

# The Single Perspective

Newsletter of the International Single People's Alliance (ISPA)  
 of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW)

*The Legacy Continues: Pursuing Excellence*

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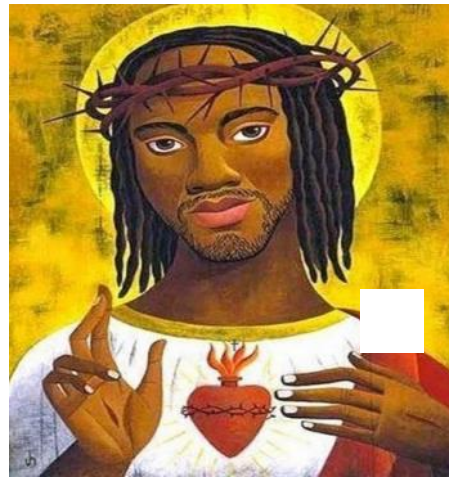
## Why Jesus is the Best Valentine

by Dr. Debra Johnson  
 Editor-in-Chief

Although we saved singles generally realize Valentine's Day is a pagan, worldly, and commercial celebration, some of us may feel a twinge of sorrow on February 14 if we are not engaged in a loving relationship with a member of the opposite gender. Satan can easily use this misplaced emotion to imply the single saint is unloved and/or unvalued. We can resist this deceptive dart by recognizing Jesus has given us more than roses, candy, or a valentine. He has freely dispensed 66 books of His Scriptures in addition to His precious blood shed at Calvary.

Rather than mourn the lack of a valentine, singles who happen to be sad on Valentine's Day would benefit from becoming less self-centered and more loving servants to the members of the body of Christ. Instead of dwelling on what's missing from our single lives, we should daily celebrate our strong relationship with our Savior. Use February 14 to take a single parent and his or her child to an aquarium, visit an elderly widow, or encourage a church or family member who lives in a nursing home. James stated, "Pure religion and undefiled before God is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world" (1:27). It's better to be a valentine than to receive one!

If you are a single saint who regularly serves others inside and outside the



body of Christ, you may prefer to spend Valentine's Day as a time of self-care. Living a life of balance is crucial to the single saint; self-neglect is not a hallmark of godly spirituality. Manicures, pedicures, massages and a variety of spa treatments are available to singles who wish to recharge themselves on Valentine's Day.

February 14 can also be a moment of self-assessment for the single saint. Depression is the biggest psychological challenge among Christian women. Obesity is the most prevalent cause of death to Black women. Valentine's Day could be a good time to visit the doctor to request a referral to a therapist or to an effective weight loss program with the intent of acknowledging one's future success in either or both endeavors next February 14.

Other single saints may prefer to birth a hobby, start a business, or expand a ministry and increase their social network by reaching out to others. Developing positive relationships by traveling to educational workshops, conventions,

seminars, or other countries can also increase a friendly single saint's number of contacts. "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" intones Proverbs 18:24.

Jesus is the best valentine because He demonstrated the greatest love on Calvary and continues to do so. Daily, He wakes us up and gives us another opportunity to praise His holy name. In addition to His answering our many prayers, He has created this naturally beautiful planet for us to enjoy our lives in Him. Jesus will not ever mistreat us, and He will never abandon us. Let us thank God for our Valentine Jesus each and every day!

### The 2020 PAW "Bible Land Discovery" Trip

Diocesan Bishop Ira Combs, Jr., and the Northern District Council (Michigan) cordially invite you to join them on an eight day "Bible Land Discovery" trip to Israel from December 1 through December 8, 2020!

The educational theme of the trip is "Jesus: His Life, His Times, His Land, His Hebrew Faith" and two units of CEU credits are available. After departing the USA on an overnight flight, you will arrive at the Tel Aviv airport and transfer to your first class hotel. The next day, touring begins!

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# Editorials and Opinions

If you have any concerns or comments regarding articles or opinions expressed in the *Single Perspective*, please email them to [singleperspective@yahoo.com](mailto:singleperspective@yahoo.com) and include the subject line of Letters to the Editor.

## What's Love Got to Do With It?

By ISPA President Evangelist Cherlyn A. Williams

A 1984 song by vocalist Tina Turner is titled "What's Love Got to Do with It?" In the record, the singer describes love as a "second-hand emotion" and seems determined to experience as little emotion as possible while in a relationship. We, the participants on the ISPA Prayer Line who have chosen this title as our February theme, concluded love has everything to do with it! It started by Christ's dying on the cross and taking the pain and suffering for us all. He died so that salvation would be free to everyone who would be baptized in Jesus' name, filled with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:38, and experience His love.

What is love when one doesn't know Christ in the power of His resurrection? What is love when one is alone? Christ promised He'll never leave us or forsake us. What is love when one is not sure which way to go or doesn't realize that we were loved from the beginning of time? What is

love if one simply doesn't care anymore and feels one has had enough of this life? What is love when one is overburdened with the cares of this world even though the Scriptures declare that we should take all of our burdens and leave them at the altar or just simply give them to God? Psalm 55:22 states: "Pile your troubles on GOD's shoulders — He'll carry your load, He'll help you out. He'll never let good people topple into ruin. But You, God, will throw the others into a muddy bog, Cut the lifespan of assassins in half. And I trust in You" (The Message Bible).

