



Fall-Winter 2006

Spiritual Encouragement  
For the Next Generation

## *The Color of Light*

*Created for the heart  
of the next generation!*

LIGHTDANCERS

P.O. Box 253

Wellington, Kansas 67152

Or

Come visit us at

[www.lightdancers.org](http://www.lightdancers.org)

[info @ lightdancers.org](mailto:info@lightdancers.org)

## "WHO ARE THEY?!"

*The Faces Behind the Pages...*

Lisanne McMurray  
Tammy Dahl  
Jeanne Escobar  
Traci Reuter  
Tony Hix  
And the grace of God!

Contributing Writers:

Titus  
Travis

Special Thanks:

Archa Glass

This season we'd like to thank

**James Bradford**  
for leaving us with his  
beautiful artwork entitled,  
*"Ripped"*

that we have chosen  
for the cover images of  
this edition of  
*The Color Of Light*

### Publication With Purpose

Welcome to *The Color of Light*, the quarterly publication for LIGHTDANCERS, a spiritual support ministry for the next generation. It is our desire to bring the love of Jesus Christ into the world of those we encounter by simply supporting the heart of the individual.

Our purpose through this publication is to serve the next generation emotionally, physically and spiritually through articles of encouragement, people of integrity, and a variety of services and resources.

We encourage each of you to write, or e-mail us with any thoughts, ideas, or concerns that you may have. Hearing from each of you helps us to be able to better serve you on a more personal level.

*The Color of Light* emanates from the heart of each one of us in a unique way...the way that God intended. He is the One who illuminated the darkness of our lives, and it is our desire that through this publication, His light will be reflected unto you.



# *SEASONS OF LIGHT*

## **Fulfillment**

There are sometimes when you know that you are about to move into a golden time that will become a landmark moment in your life. And then there is that one moment when you know in the deepest recesses of your being that what you are being called up to do is what you were born for. This is that one time.

When Tom and I moved from Arizona to Kansas 5 years ago, we did so not knowing why. The only thing that was clear was that God was directing our steps. That was in November 2001. By the following summer, the only thing that was settling in my spirit was that this move had something to do with the next generation, but what that was exactly I remained clueless to for the next 4 years. Come July of 2003 my marriage exploded and spiraled downward resulting in divorce in September of 2005. Seemingly overnight my world was shattered. My husband and ministry partner was by my side no more, and that was just the beginning of a loss that only multiplied and magnified itself in so many other ways. Then in March of 2005 I began to see in the young lives of those around me what happens when talents and giftings go unused and idle time abounds and that's when I began to understand the need that our youth had that was not being met.

In March of 2006, God brought forth my new ministry partner, Tony Hix, from Wisconsin to join me in this endeavor. Then in May, He brought my good friend Jeanne Escobar from Phoenix, Arizona to come along side of us here in Kansas. Along the way we gathered in several others locally to also aid in our undertaking - to create a safe place for those 13 thru 20 years of age where their musical and artistic gifts and talents can be nurtured. A place where they could come and have no expectations laid upon them other than to simply be themselves. In addition to the average kid who suffers the challenges of their teenage years thinking they are the only one going through such things, we also wanted to reach those who fell outside of the common social clique. That means tattoos, piercings, Mohawks, pink hair, skateboards and sagging pants! We want all of it! Every parent's nightmare. Every teachers bad day. The kids that aren't commonly accepted. The ones that even small minded church leaders tend to judge, those that have the wrong name, a questionable reputation and who come from the wrong side of the tracks. Those are the kids we want to reach. Because in living in small town America these past 5 years, it didn't take long to see what happens to these kids in an environment that has limited opportunities and a restricted mindset. Trouble comes to them one and all at some point without any effort simply because life is slower here than in your urban areas and without bigger fish to fry, law enforcement tends to scrutinize everyone's every move, particularly those who differ from the norm. What most kids experience without much adieu throughout their growing years in the big city, becomes grounds for court marshal without question here. And once you're in the system, getting out only leads to a vicious circle, particularly when the local good ol' boys are only out to build themselves a reputation in a long ago corrupt governmental and judicial system. Forgive me if I sound harsh, but I have to call it as I see it. There is a lot of injustice in the world and living in a small town only magnifies it. It's no big secret. The county I live in has had a history of corruption since it's inception in 1878. Nothing has changed for the better throughout the years. If anything, such practices have only become more deeply imbedded and ingrained throughout the generations. Because of this, I slowly began to understand that that such a mindset would truly hinder the execution of this vision. Then before I knew it, one by one, God began closing the doors for me in Harper County. He began closing the doors for me in the town of Anthony where I lived and it broke my heart to know that all of the kids who I knew who had been the catalyst for this vision would not get to see it unfold firsthand. But then just as He was closing those doors, so it was

