming. He told of his daughter's innocence when she was very young and how easily she trusted; she delighted in



## Where could I ever take this shame?

people, he explained, and would joyfully trust anyone. But for her own protection, he and her mother had to instill within her a "healthy" amount of fear so that she might not be influenced or hurt by trusting the wrong person.

As I listened, I thought how true that analogy was for me upon entering seminary where I trusted the professors so deeply, much as a child—a child of faith. These pastors who would instruct me represented God. I, like my peers, held them up and allowed them to interpret God's will not only through their words, but through their actions.

Perhaps this only increased my shame when later I tried to understand how it was that I, a faithful wife and mother who had *never* entertained a thought of being unfaithful to my marriage vows—a woman studying to be a member of the clergy—how *this* could have happened to *me*? How was I caught in a scenario that would aptly be defined

as adultery, a consensual relationship, or even worse, as my having been the seductress? I had never been abused as a child—how was I vulnerable when I had never felt predisposed to fall? How could I have betrayed my marriage vows—of all times, as I prepared to be a pastor? These thoughts only compounded my sense of shame.

For years, I asked, "how could this have happened to me? Where do I take my shame?" You may be asking yourself the same questions.

The answer lies in Christ, himself: Christ calls us to be childlike in our faith. I *trusted*. I trusted to the point of allowing that faith in my pastor to override even my own better judgment. Deeply held trust can make a woman precariously vulnerable to her pastor. The very childlike faith that Jesus asks of us, which should be held sacred by the clergy, can create the vulnerability that a predator seeks. It is this vulnerability that allows the pastor to use his power and authority to overcome a woman's better judgment, to deceive those around him as Amnon misled Tamar into coming to him. Just as with King David and Bathsheba; just as with Amnon

*continued on page 9...*

# The answer lies in Christ.

## WestPoint & Generation of Youth for Christ Convention Updates

—Gail & Elgin Jenkins



As we traveled, the Lord has given my husband, Elgin, and I many opportunities to share with others about the wonderful ministry The Hope of Survivors offers. We shared about the ministry with individuals we met on the plane, as well as with the hotel staff where we stayed.

They are grateful to know about this ministry. Here is a brief summary of two recent trips we were blessed to take at the end of 2010 to represent THOS.

### WestPoint 2010

Elgin and I were blessed to represent The Hope of Survivors at this yearly gathering of pastors and ministry leaders in Agoura Hills, California. We set up our booth with the 2010 brochures, *Understanding Sexual Misconduct Among Spiritual Leaders*, and the new DVD, *Call It Anything But Love!*. As I stayed at the booth, Elgin went out to visit the other booths and informed them about THOS' booth and pointed them to the direction where the booth was. Just about all the comments we received about THOS were very positive. Some of comments are listed at the end of this article. I must say, as we introduced THOS to the pastors in the Southern California Conference, as well as to the other ministry leaders who attended the meetings, this was a good "ice breaker" for THOS. I believe we handed out at least 150 of the brochures. Only one or two at the most rejected the brochure for their own reasons; God knows



why. We also had an opportunity to share about THOS and the THOS' brochures with the individuals we sat with during mealtime. The individuals we spoke with were very receptive. Many of them were very thankful to learn there is a ministry that deals with sexual misconduct among spiritual leaders and sexual abuse. They were very thankful there is a ministry that reaches out to the victims of sexual abuse to bring healing and restoration to them, as well as to their family. We thank God for the opportunity to share THOS with others and to let them know that there are resources to help victims who have been sexually abused, as well as to help the loved ones of those who have been abused.



### GYC—Generation of Youth for Christ 2010

My observation at the beginning of our scheduled trip was that Satan did not want us to attend GYC. Our scheduled flight for Wednesday morning was canceled. The flight that we did take had delays en route to Baltimore, MD.

When we finally arrived at our destination in Baltimore, MD—late in the evening due to our flight being delayed—two of my bags were missing. One of my bags contained my personal care items and the other bag contained the THOS' DVDs that we planned on selling at GYC. We inquired about my missing bags and were told the airline was trying to locate them. We waited until after midnight at the airport, hoping my bags would arrive on another flight, but our wait was unsuccessful. However, we did get an opportunity to share the gospel with others at the airport. The airline informed us that, once the bags are located and arrive at the airport, they would deliver them to the hotel where we were staying.