Who is love? According to I Corinthians 13:4 -- 7: "Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always about me first, Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in

the truth, Puts up with different types of challenges of life, Trusts God always, doesn't have to figure out what to do or how to make changes. Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end."

Imagine if we showed this powerful love to every person we encountered! How much better the world would be! This is a holy, godly love that can be expressed on Valentine's Day and throughout the year. Love and let us always love. We don't have to be alone or feel as though we're alone. God is always with us. He loves us and is always there with His arms stretched out just to say on this Valentine's Day: "I love you!"

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## The Single Perspective

The purpose of the *Single Perspective* newsletter is to inform and edify single saints. It is published bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October, December) during the first week of each of those months, Lord willing.

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## ISPA's Upcoming Events

**PAW Convention in Baltimore, MD**  
July 26 — August 1, 2020

**ISPA Prayer Conference**  
March 25 — 27, 2021

# Features

## Call to Duty for Nurses in Christ's Kingdom

By Evangelist Rhonda J. Morries, MSN, BSN/CST

### *Continued from December Issue*

As nurses, we usually are educating not only our patients but the family as well. We must be good communicators and teachers to demonstrate to our patients and their loved ones how to take the mantle of caring for oneself or their loved ones once discharged. Teaching must be used in the simplest form whereas a child can understand. Yet, education requires patience and understanding our patients' readiness and educational level. Nurses must encourage, empower and inspire patients and their loved ones to take care of themselves because it can be very challenging in learning how to take care of a tracheostomy or intravenous line (IV) outside the healthcare facility. For the nurse, it is sometimes more difficult to deal with loved ones than the patient themselves. However, nurses arise to the occasion and get the job done.

In order to care for someone, nurses must quickly gain the trust of their patients and again, their loved ones. This comes through an approach of caring and compassion. It also takes wisdom, skill and being confident in performing nursing care. This nurse has found that by being submissive, humble, a good listener and catering to the most important aspects of patients first, the door of trust can open. It is challenging especially in life, death, traumatic, and emergency situations. We must always show compassion and passion. Most people can behave and be relieved via an effective and competent nurse who keeps them in the loop of what is happening with their loved ones or the patients themselves. Confidence and confidentiality are held at the highest level as the nurse is careful to not to share confidential information. Thus, we are secret keepers and the protector of people's minds, souls, spirits and health.

Flavin indicates "Unlike any other work, nurses are a unique combination of caregiver, scientist, technical specialist, minister and healer," and she states "we work with our hands, our brains and our hearts to help people along their journey, at times in their lives



when they are most vulnerable" (2018). This charge, role, duty, or calling is not for just anyone. God Himself selects and chooses who has these qualities and who will be nonjudgmental, take criticism, put up with attitudes, help heal the physically and spiritually sick, cater to and deliver care, express compassion, passion, and love to someone whom God puts in their hands of care. Nurses have hands of faith and of assurance--the assurance that God is with the patients even in the darkest hour or weakest point in their lives. Mark 16:18 states: "...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (KJV).

Nursing is an art and a science, yet God is in the midst of it all. The word "nurse" is represented by the Hebrew word, aman, which means to support, be faithful, or nourish (Lewis, 2019). The Apostle Paul trusted the nurse Phoebe with precious letters to be delivered to the Romans. Moses' biological mother was able to nurse her own child. We should cast all our cares upon Him because He cares for us. God does send us help, and it is through His nurses whom He has called for duty, both on holy and physical ground. He sends the best to His own: those who are wounded, on their death bed, ill, or injured.

Nurses are great at providing wonderful hospitality but nurses are often frowned upon and forgotten in

the body of Christ. Although we serve in humility and in the background, we are vital in resuscitating children of God who have been wounded in the church. Be careful how you treat a nurse! He or she could be the one that God uses to help you in your time of need. Whether it is healing, deliverance, or nursing you through your brokenness, be kind to us. We are sent by God for you. Please recognize whom God calls to help you in dilemmas because that person could be a nurse. We are chosen vessels too, ready and willing to answer the call of duty for the high calling of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christian believers should feel comfortable in their respective congregations, knowing that God has strategically placed His hand-picked nurses who are able to be there if that time of need shall arise. Nurses do help save lives spiritually and physically. It is a double blessing to have a call to duty nurse and minister ordained and chosen from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Himself to be ready to rise for His good pleasure. So, honor the nurses in your congregation and bless them with respect, give them free will to administer aid and above all, continue to pray for them. God bless you!

### **The PAW 2020**

### **"Bible Land Discovery" Trip**

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Guided sightseeing includes: the Herodian, Bethlehem, Shepherds' Field, The Church of the Nativity, Jericho, Qumran, the Dead Sea, the Mount of Beatitudes, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, Mount Zion, the Upper Room and more!

The all-inclusive price is \$2,896 from Detroit Metropolitan Airport. A deposit of \$300 per person is required and the final payment is due August 18, 2020. For more information, please contact Lady Armelia Slaughter (313) 969-5647 or email [Narmelia1@aol.com](mailto:Narmelia1@aol.com) or call Greater Bibleway Temple at (517) 784-2079.