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We're on the Web!  
[www.genesisinstitute.org](http://www.genesisinstitute.org)

### Genesis Institute Mission

We exist as a part of the body of Christ to care for human souls, guided by the fixed point of biblical revelation.

#### Genesis will Endeavor to:

- ⇒ Counsel Biblically
- ⇒ Enable and encourage the Christian community to care for human souls.
- ⇒ Proclaim that relationship with Christ is the ultimate answer to life's most challenging problems
- ⇒ Invite both believers and non-believers to live according to God's design, to worship and enjoy Him.



Discover Your Story, Live From Your Heart

### We Are Still Looking For Another Counselor

If you want the opportunity to utilize your skills and passions for helping provide hope and healing in the context of a soul-caring, professional, Christian community, this job just might be right for you. Our passion is to help others live deeply from their hearts and experience relational transformation. For those wanting to work closely in a team setting, we are currently looking to expand our existing counseling staff. **At this time we have an opening for a part-time male or a female counselor.** For more information about this job, please go to our website at [www.genesisinstitute.org/careers](http://www.genesisinstitute.org/careers).

If you are interested in applying for this position, please email the following information to [Careers@GenesisInstitute.org](mailto:Careers@GenesisInstitute.org):

- 1-Cover letter and Resume
- 2-Your personal Statement of Faith

### Our Counseling Staff



Katrina Mason

Todd Patrick

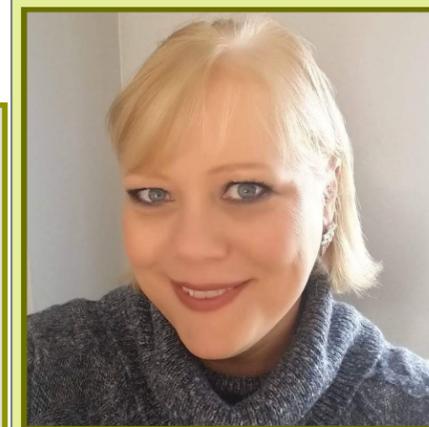
Lynnette Palmer

Kelly Walters



# The Heart of Genesis

## Breaking Free



Dana Peterson

I am going on a journey into the physical acts of forgiveness in my healing walk. Of course, I have some real trepidation in opening those boxes; I have some tough work ahead and it's not for the faint of heart, but I also know that I am not going into it leaning on my own strength alone. Let me tell you my story.

I started journaling a few years ago. It has been an extremely valuable tool in helping me put pieces together to see the big picture and see how far I have come in my healing walk; I am astounded to reread my journal and trace the path from where I was to this very place where I am right now.

At the beginning of last year, I witnessed a traumatic suicide right in front of me, an experience that caused some pretty severe PTSD. God had already told me that it was time to move into the next place of healing and that it would involve working with a Christian counselor. I was told that this would be the

place of my next breakthrough. Honestly, I would have probably put off finding a counselor for "a while", but because of the events of that day, I was essentially forced to find a counse-

*(Continued on page 3)*

#### Inside this issue:

Breaking Free	1
WOW Class	
If We Love God	2
Most, We Will Love	
Others Best	
Breaking Free (cont.)	3
What's In a	
Newsletter	
Career Opportunity	4

## Attention All Ladies: It's Time To Sign Up!

Elaine Watts' *Wonder of Woman* class will begin March 5<sup>th</sup>. This enriching 13 week class held at Genesis Institute on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm, will help you learn and expand your walk before the Lord. There is a notebook of resources she has compiled as well as wonderful visuals in her teaching. She gives us tools to navigate through emotional and difficult seasons in our lives. Elaine is very transparent about her journey through pain and deep heartache and moving beyond into God's grace and healing. She shares in many captivating ways to help you.

A comment from one of the students from last spring was; "This was a great class and Elaine is a wonderful leader. She allows God to use her unique journey to inspire others to be brave and surrender their lives more fully to the needed, deeper, genuine, and transparent fellowship and communion with God that many lack. She demonstrates a path to spiritual growth and renewal in a very impactful and sincere way. The in-depth look at Biblical femininity and the way we were created to fulfill His purpose was a new concept for me." Some top takeaways from the class were; "Our desire to understand suffering can break us or lead us to a deeper place and understanding of God. What God wants most from me – my devotion."

Won't you jumpstart your year by committing to this valuable class? You will be glad you did! You can register online at [www.genesisinstitute.org](http://www.genesisinstitute.org) or by phone at (509)467-7913.

## If We Love God Most, We Will Love Others Best!



Many people believe that love is just a nice, heartwarming feeling. As Christians we are called for it to be more than that- WE ARE CALLED TO ACTION!

