



IT'S TIME TO STAND

We do not live in a time for the fainthearted. It is a time for those who love God and are called by Him, to stand, arise, walk forward and take ground. We have pressures coming at us from all sides - pressures that lead toward evil and destruction - and we need to be women who have the ability to make a stand and have the courage of our convictions. "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you." [Isaiah 60:1] How brightly is your light shining where you are? Do we really live as if the glory of God rests upon each one of us?

How different are we in the words we speak when under pressure? How brightly do we shine grace and forgiveness to those who hurt us? Do we handle the storms of life with an extra measure of faith? For me, I am tired of seeing the church, the people of God, in a dull light. I hold the firm belief that we should shine all the brighter because of the darkness around us. We should be offering hope and strength and be carriers of the power of God in our everyday life. If the living God dwells within us, then how can we keep that hidden?



Karen is the WA President for Baptist women. She is currently working for Willow Creek, USA as an Executive Director for GLS Asia. She has a husband and two children [21 and 18] and has a strong desire to see people live and minister out of a place of health and passion.

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12

Prayer for today

Dear Lord,
When I am tempted to withdraw, remind me that your power flows through me. You are the guiding light and the strength of my life. You are the One who holds the key and You will draw all men to Yourself. I will stand and affect my world for good because you are within me. Amen



It's time to stand. It's time to hold ground and be a force to be reckoned with. We have an enemy, the devil, who would like us to be insipid and unattractive...yet that reality couldn't be further from the truth. We are the bride. We are full of power. We carry hope for now and eternity. We have

grace overflowing and love in abundance. We have something that the world cannot offer - salvation and peace.

Let's look at life through the eyes of God and see things as He does. Let's ask Him to work through us to be a lighthouse to the lost and offer direction to those who are wandering. It's time to stand and be the church that we were intended to be. It's time to make a difference!

With love in Him

Karen Wilson
Baptist Women's President WA



Guest Writer

Carolyn Craggs

HOUSE OF GRACE

Many people over here name their houses. Feeling like it was definitely God's provision that we ended up in a good house with a Christian landlord, we decided on "Kroopa Nilya" or "House of Grace". We got the neighbourhood engraver to chisel it in Kannada script, along with the house number, on a piece of black stone. Last week, Colin cemented it onto our outside wall.

Over here, there seems to be a steady stream of people to the front door - vegetable and fish sellers, carpet and broom vendors and of course people asking for donations. Until recently, we used to get about one person a week calling outside our gate to ask for money, but recently there have been numerous people asking us for food (a meal).

To the first few I said "we don't have a meal for you right now, but come back Thursday". I thought "okay, it's not a big ask, I can give lunch to a couple of people", but once the numbers hit double figures I was beginning to think, "What is UP? Do we have a sign on our door saying 'canteen' or something??".

AHA! The sign might not have said "canteen" but it did announce that God's grace would be supplied to those who knocked. Grace means that we don't go away hungry; what a great lesson in God's provision for me as I pray that Thursday's food feeds souls as well as stomachs.



Carolyn Craggs is currently living in Mysore, South India with her husband Colin and four children (aged 8, 6, 3, 1) where they have been learning Kannada language and doing leadership development for the past 16 months. From an Anglo-Indian Anglican background, her home church is Inglewood Community Church.

Don't forget to send in **YOUR STORIES** to share with others. The simplest testimony can bring great encouragement to others. Just write in 250 words or less something of what God is doing in your life. Then, email it back to us to share in future editions of e-news Connect.



Baptist Women Australia proudly support the work of Freeset. Freeset actively works to release women into freedom from the sex trade industry by providing the opportunity for them to earn an income.

If you would like to find out more about how we are helping Freeset, please visit <http://www.baptistworldaid.org.au/freeset>