We praise the Lord the bags did eventually arrive at the Baltimore airport. They were sent to New York instead of Baltimore. The unfortunate part was that we did not receive the bags until just before sunset on Friday evening, so we missed the opportunity to sell the DVDs on Friday before sunset. Also, since our first flight was cancelled on Wednesday and our flight on Thursday was delayed, we missed selling the DVDs on those two days as well. We were only able to offer the DVDs on Saturday night after sunset. Despite the setbacks, we set up our booth Friday morning with only the THOS' brochures, since the DVDs did not arrive until later that day. We immediately liked the location of our booth because it was across from the booth that displayed the Sanctuary model.

We both agreed we would reach out to people who were walking by our booth. As they did, we stepped out to speak with them about THOS. Once again, we encountered a number of very positive responses from the individuals who had not heard of THOS before. Most



of the comments were very supportive and encouraging about THOS Ministry. It was a blessing to have the opportunity to pray with some of the individuals who came by our booth. We prayed with them for various reasons. There were some people who made it a point to avoid the booth, which was their own choice. There were only a very small number of people who avoided the booth though. Like at WestPoint, Elgin visited a number of the other booths with THOS' brochures in hand and passed them out. Just about all the booths that Elgin visited were thankful for being introduced to ministry that THOS offers. We believe that, despite not being able to sell as many of the DVDs as we would have liked, we made a very positive impact in introducing THOS to those who were not already aware of this ministry. We made some very important contacts with some of the leaders of GYC. They were very receptive and positive about THOS and are interested in learning more about the ministry and how THOS could be a resource for those who attend GYC conferences and the church as a whole.

**Here are some of the comments we received from people at WestPoint & GYC:**

*"God bless you all and I will pray for THOS."*  
*"Really? I thought this was only in the Catholic Church!"*  
*"I will read the brochure, and share."*  
*"Much needed these days!"*  
*"Thank you, God, for this ministry!"*  
*"Oh no!"*  
*"Thank you all for your time and efforts."*  
*"We will pray for you all, thank you!"*  
*"So glad you are reaching out to other denominations."*  
*"Thank you for having this in our language."*  
*"Glad to know the victims are offered help."*

The Lord blessed us to meet many people from across the country and from other countries like Canada and Europe. This was a rich blessing and we are thankful for this opportunity.

## Testimonies from *Faith & Fidelity* Conference

Iowa/Missouri, January 10, 2011

*"The seminar was excellent! Steve and Martin did a terrific job. Our pastors verbally expressed their appreciation of our having Steve come and deal with this subject. They were also happy to learn of the recovery resources available. I will be happy to write a letter of recommendation for the seminar. May God richly bless you and Steve and your ministry this new year."*—Bob Peck, V.P. for Admin., IA-MO Conference

*"The dialog, openness, respectful ease and professional presenters were refreshing!"*—Pastor Wolfe, MO

*"I was just at a pastor's meetings in Iowa and heard Steve Nelson speak. He presented a video of his and Samantha's story [Call It Anything But Love!]. I, like all those who witnessed it, was touched to my soul. I was wondering if it would be possible to get a copy of that video? I had no idea of the amount of abuse that is in churches, and I think I could use it greatly in my ministry. Thank you for your ministry and your devotion to helping the hopeless and weary."*

—Pastor Henton, MO

*"Thank you very much! I appreciated the information and especially the open and sincere approach."*

—Anonymous Pastor

*"It was awesome and covered all the bases!"*

—Pastor Knobloch, MO

*"It was well-balanced and covered a number of facets and other issues."*—Pastor Carner, MO

*"I feel a DVD on this topic presented to every church would help safeguard both members and pastors."*

—Pastor Perricellia, IA

*"Everything was well presented and well organized. Good information and material. Thanks for coming and giving us your testimonies."*—Pastor Rodriguez, IA



## Testimonials

*"Please be encouraged to know, without your help, I fear I would not have made it. Your telephone calls opened my eyes to what had happened with Pastor M. ...Truly, God worked through your ministry to me and I know to so many others. I am so sorry for any hate mail you have received. Look to the Lord for strength and perseverance!"—Survivor, IA*

*"It has been a long time since we've spoken but you and THOS often run through my mind and are often in my prayers. I'll never stop saying Thank You for doing what you do. Having your hand there always open and extended to me to grab onto whenever I needed to as I pulled myself out of the sludge of the pit I had fallen into with a troubled man in a dangerous position was sometimes the strongest tie I had to truth and healing, though we've never set eyes on each other."—Survivor, FL*

