



The Gift of Noticing (& an Auction Update)

Dear friends,

Fall has always been my favorite season. Maybe it's the coziness of the clothes, maybe the beauty of the leaves, maybe the apple cider and pie, maybe the start of school. Whatever the reason, I can manage the heat of a Minnesota August by remembering that soon September and October will bring all sorts of things that I love. This year, however, I was so caught up in my tasks and to-do list that I almost missed out.

Have you Noticed?

Last week, God impressed upon my heart that I was about to miss the season. I heard God encouraging me to look up and notice the world, to see the beauty of creation during this time. And what did I see? Mostly, I saw trees in so many beautiful colors: fiery reds, vibrant oranges, and soft yellows. I saw a beautifully clear blue sky, bright and sunny, celebrating the crispness of the breeze. And then, as I walked to my office door, I was surprised by a single purple flower, blooming alone.

This flower was definitely unusual. Between the rocky ground, the colder-than-average temperature, and the lack of any other flower nearby, this flower seemed to be blooming just for me. I didn't remember seeing it the day before, and I certainly don't recall anyone planting purple petunias along that strip of soil. My heart swelled with joy, much-needed in the midst of my hardship-filled week. I stooped to take a picture, to savor the moment, the bloom, and the feeling.

Isn't that just like God? First, He invites us into a new season and a new way of looking at the world. As we respond and accept that invitation, He is already there, waiting with a gift for us. That morning, for me, the invitation was to notice and appreciate God's handiwork. The gift was a small bloom of joy to soothe my weary spirit.



Keeping Focus

Seeing the flower that morning also reminded me of my experience with the Fall Auction. The auction is arguably my favorite event. Between the excitement of gathering items beforehand, the fun of the bidding, and the good food and conversations, my extroverted spirit soars. However, it's easy to let the numerous tasks and stresses of preparation overwhelm me. This year, the stresses were increased by our general financial situation.

During the week immediately preceding the event, I heard a different invitation from God. This invitation was similar to His words to Martha in Luke 10:41: "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; but only one thing is necessary;" (NASB). In this time, while preparation was necessary, my tasks and to-do lists were not the focus of the event. Rather, my focus needed to shift to gathering with our supporters, sharing what God is doing through the ministry, and allowing God to provide for our needs.

As I shifted my gaze from the tasks to the face of Jesus, I found the gift of His peace and presence in abundance. And then we saw God provide. A total of 55 people participated between the online and in-person events, about 1/3 of them people who hadn't participated before. We raised just over \$10,000 to help cover our deficit, more than half of which were outright gifts, not bids. And while we didn't reach our goal, God did more than we expected based on the number of registrations.

God is Faithful

In the short weeks of following up with winners and processing donations, I have been humbled again by God's faithfulness. The ministry of Outpost belongs to God; it is through Him that we live and move and have our being. He will provide for all we need, to the praise of His glory, not ours. And I am so grateful to you, our supporters, for your faithfulness in giving as God calls so that hope and healing can go forth in God's name.

I don't know what God is inviting you into today. But rest assured, wherever and whatever that is, God is already there. And the gift you will receive upon arrival will meet your need and feed your spirit. Go ahead, accept the invitation of your Creator. And be greatly blessed by the result.

Yours,

Wendy

Voices of Outpost

Testimonies from Joshua Fellowship's 2022 Confront. Used with permission



"The Strive course is thorough. So many false identities, lies, and tendencies of mine became clear to me. By itself that would have been crushing since it was essentially my life and my comfort. But the community of leaders knows that because they have been there. I was not alone while I was being equipped to fight for victory. Most crucially, everything guided me right back to the Lord, who made His grace and nearness so tangible. I do feel like a new creation."

"I have found the Lord! He shows up when you press into the pain, regardless of the pain you are in. He has physically sustained me, even strengthened me in all dimensions of my being."



OUTPOST MINISTRIES

PO BOX 22429 • ROBBINSDALE, MN 55422-0429

Save the Date!

FROM GLORY TO GLORY SPRING FUNDRAISING BANQUET

MARCH 25, 2023



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Ministry Calendar

- **Sep 11:** Wendy, Scott, Craig, and two volunteers presented the second half of Distinctions online for Hope Church, Wantage, NJ.
- **Sep 16-18:** CalebSpirit went on retreat at Koronis Ministries Retreat Center in Paynesville, MN.
- **Sep 24:** Outpost held its 4th annual silent auction at North Heights Lutheran Church in Arden Hills. See Wendy's report on the event inside.
- **Oct 1:** Outpost had a booth at the Minnesota Church Ministries Association (MCMA) Engage! Conference.
- **Oct 3-5:** Dan had a booth and attended the Christian & Missionary Alliance District Prayer Conference.
- **Nov 1-17:** Give to the Max giving season.

Prayer Requests

- Praise God** for His provision through the silent auction! It was a wonderful time of fun, fellowship, and generosity.
- Praise God** for participants who continue to attend faithfully and seek God's healing for their hearts and lives.
- Pray** for those who need us will find us and get connected with the support and healing they need.
- Pray** that the ministry groups would be a true blessing for those involved.
- Pray** for God's continued financial provision. We still have an overall deficit between giving and expenses for the year.

Name: _____

PLEASE CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

Mail to:

PO Box 22429

Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Here's my gift of \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____

To support the ministry of _____ (List staff name or other designation)

_____ Charge my Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express _____ Check Enclosed

I authorize Outpost to charge my credit card for the above amount. Should I choose to change or cancel this transaction, I will contact the Donor Relations Manager within 24 hours at 763-210-2636 or donations@tcjh.org.

Signature for Credit Card Authorization: _____

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Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ / _____ CVV (3 digit code): _____

Staff will shred the bottom portion of the form to protect your privacy.



ON: Office Use Only

Last Four _____

Date _____

Staff: _____