that He began opening doors elsewhere. And by January of 2006, He had provided me with a new home in a new town in another county.

And so at the end of June 2006, we collectively moved 4 households and a ministry - Tony, Jeanne, myself, my son and ~~LIGHT~~ ~~IN~~ ~~C~~ ~~R~~ ~~S~~ to Wellington, Kansas, (a town of 8500) in Sumner County. It was one of the most grueling moves I have ever made (and I've made a lot of moves in my life!), but that's because the battle was on! Spiritual warfare in the exotic dancing industry has always been intense. I've always referred to it as the frontlines of the battle. But I've gotta tell ya, it pales in comparison when it comes to dealing with the next generation. This is truly trench warfare. Satan is serious. He's pissed off and when you start messing with the snares that he has set to take out the youth, you become more of a thorn in his side than you could ever imagine. He did everything possible to see to it that I would never arrive at this place in my life and by God's grace I arrived here despite his efforts. In trudging forward to enter into that which God has called me to, I basically just painted a bullseye on my forehead. How lovely for me!

So here we are, in Wellington, Kansas. Home of the red wheat farmer, the Wellington Crusaders, and the Freemasons. We've been prepping this fantastic building that was a bar several times over, painting and scraping away since July 2006 in the sticky summer heat. The new kids on the block, that's us! Our projected opening date of September was moved to October 21st as we scrambled to pull things together. Somewhere in the middle of all of this, I managed to update the website to some degree and Tony built us a *Myspace* page ([www.myspace.com/mirageinkansas](http://www.myspace.com/mirageinkansas)) so we could better connect with the kids we strive to serve. (Be sure to check both of them out for the details and updates of our transition.) It stormed cold and heavy on the day of our grand opening but those who made their way here had a time to remember. In November, we plan to start a very kicked back, bi-weekly Bible discussion group. December will bring a Christmas party and a New Year's Eve celebration. Our original group of assistants has already dwindled to the bare minimum as life interrupts the plans of one and all. But that's par for the course. We don't know what the future will hold, but we continue forward in Jesus name to make real his love in the lives of our youth on a new, out of the box level. We know that we won't be any too popular with the local churches on account of it. But let's face it, we aren't here to minister to our fellow Christians. I'll never forget the girl I met when I went into *Pleasures* in Wichita a couple of years back baring gifts the day before Easter. When I told her I was from Anthony, her eyes got bright and she shared with me that she knew where Anthony was because she had worked at the grocery store there only a few months before. It doesn't matter if you're in a city of 2 million like Phoenix, or a town of 2500 like Anthony, our youth can transition just that quick from a quiet life on the right road to taking a left turn and end up derailing themselves with one choice before they ever know the dangers of what they are about to embark upon. So, if we offend some people on our way to reaching those who stand on the edge of the precipice hovering between life as a teenager and life as an adult, that's ok. Our desire is to reach the heart of our youth and plant in them something, a word, or a memory perhaps, that they can carry with them into these formative years with the hopes that at some point, they will be able to draw upon the experience in such a way that it moves them closer to Jesus.

Yes, this is our **Season of Fulfillment** but with fulfillment comes a continued education. We don't know all that this will entail but what we do know, is that we are all about to go back to kindergarten once again as we relearn everything we ever thought we knew. So please, keep us in your prayers as we put our training wheels back on and go back to the basics. Keep the kids in your prayers. Keep the town of Wellington in your prayers, for while Wellington is three times the size of Anthony, there are still certain spiritual strongholds in this region that I have not encountered in other places and the only way through those strongholds is head on, bathed in prayer. We're asking you to stand with us because in all honesty, we need your help as we begin this new journey into all that we cannot yet see.