*"I am an attorney representing a girl who suffered abuse by her Youth Pastor at the age of 16. We found your site and it has been of great help and comfort to my client. I would like any information you have or could share so that my client(s) can interact with other survivors and get help moving on. The church never apologized to the family, said it had no way of knowing such a thing would occur again, and the congregation and clergy have turned against them. The church did not offer any counseling, support, or legal help with the prosecution. The entire family is broken and suffering. I appreciate all the help you can offer via survivor support. Thank you very much for having this site on the Internet. It has already helped the family greatly, as the church's reaction has stunned them, and they feel lost, at fault, and guilty."—Attorney, FL*

## Immediate Needs...

- *Hope & Healing* (victim's) conference expenses (meeting space rental, meals, travel, materials, etc.).
- Monthly operating expenses (postage, office supplies, utilities, printing, etc.), staff, educational materials and victim assistance.
- Donations to offset the current budget deficit (\$6,100).
- ASI Convention expenses (\$5,000 for registration, exhibit, travel, etc.)

Donations are the primary source of funds that make it possible for The Hope of Survivors to maintain its ministry. Since The Hope of Survivors receives no denominational subsidies, your gifts are vitally important. Thank you for considering a tax-deductible donation to further the work of this ministry and bring hope and healing to wounded hearts.

## International Division Contacts

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### Romania Division

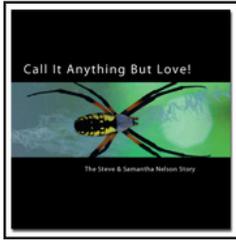
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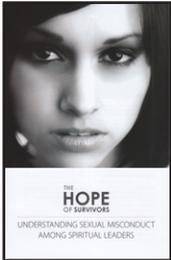
## Resources



### **DVD: *Call It Anything But Love!—The Steve & Samantha Nelson Story***

*Call It Anything But Love!* is a true story of a couple's struggles and challenges as they overcome their painful pasts to find themselves in a spider's web of lies, deceit, adultery and abuse—at the hands of their pastor. \$15.00 each.

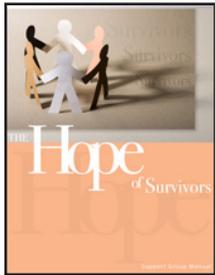
Order online at: <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/products.asp>



### ***Understanding Sexual Misconduct Among Spiritual Leaders***

Ever wonder what is really happening to you or someone you know? Are you trying to decide how to help someone who has been abused by a pastor? Or wanting to know how the church should address the issue? This booklet provides information for victims, spouses, youth, pastors and wives, church leaders and congregants, and an overview of the issue of pastoral sexual misconduct. It is a "must" for those who need answers and help! (8.5x5.5, 20 pages) Only \$2.95 each.

Order online at: <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/products.asp>



### **THOS Support Group Manual**

Do you like to lead small groups? Do you have a heart for sharing the pain of others? Have you ever wanted to be involved helping victims of pastoral sexual abuse? Then The Hope of Survivors' *THOS Support Group Manual* may be just what you need! This manual provides step-by-step instructions and guidelines for becoming a THOS Support Group Facilitator in your area.

(Full-size Binder) **\$39.95 \*\*\*New Price!\*\*\***

Order online at: <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/products.asp>

**Please Note:** The purchase of *THOS Support Group Manual* does not automatically grant you permission to begin THOS Support Groups in your area. You must comply with the guidelines in the Manual and submit to a background check and review process before being approved as an official THOS Support Group Facilitator.

## ***Creative Ways To Help!***

Contribute with ease by setting up **monthly recurring donations** to The Hope of Survivors. It's easy! Just go to [www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/donate.asp](http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/donate.asp) and type in the amount you'd like to contribute.

Did you know The Hope of Survivors is listed on the social networking site **Facebook**? Check it out! ([http://apps.facebook.com/causes/47537?m=33935&recruiter\\_id=12747904](http://apps.facebook.com/causes/47537?m=33935&recruiter_id=12747904))

**No money?** You can still support The Hope of Survivors! We will receive a penny each time you search the Internet using **www.GoodSearch.com**. Just be sure to type The Hope of Survivors in the charity to be supported box. (By the way, The Hope of Survivors received over \$148 from GoodSearch in 2010. Happy searching, Everyone!)

You can also donate through **American Express Giving Express** by going to: <http://amex.justgive.org/nonprofits/donate.jsp?ein=65-1211701>.

*Thank you for supporting The Hope of Survivors!*

## Blog Update

—Annette Anderson



My name is Annette Anderson and I'm so glad to help manage the blog here at The Hope of Survivors. Like many of the volunteers at THOS, I too am a survivor of pastoral sexual abuse. As a part of my own healing journey, I've been actively learning and writing about this subject for the past 12 years.