- Our FAITH is revealed by our words—James 2:18
- Our CREED is revealed by our deeds—Luke 6:46
- Our LOVE is revealed by our love for others—I John 4:20

We know these are important to God because when asked which commandment was the greatest, God answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’- Matt 22:36-39

Our desire here at Genesis Institute is to love people well. We do that by providing services that help them through difficult times in their lives. Classes to help them form better relationships with their children (Courageous Parenting), courses to help build stronger relationships with God through a better understanding of ourselves and our

roles (Wonder of Woman) and learning core disciplines for growing closer to God (Spiritual Formation). Possibly the most ‘hands on’ way we love people is through our counselors. They pour themselves into each client they see and regardless of the situation, they work to show God’s love and desire for relational healing within each of these lives.

There is an incredible need for biblical counseling. We receive calls every day from people looking for help. You’ve probably seen that we have been trying to add to our counseling staff for the last few months. We know that there will always be more needs than we can realistically meet, but we have the desire to do more than our current capacity.

One of the ways we could do this, is to remodel part of our existing building to create another counseling office, but this is a large investment. However, this would help in a couple ways. **First of all, it would allow us to hire another full-time counselor to help with the people on our waiting list. Second, it would help to strengthen our financial position.** We work very hard to keep our administrative costs down and to be good stewards of our resources. But, with our current capacity, we are reliant on donations to cover some of these basic costs. We would love to be debt free at some point with our building, but circumstances over the past few years have restricted our ability to work on that goal.

We have many general ministry needs that I would ask that you pray and consider how you can help. Here are a list of some practical ways you can LOVE your neighbor:

- Pray for the board as they consider whether or not to remodel. If we decide to remodel, by doing some of the work ourselves like buying materials and painting, we estimate that we will need to spend approximately \$4000-\$5000.
- We will need to furnish the additional office space. We have a desk, but would need a couch, file cabinet and computer. Est. \$1000.
- We need to purchase another vacuum. Est. \$175.
- Our counselors need to get additional training to stay current with today’s requirements. We are sending two of them to a special class in May. The cost is \$3000.
- We need to find another part-time counselor—pray for God to send the right person.
- WE NEED PRAYER! THIS MAY BE YOUR MOST LOVING ACT TODAY!

Will you consider helping us to spread the love of Christ by loving others well?

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS AND GENEROSITY!

Linda



## Breaking Free (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

lor immediately in order to get help with the anger I felt at having to be a witness to that event and everything that the event itself dredged up from my past. That’s when I started working with a counselor at Genesis Institute.

Though the event was extremely painful, I was soon shown some of the reasons for having to endure it and the good that my experience would bring to my life. It’s interesting to me, though, to see the place of surrender I was in right before that event. (Remember the journal?) We don’t always know what the healing the Lord intends to do will be “wrapped up in”, only that He is faithful; HE knows the end from the beginning and the best way forward, specific to each of His children.

As I sit at this threshold of yet another place of breakthrough, I reread a part of my journal from the morning of my first counseling session at Genesis and it is profound to me: “What will freedom feel like? What does it look and taste like? Freedom from anger, resentment, rejection, pain so raw that it tears my heart up into shreds? Freedom from crippling fear that was passed down to me from the time I was in my mother’s womb. I am embarking on a journey to take off the bondage garments that Satan painstakingly handed to me and, not knowing better, I put on.” I’m not even on the other side of this yet and I can tell you from the work that’s been done thus far that freedom from that bondage tastes, feels, and looks like peace and the ability to rest. It looks like being able to breathe deeply. It looks like not having to



control all situations out of absolute fear. It truly looks and feels like freedom.

Friends, God will be faithful to do the healing. Our part is to have courage, be brave, and *trust* that He is good and will bring the healing. I’m not going to say it’s been easy, but I will say that living in that place of fear and trauma for forty-six years was much more difficult. I want freedom. I need freedom. There are things that He has for me to do and people He has for me to love, serve, and help in their own journeys. I’m limited when I’m carrying around the chains of anger, pain, and fear. Through His healing, I’m able to be and do all that He has for me. I hope and believe that God will use my story to give even one person, maybe you, hope for his or her own story.

## What’s In A Newsletter?

We want to make sure we are using our resources in the best way we can, so we are taking a look at our Newsletter. We have slowly been moving the majority of you away from the printed and mailed version of our newsletter to the electronic version. We realize that there are still some of you that prefer to have a hard copy in your hand, so we won’t do away with that option. But, since postage has gone up another 10%, we would appreciate it if you are willing to receive it electronically. If so, would you please send me a quick email at [denise@genesisinstitute.org](mailto:denise@genesisinstitute.org)?

In addition we would like to hear from you about the newsletter. Do you read it? Do you find it interesting? Do you have any suggestions for things you’d like to see in the newsletter? Do you like getting it Monthly? Would you prefer Quarterly? Do you have a desire to help with creating the newsletter? We would like to put together a team. We are always looking for people who have a story that relates to Genesis that they would be willing to share with our readers.

We know it’s important to keep you informed of what Genesis is doing—especially for those of you that support this ministry by giving financially. We want to make sure you know how much your support means to us and to others in this community that we are able to help. So, will you help us by giving us some of your valuable feedback? Please email [denise@genesisinstitute.org](mailto:denise@genesisinstitute.org) with your comments.

We look forward to hearing from you!