*With Love From Above,*

*Lisanne*

# INSIGHT FROM THE INSIDE

## Forgiveness

*Several years ago a wonderful lady named Archa Glass offered to teach a class that she does "Becoming the Whole Woman of God", just for our little group of dancers. It was a wonderfully healing time for those who participated. Below is a small snippet taken from her curriculum that she used.*

How can you tell that you have forgiven?

Stop and think!

Put a check mark by any of the following questions you identify with.


1. \_\_\_\_\_ Have I stopped secretly hoping he gets what he deserves?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Have I quit talking about him (in a negative way) to others?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Have I quit "replaying" my revenge? (How I'm going to get even.)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Have I stopped frequently thinking about him and what he did?  
(Replaying "your song", etc...)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Am I glad when something good happens to him?
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Am I (more) (still) open and trusting toward people?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Am I less angry, depressed or bitter?
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Have I quit blaming him for how my life has become?
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Do I feel sorry when something bad happens to him?
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Do I feel more comfortable with my feelings?

If you answered "no" to two or more of these questions, it is likely that there is still some forgiveness work to be done.



# HEART TO HEART

## Letters



*I've decided to include a variety of letters to give you some insight into some of the needs that exist out there in the dancer outreach....  
and some of the complaints that we get in our new endeavor.  
The one below is from a fellow ministry worker in Oklahoma City  
who is in need of some assistance.*

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Titus. I am involved in an outreach similar in spirit to what you are doing. Our ministry is in a nightclub in Oklahoma City. We have seen God work in amazing ways to bring people out of the darkness. The Body here is comprised of broken people whom God is using and transforming into His image. Many are former drug dealers, addicts, alcoholics, exotic dancers, churched and unchurched, etc.

I am specifically involved in leading the singles ministry. We are seeing God do supernatural work in our group as we unite under His spirit. The guys in the group have wonderful discipleship, comradery, and several mature, experienced men to mentor them. However, the ladies are lacking in that area. Some of them are former and active exotic dancers. I don't have the ability, as a young man, to meet their needs adequately. They need Godly women to mentor and counsel them. I was wondering if you might be willing to correspond with me in giving suggestions on where to find the women we need. Your experience and insight would be most welcome.

Thanks for your time and for all you are doing in allowing yourselves to be channels of God's grace in an arena largely abandoned to the darkness.

Titus


*The following is a letter and an account of some of the interesting encounters we are beginning to experience as we reach out to the youth of our community. The mindset seems to be something similar to what we encountered when LIGHTDANCERS first began reaching out to the dancers..... only in a conservative, Midwestern, Bible belt kinda way.*

Hi my name is Travis,

Hey this is Trav and I was at your club the other night and found something very disturbing!!!! I walked in Having heard this was a Christian hang out and wanting to find out more. so I got a bunch of friends together and we came down and to our amazement we walk into a place that is filled with worldly RAP music. Now don't get me wrong, I like rap music as much as the next guy but I am also a Christian and I know for a fact that there is plenty of CHRISTIAN RAP and ROCK and everything to go around that you don't need to play secular music. I was just wondering why this is and why if the Mirage is a Christian hang out why there was no Christian music being played? I'm not trying to dog on your place one ounce, it was just an honest question from a Christian dude from Wellington that is longing for the Youth of Wellington to have a place where they can go and hang out and hear about God and have a good time. I for one would never ask my Sunday school class or youth group to come to a place that claims to be Christian but plays ungodly music. Thank you and I hope to here from you soon.