In our culture of Internet communication, blogging has become a vital tool for interactive conversation, with the ability to provide small bites of instant information in one place. The addition of a blog to

the resource-filled THOS website is simply one more way to reach those who need vital info about pastoral sexual abuse.

A blog format allows for current news snips, articles, and information about upcoming THOS events. It's also a great place to share bits of encouragement related to pastoral sexual abuse—and to hear your thoughts along the way.

Thanks to those of you who've stepped out on a limb and already left comments. Here's part of what Judy shared in response to the blog post *A Healing Friend*:

“After hiding my secret for 22 years, I have now reached a place where I have “finally” accepted God's grace and forgiven myself... Our only hope is to seek an environment where we are understood, and to do that perhaps it may be necessary to give a guide to women who are looking for a safe haven to worship...”

On *The Language of Pastoral Sexual Abuse*, MJ had this to say:

“What was most revealing to me is the truth that I would never have had feelings for my pastor had he not been a leader, in a position of authority... Never was I physically attracted to him, even during our physical relationship, it was completely emotional. How did I get that emotionally attached? I was groomed, so much so, that I believed our relationship was consensual.”

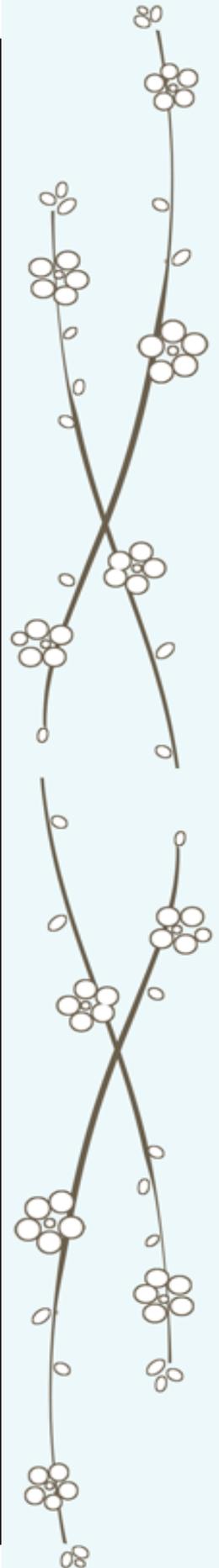
And, one more snip from MJ on, *It's Not an Affair, It's Abuse*:

“It is refreshing and encouraging to have this site for support and hearing the truth of pastoral affairs, speaking out against such men as not simply being ‘just a man’ but being an abuse of authority...”

Ideally, this blog will be a place with many voices, from the wide circle of those who've experienced or observed sexual abuse by anyone in a role of spiritual authority.

Please check in often at [www.hopeofsurvivors.com](http://www.hopeofsurvivors.com) (note: there is no “the” in the name for the blog website address, as opposed to THOS main website). If you have blog ideas, or anything you'd like to share in the form of a post, please contact me at [Annette@thehopeofsurvivors.com](mailto:Annette@thehopeofsurvivors.com).

Rest assured that whatever you tell me, I'll keep confidential, including your name and email address, unless you choose otherwise. I look forward to hearing from YOU!



## What About ME? ...continued from page 3

and Tamar; clergy sexual abuse is not based on love, but obsession and power.

That I was capable of superseding my own judgments and boundaries produced a shame which corrupted my view of the world and my ability to trust anyone, including myself. Perhaps, like me, the sense of shame has completely distorted your view of life and your ability to trust your better judgment, for you recognize that your sense of right and wrong became skewed by your own faith. The shame is overwhelming and you fear there is no place to release it. But there is.

The answer is so simple as to appear complex. If I had read these words five years ago, I would likely have tossed them aside, slamming them down in anger, proclaiming that they were far too simplistic, that my situation was different, that no one would ever understand! I vacillated between anger and shame, compounded by confusion and isolation, yet every time I reached out to The Hope of Survivors, I received a response which reflected compassion and understanding.

Jesus truly is the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. *“Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame.”* Hebrews 12:2 reminds us in our times of deepest shame that we are to fix our eyes on



Jesus, who was the “pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Listen closely: *he endured the cross, scorning its shame* only to be exalted to the place of honor at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus entered this world as the product of a woman initially shamed, but lifted up by none other than the Lord God; his advent into the world of our shame was not only to announce the *Good News* that we are free from the burden of shame, his life demonstrated the liberation of its humiliation so that when his life ended, he took with him its burden, which was neither ours to bear nor his to claim; out of his love for the victim and the sinner, he lived out the most shameful experience of crucifixion—the very act of crucifixion was intended to shame its victim and his family—like a criminal, his clothes were torn from his body. Jesus hung on the cross, the symbol of shame; he died for the forgiveness of sin, to release the burden of shame and to enable you and I, my sister, to reclaim the innocence of a child of faith.

