

MEETING BY THE WELL

Presents

#DomesticViolence
#EmotionalAbuse
#PhysicalAbuse
#theWailingWomen
#BiblicalAdvice
#LegalAdvice

A CRY AGAINST

OPPRESSION

(Exodus 3:9-10), Jeremiah 9:17-18)

20 May 2017

Time: 1 PM to 6 PM

Venue: Chapel,
Spurgeons College
London, SE25 6DJ
www.meetingbythewell.org



**Beloved
(Atlanta, GA)**



**Mrs Eunice Adetola
(Esther's Group, Nig)**



**Evangelist Ezinne Ikiebe
(Face of Joy International, UK)**



**Marcus Malin
(Consultant Solicitor
Seford Solicitors, UK)**



**Comfort Sajowa
(Meeting by the well)**



**Deborah Palmer
(Meeting by the well)**



**Lilian Acham
(Meeting by the well)**



**Ruky Obahor
(Meeting by the well)**

In 2016, the guardian newspaper reported that more than 900 women were killed by men in England and Wales over a six-year period, most by their current or former partners. **(Source: www.theguardian.com)**

Unfortunately, this is happening across the globe. A lot of women have died in the hands of abusive husbands and like Abel, the Lord has heard their blood crying from the ground (Genesis 4:10) and He says enough is enough, I am sending you to do something about it.

*“The... cry for help has come to Me,
and I’ve seen for Myself how cruelly
they’re being treated... It’s time for you to
go back: I’m sending you... to bring my
people... out of Egypt.” (Exodus 3:9-
10 MSG)*

HOW DO WE KNOW THE LORD IS SENDING US?

Well, I have been a victim of domestic violence myself and know what it feels like and there has been my association with other victims over the past years and then, there's Mrs Comfort Sajowa's dream where she saw women seating down, waiting in a queue but no one was

attending to them and when she asked what they were waiting for, they complained that they had been waiting there and nobody was attending to them. Immediately, she rushed into the office to assist them and that's how she woke up and it's been amazing how we have all come together carrying this burden in our hearts.

A CRY OF RESPONSIBILITY

In October 2016, I attended a women's retreat themed 'Alabaster Box' based on the woman who wiped Jesus' feet with her tears (Luke 7:37-38) and let me just say I've never cried like I cried over the course of the three days. During worship, I cried. When I was ministering, I cried. When someone shared something, I cried. It got to the point it was all becoming too weird and I remember telling someone that if you asked me why I was crying, I honestly had no idea but I cried so much that my tears could fill a bucket. In fact, I did not just cry. I wailed to the point that it was becoming embarrassing.

After I got home from the retreat, I was so exhausted from all the crying but as I settled down in bed to watch the replay of a Sunday service I usually follow, it just happened that they were preaching about the time Jesus fed the multitude after blessing and breaking 5 loafs and 2 fishes. At some point, the preacher started saying that "the tears are a sign that He is breaking you. The tears are not tears of pain. They are TEARS OF RESPONSIBILITY. God is about to break you into a brand-new level.". You can imagine that what they said caught my attention.

How weird? However, it was not my first experience. During that period, the Lord allowed things to provoke me just so I could travail before Him like Hannah did (1 Samuel 1). And then, earlier in the year, my friend was telling of a painful childhood experience but while she was laughing as she was telling her story, I began to cry uncontrollably and again, this was not ordinary tears. It was the groaning of the Holy Spirit. It felt like it was all the tears she had bottled up from her childhood and I knew Jesus was up to healing some deep-rooted wounds.

That was the first time the Scripture "Jesus wept" (John 11:33-35) became alive to me. Yes, His tears were tears of compassion but they also represented His responsibility which said "I'm the One sent to carry the burden of these people and bring about their deliverance.

Perhaps, you have become very compassionate and like me, you are now a cry baby. That is a sure sign of brokenness. Your tears are tears of responsibility and deliverance. God said to Moses that He had seen the oppression and has heard their cry and I am sending you to Egypt. Could the Lord be sending you as a deliverer? (Obadiah 1:21)

WHAT IS IN YOUR HANDS?

God sent Moses to Pharaoh with his rod in his hands and Moses took the Israelites past the same route he took when tendering to his father-in-law's sheep in the

wilderness so, in the same way, collectively, our experience is what we have in our hands.

OUR APPROACH

This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says:

“Consider all this, and call for the mourners.

Send for the women who mourn at funerals.

Quick! Begin your weeping! Let the tears flow

from your eyes. (Jeremiah 9:17-18 NLT)

Firstly, we are to cry out to Him and we do this through;

- Our Weekly Prayer Meetings.

Date: Every Tuesday at 11AM -12PM (GMT)

Prayer line: +44 (0)330 998 1254

Access Code:452042

- Our Yearly Conference

Please see front page or check our website for more details.

This is a cry against every kind of oppression and abuse taking place in our homes and community so husbands (men in general) and children are not excluded.

LEGAL ADVICE

“My ex-spouse is taking me to the cleaners and I don't know what to do.” Do you know anyone who is currently going through or has gone through such a situation? Got any legal questions on how to handle domestic violence?

Well, I have been there and so, one of our keynote speakers, Marcus Malin, a Consultant Solicitor of Setford Solicitors, UK would be around to answer your questions.

Some of Malin's area of specialism include Financial Matters rising from Divorce, Domestic Violence and Injunctions, Child Matters etc.

Yes, God hates divorce but He also hates the violence that takes place in marriages.

“For I hate divorce,” says the Lord, the God of

Israel, “and him who covers his garment with

wrong and violence,” says the Lord of hosts

“Therefore keep watch on your spirit, so that you

do not deal treacherously [with your wife].”

(Malachi 2:16 AMP)

So, we need to be adequately equipped to handle oppression and injustice whenever the need arises. So, please come prepared with your questions.

USEFUL/RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Abigail's Veil; A Domestic Violence Handbook for Clergy and Church Leaders by Min. Carolyn J. Thompson

I came across this very interesting and relevant book written by a former attorney and church minister which is a resource to address the issue of domestic violence. Immediately I started reading this book, it caught my attention. How should the church deal with domestic violence? Well, Min. Thompson says “there is no such thing as marital counselling in an abusive relationship. The two are very different and never combine the two. In marital counselling, the victim undertakes a VEIL of shared responsibility for their marital problems. Domestic violence in a marriage or any relationship is beyond discord and there's only one person responsible for the abuse – the abuser.”

This book is an eye opener and can be found on Amazon. I recommend every church leader to invest in it. The author has also provided some copies of the book which would be made available on the day of the conference.

For more information about this initiative or this event, please check our website or send an email with the title 'A Cry Against Oppression' in the subject line to info@meetingbythewell.org