Jesus Loves you





*And then there is Travis....Travis pretty much represents what we are already experiencing from a few of the local churches. He first came in with his buddy Mike while we were working on the building one day before we opened Mirage. They thought it was still a bar. He never mentioned that he was a youth group leader, nor did Mike mention that he had a band that day when we walked them through the building and shared with them our vision. Then on our first DJ night they showed up with a handful of people, did a walk through and left after about 15 minutes. Next thing I know, here's this email in my inbox!*

*What we have chosen to do with Mirage is a bit unconventional, especially for these parts. The concept however, is to meet the kids on their own turf. We don't want to recreate a church environment, do what the local youth groups are doing, or mimic the local Rec Dept. We want to give the kids something that is as unique as they are. Had Travis walked in any other day of the week, he would indeed have heard Christian music being played, hardcore Christian music, but Christian music none the less. And when we bring bands into play, 95% of them are Christian also. However, on our DJ night we turn the music selection over to the DJ. That particular night was our very first dance and we had engaged the services of a local 16 year old DJ who did a great job. We choose to do this in an effort to establish relationship with the kids as we meet them on their level. That doesn't mean playing Christian music at a dance. That means playing their music, what they commonly listen to, (cleaned up enough to be acceptable where necessary). But guess what? As we soon learned, you can't please everybody and most people around these parts just don't get it.*

*And if you're wondering, I never did answer the email. It fired me up so much that I wanted to wait until I had my emotions in check before answering it. Meantime, we got a request from a band who didn't have a promo pack they could send us so that we could sample their music, so they offered to come down and play for us. It was Mike's group! Suddenly the guys who stuck their noses in the air that night are essentially offering to audition to play at Mirage! Go figure! And lo and behold, there was Travis who came out to support the band! So, Travis and Tony and I got to have a face to face discussion regarding our viewpoints. In the end, we walked away agreeing to disagree. God calls us all to minister in a variety of ways. Let's face it, LIGHTDANCERS has been ministering on the edge for years, why should things be any different now? Unfortunately, most Christians continue to remain a separate, seemingly exclusive clique who are all too often, unrelatable to the very people they are called to minister to.*



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### The Will of God

*The will of God will never take you,  
Where the grace of God cannot keep you,  
Where the arms of God cannot support you,  
Where the riches of God cannot supply your needs,  
Where the power of God cannot endow you.*

*The will of God will never take you,  
Where the Spirit of God cannot work through you,  
Where the wisdom of God cannot teach you,  
Where the army of God cannot protect you,  
Where the hands of God cannot mold you.*

*The will of God will never take you,  
Where the love of God cannot enfold you,  
Where the mercies of God cannot sustain you,  
Where the peace of God cannot calm your fears,  
Where the authority of God cannot overrule for you.*

*The will of God will never take you,  
Where the comfort of God cannot dry your tears,  
Where the Word of God cannot feed you,  
Where the miracles of God cannot be done for you,  
Where the omnipresence of God cannot find you.*

*~Author Unknown~*



# A FUNNY

## As The Years Go By

You know you are living in 2006 when....

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
- 7 Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)
- 12 You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list

# THE BULLETIN BOARD

## What's New For You?

### White As Snow

**White As Snow Ministries** is a faith-based ministry which is currently organized through the [Kalkaska Church Of Christ/Christian](#) in northern Michigan by founder Rebecca McDermont. Our ministry is based on the Bible verse taken from Isaiah 1:18-20

We are currently reaching out to individuals that work in the sex related industry. Our goal and desire is to help them leave the industry if they have the desire to do so. We want to teach and/or train them how to reestablish themselves by obtaining new employment. We also realize that some individuals will need help with daycare, housing, utilities, transportation, counseling, substance abuse treatment, sex and porn addiction, post-abortion syndrome, pregnancy, adoption, domestic violence, financial aide, among other things so we work with other organizations and professionals to supply them with the help that they need.

We will also work with individuals that have a desire to leave the industry but that feel they can't leave at the present time. We will help them establish a budget with the money that they are currently making and teach them how to "save money" so that they can set a goal to leave the business when they feel secure enough to do so. We also make ourselves available to them as friends and mentors. They don't have to do this alone.

We are in the process of developing programs for sex industry workers that will address issues that plague their lives. Our desire is to work with our current court systems and police departments by receiving referrals from them as well.

**White As Snow's** ultimate goal is to have a home that women and children can come to for healing, safety and restoration during their transitional period.