What about you and what about me when those whom we trusted silence us and try to bar us from the family of God?

Where can we take our shame? To the cross, dear faithful child of the most high God. To the cross. Release the shame and reclaim your innocence!

## “In Feast Or Fallow”

Words and Lyrics by Sandra McCracken  
Original Hymn by Anne Steele, 1738

When the fields are dry, and the winter is long  
Blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor  
When my soul is downcast, and my voice has no song  
For mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord

In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,  
My certain hope is in Jesus found  
My lot, my cup, my portion sure  
Whatever comes, we shall endure.  
Whatever comes, we shall endure

On a cross of wood, His blood was outpoured  
He Rose from the ground, like a bird to the sky  
Bringing peace to our violence, and crushing death’s door  
Our Maker incarnate, our God who provides.

In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,  
My certain hope is in Jesus found  
My lot, my cup, my portion sure  
Whatever comes, we shall endure.  
Whatever comes, we shall endure

Bridge:  
Come, oh come, Emmanuel  
Come, oh come, Emmanuel

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes  
Not a sparrow falls, nor a hair from my head  
Without His hand to guide me, my shield and my strength  
In joy or in sorrow, in life or in death

In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,  
My certain hope is in Jesus found  
My lot, my cup, my portion sure  
Whatever comes, we shall endure.  
Whatever comes, we shall endure

## Calendar of Events

### April 7-9, 2011

SONScreen Film Festival—Simi Valley, CA  
The Hope of Survivors will be exhibiting at the SONScreen Film Festival to promote the release of *Call It Anything But Love!*, represented by volunteers Gail & Elgin Jenkins. All are welcome! For more specific information, please visit <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/calendar.asp>.

### April 15-16, 2011

Downers Grove, IL—Lake Union ASI Convention  
The Hope of Survivors will be exhibiting at the Lake Union ASI Convention, represented by volunteer Heather Brockett. All are welcome! For more specific information, please visit <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/calendar.asp>.

### May 2-4, 2011

Lincoln, NE—*Radical Reboot!*  
Lincoln College View Seventh-day Adventist Church  
4801 Prescott Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68506  
The Hope of Survivors will be exhibiting at this convention for pastors and church leaders.

### August 3-6, 2011

Sacramento, CA—ASI International Convention  
Sacramento Convention Center  
1400 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Samantha and Steve Nelson are Co-Founders of The Hope of Survivors. They strive to facilitate healing in the lives of those who have been wounded by a spiritual leader.

The ministry is founded on the commission in God's Word, which calls us to *"...comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."*  
—2 Corinthians 1:4



The Hope of Survivors will be exhibiting at this convention. For more specific information, please visit <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/calendar.asp>. All are welcome to attend!

### August 28, 2011

Indianapolis, IN—*Hope & Healing* Conference  
**Time:** 9:00am-4:00pm (Sunday)  
**Location:** Holiday Inn Express—Indianapolis Airport, 6295 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168; Hotel phone (317) 839-2700 Ext: 156; ask for The Hope of Survivors discounted rate of \$89 per night. There is a free shuttle from the hotel to and from the airport.  
**Cost:** There is a \$50 per person fee for the conference, which includes the cost of lunch and materials. You are responsible for your own lodging and transportation, if necessary. **Registration deadline is August 17.** There is limited seating and the conference will be on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to register now at: <http://www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/registration.asp>. **Note:** There are no childcare services available for this conference.

### August 29, 2011

Redding, CA—Fundraising Event  
Prime 11 Cinemas—Monday Sponsorship Program  
Arranged by The Hope of Survivors' volunteers, Peggy and Dave Mahrt, The Hope of Survivors will be the recipient of a portion of funds collected at Prime 11 Cinemas (<http://www.primecinemas.com/mondaysponsor07.html>) during the day. If you're in the area, please plan to participate in this fundraising event.

*Hope & Healing* victim's conferences are currently being considered in various locations (i.e., Long Island, NY; Jacksonville, FL; etc.) and will be scheduled when funds become available to conduct such programs.

To schedule or sponsor a conference in your area, call (866) 260-8958. Check our web site for additional details and the most current information.  
[www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com](http://www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com)

THE  
HOPE  
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