White As Snow  
c/o Kalkaska Church of Christ  
152 S. Cedar St.  
P.O. Box 757  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
231-357-0581  
Becky McDermont



~ 4 Sarah Inc. ~

**4Sarah, Inc.** is a nonprofit organization that empowers change in the life direction of women and girls working in the sex industry as a stripper, prostitute, escort or victim of sexual exploitation.

**Kasey McClure**, a former dancer herself, formed **4Sarah** in 2005 and has established 2 outreach teams that have 15 volunteers. The team participates in monthly outreaches to women and girls working inside the strip clubs. **4Sarah** has provided over 1,600 gift bags, 400 red roses and served 10 home cooked meals during the Thanksgiving Holidays to the entire strip club staff. The Outreach team also reaches out through random calls to women and girls that post ads as prostitutes on Craigslist under their adult service page.

**OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Builds trusting and non-judgmental relationships with women and girls working in the sex industry as strippers, prostitutes, escorts or victims of sexual exploitation through outreaches into their work environment.

**INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

Connects women and girls seeking to exit the sex industry with a system of care.

**CHRISTIAN LIFE COACH PROGRAM**

Connects women and girls working in or seeking to exit the sex industry with committed relationships with concerned appropriate adult women.

**AFTERCARE PROGRAM**

Seeks to maintain healthy connections with women and girls who have successfully transition out of the sex industry.

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Desires to offer scholarships(*when funding is available*)to women and girls who want to exit the sex industry and who seek continuing education or new job skills training.

(This program is only available to women and girls actively participating in our Christian Life Coach Program.)

**4Sarah, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 82685**  
**Conyers, GA 30013**

**Intervention Hotline: (404) 312-6793**

**Email: [4Sarahinc@bellsouth.net](mailto:4Sarahinc@bellsouth.net)**

# SCRIPTURES TO STAND ON

## My Identity In Christ

I AM the salt of the earth.

*(Matthew 5:13)*

I AM the light of the world.

*(Matthew 5:14)*

I AM a child of God.

*(John 1:12)*

I AM Christ's friend.

*(John 15:5)*

I AM chosen and appointed by Christ to bear His fruit.

*(John 15:16)*

I AM a slave of righteousness.

*(Romans 6:18)*

I AM a joint heir with Christ, sharing His inheritance with Him.

*(Romans 8:17)*

I AM a temple-a dwelling place-of God. His spirit and His life dwell in me.

*(I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19)*

I AM united to the Lord and am one spirit with Him.

*(I Corinthians 6:17)*

I AM a member of Christ's body.

*(I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:30)*

I AM a new creation.

*(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

I AM a saint.

*(Ephesians 1:1; I Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:21)*

I AM God's workmanship-His handiwork-born anew in Christ to do His work.

*(Ephesians 2:10)*

I AM a fellow citizen with the rest of God's Family.

*(Ephesians 2:19)*

I AM righteous and holy.

*(Ephesians 4:24)*

I AM a citizen of Heaven.

*(Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:16)*

I AM chosen of God, holy and dearly loved.

*(Colossians 3:12; Thessalonians 1:4)*

I AM a son of light and not of darkness.

*(I Thessalonians 5:5)*

I AM a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession.

*(I Peter 2:9-10)*

I AM an enemy of the devil.

*(I Peter 5:8)*

I AM a child of God and I will resemble Christ when He returns.

*(I John 3:1-2)*

I AM born of God, and the evil one-the devil-cannot touch me.

*(I John 5:18)*

I AM not the great "I AM" (Exodus 3:14; John 8:25, 28, 58), but by the Grace of God, I am what I am.

*(I Corinthians 15:10)*





## FROM ME TO YOU

### True Warrior

At 42, as a Christian, I got my first tattoo. It was a beautiful piece of art created by a dear friend of mine, though not for me, I connected with it when I saw it I think, in part, because it reminded me of my son's artwork and the flame work that he had perfected in his teenage years of drawing. The design was relatively simple. A heart, surrounded by tribal art and a blue flame bursting from the top. To the center of the heart, I added the word "passion" in Aramaic. To me it represented the heart of God, extending out to each of us in a unique way. The blue flame representing the fact that God's love burns eternally. Including the word "passion" was my personal reminder that it is my passion for Christ that drives me in life. I placed it on my upper thigh for my own private viewing. But I liked it so much I soon followed it with a second one of nearly the same design! Only this time I drove a battleaxe entwined with a vine through the heart! The battleaxe, a weapon of war, representing me buried in the heart of God with the vine, Jesus, wrapped about me. This one I emblazoned on my shoulder to be worn as my warriors badge to the world! I haven't gotten another one since.

I've endured such a tremendous barrage of enemy fire in recent years that have honed my skills as a warrior. Not one of the flesh naturally, but a warrior of the spirit. My weapons have been my Bible, prayer, fasting, love, patience, diligence, suffering and joy. What a strange arsenal! I have been challenged, tested, worn down and beaten up. I have suffered momentary defeat and danced in the joy of victory. I have been humbled tremendously and exalted uncomfortably. I have become unraveled as my human element has reared it's ugly head. But somewhere amidst the storms that have raged and swirled about me, I have in time, sought and found peace unexplainable and a greater trust in the One who goes before me.

Sometimes the war becomes overwhelming and it wraps you in it's clutches and tries to squeeze the life out you. But it can't. Still, you walk away not quite right. In those moments you come away with some strange form of PTSD that rears it's head in undesirable ways and in inconvenient moments. It comes in ways of silence, of regret, of ranting negatively about the ways and times of war. And it will last as long as you allow it, for it is just another tactic of the enemy as he wages the final blow in the battlefield of your mind. But our response is to silence him! To silence him immediately! And to remind ourselves of what God reminded me one night. And that is this....

*A warrior, a true warrior, does not keep silent, nor does he speak negative about the problems in the battle, his leader, or his issues with his fellow warriors. No, a true warrior speaks of the victories he has witnessed and the way in which God miraculously brought those victories about. He is jovial and excited in his telling of how his leader led him into battle and fought the good fight alongside of him to the benefit of those they were defending.*

This is to be our response! Not that we should brag in our own right, but that we should boast at what the Lord has done. At the victory that He alone has brought. Tales that should be told unto our dying day and continued to be told by those who knew of the battle and the One for which they fought so that they might be handed down through the ages. For it is not the warrior who is great, but the Leader whom he follows into battle that makes sweet the victory and great the tale of overcoming the wiles of the enemy.

# REFLECTIONS

## Transition

*There are scary places one can be in life. Most of the scariest involve change. Change of a job. Change of residence. Change in a relationship. Change in finances. Change in health. Change in family. And yet at the same time, it can also be one of the most exciting times in a life. How is that?*

*If change is part of your future, it is generally because there is a need on some level that is not being met. How easy it is to listen to the woes of your friend regarding a situation that may have her world in turmoil. From the outside looking in, it is often very easy to see what needs to be done to effect the situation for the better. But when you are sitting in the hot seat, it's not always so clear. As a matter of fact, it's usually pretty foggy from that vantage point because emotions are usually invested and more often than not they tend to cloud the line between what is and what needs to be.*

*Change has been a word that I have I've come face to face with my husband's changes, which brought about financial residence and changes in family. I've taking a stand, and by divorce. I've well as by my own inability to make that changes needed to be made.*

*become very familiar with in the last 8 years. health issues which brought about career changes, which brought about changes in had changes brought about by death, by faced changes due to the choices of others as choices when it should have been obvious Through it all I've discovered two things:*

*1. The need for change and it's unto itself. In other words, other domino effect. Things that you may interconnected are, and aspects that consider, will be effected. This is thing and sometimes, very much be prepared that one change will on other levels*

*facilitation does not stand as an island changes follow. It's like a not think are you don't often not necessarily a bad needed, but you have to probably require change*



*And*

*2. That when there is change in any given situation, you have to allow yourself time for transition. If you don't, the potential benefit of the change may be thwarted by your own inability to give yourself time to adjust, not only to the initial change but to those changes that are interconnected as well.*

*The fact is that change will more than likely initiate fear. It is a natural response to things we aren't familiar with. But the real problems start when we allow that fear to immobilize us. Change, transition, it's all about propelling us forward into new and hopefully healthy things in life. But*

when we allow fear to take hold of our ability to change, we begin the process of resisting and can not only fall into stagnation, but also become so frozen by our fear of the unknown that it then begins to cripple our ability to make the smallest choices for ourselves. But the good news is that the Bible tells us how to handle our fear!

*"Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."*

*Deuteronomy 31:6*

The transition period gives us the time we need to conquer and adapt to those things we fear, to those things that are suddenly new, to those things that we knew not of. It gives us time to prepare for the change as best as we are capable of. It gives us time to get in the groove of living within the change. It gives us time to reconcile our emotions to what the change brings into our lives. It gives us time to let go of the old and time to learn how to embrace the new. It gives us time to breath.

When I began to conceive of the concept of switching gears with **LIGHTDANCERS**, it was overwhelming. There were so many things that needed to be considered. So many things that needed to be altered. So many things that needed to be accounted for. I was but one person working in concert with God. But to undertake the vision He was imparting to me through the lives of those around me, would require help and participation from others. Where does one begin? Like the creation of a good spaghetti sauce I let it simmer...in my spirit that is. And while the idea of this change and all that I thought was needed to undertake it was simmering, God began to show me different things that assured me He was in it and that I had no need to fear. Doing this gave me time to transition into what would be required to see it through. It also gave Him time to do what He needed to do in the lives of those people who would become part of this vision.

Change is a decision, sometimes yours, sometimes brought about by the decisions of others. Transition is a choice of how to spend the time between in order to best adapt to the change. They are both meant to move you forward into a new place in your life. Change should never be undertaken without the allowance of transition. The greatest thing you can give yourself is time, as it is the one thing in life that can never be replaced. Transition is that gift of time. Sometimes, depending on what the change is and how it was facilitated may make it difficult to see the situation that brings the need for transition as a gift. But gifts aren't always packaged in the ways that we think they ought to be. Sometimes they look pretty strange. Sometimes they look more like a nightmare come to life. But rest assured, it's all perspective and in the end, if you allow yourself the gift of time that transition brings, you will find that you have much to be thankful for.

*"In everything give thanks:  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."  
1 Thessalonians 5:18*

*With Love,  
Lisanne*

# FROM DARK TO LIGHT

## Poetry

### Out of Sync

Why is it so difficult for me to take this first step out?  
Out of my world?  
Out of my comfort zone?  
Out of myself?  
Can't go back....  
there's nothing to go back to.  
Don't know where forward runs into.  
Can't see what it all looks like.  
Don't know what to expect.  
Can't judge it.  
Can't gauge it.  
Gotta find a new space.  
A new place.  
A new moment to begin.  
What does it look like?  
What does it taste like?  
Is it bigger than me?  
Younger than me?  
Older than me?  
Like a square peg in a round hole,  
I only fit when I turn sideways.  
Some days.  
No ways.  
I loose sight of what life is.  
I lost sight of what I am.  
And time flies while I stand still.  
Revolving around me in never ending circles that leave me out of  
sync.  
Out of rhyme.  
Out of time with all I see.  
Can't quite define  
what life should be  
anymore.  
Hold it close.  
Turn it loose.  
Immerse myself in it's abuse.

11/25/05

### GOD

God, give me grace.  
Just enough to bind up my fragile heart  
Next time I see his face.

God, give me mercy.  
Just enough to spare me deeper heartache  
So I don't have to see.

God, give me Your love.  
That I might forfeit my own  
To exchange it for Yours.

God, give me patience.  
When the days are long, and the nights, longer still,  
that nothing would be as insatiable as Your will.

God, give me joy.  
That I would rejoice in Your plan  
As you turn an indecisive boy into a spirit filled man.

God, give me praise.  
Never ceasing, every night ~ every day  
I lay down my wants in favor of Your ways.

God, give me peace.  
No more warring within  
That the desire of my flesh would cease to exist.

God, give me strength.  
To stand when the cold wind blows  
And embrace only what from the start You have known.

God, give me victory.  
In the silence.  
In the solitude.  
In the laughter.  
In all that I can't see.

11/7/05

To dream  
is to see the  
reality of  
what could be  
if only  
we were not limited  
by the waking moments  
of our mind.