

Flowing In Ministry: Diana Strickland



Diana Strickland is one who God has been using to spread His word in many ways. Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Diana is an author and the founder of Believertobe.com. Ms. Strickland, 29 years-old and divorced, admits that there was a time when she lived her life by her own

choices and although she grew up knowing Christ, she had yet to fully surrendered her life to him. ***"I knew that God could give me a better life than what I was living. One day I woke up and surrendered my life to God. I was tired of running and needed him desperately."*** Once giving her life over to the Lord, Diana was able to share situations from her past, without reliving the pain. God had healed all her wounds and she started writing her testimony in the form of poetry. She realized her gift for writing and began focusing on publishing a book. Once reaching about 21 poems Diana felt she was ready to publish her work but soon found out that poetry was not a big seller for publishers. After many rejections, Diana began looking into other means of publishing but still planned to celebrate the completion of her book. In the meantime, life for Diana was about to take a new direction.

At the end of 2007 she was terminated from her job as a Tenancy Manager. Although she was working a second job at a hotel, she knew that would not be enough to cover her cost of living. However, knowing that God was with her, Diana continued to press forward with all that she was doing, her release party, taking bible courses as well as beginning the research stage for starting the Believer To Believer website.

In the beginning of 2008 God placed in Diana's spirit to continue to write and so she did. Several months of being unemployed had gone by and she was no longer working the second job, Diana at that point had become real heartbroken. She was diligently seeking work to no avail, none the less, the eviction notices and shut off letters were pouring in. With tears flowing, she would write down her emotions and comfort herself with the word of God each night. ***"Before I would go to sleep I would get into the word of God and Jesus would speak to me and give me comfort and peace. Poems such as Patience and Heirs Of God, are poems written when God responded to my pain and gave me what I needed."***

Later in 2008 a classmate referred Diana to a temporary position at a law office. Upon the interview

with one of the partners it was discovered that Diana worked with his son some years back at the property she used to manage and she was offered the job which, ironically, was in the evictions department. ***"Here I am working in evictions all while enduring my own eviction,"*** Diana recalls thinking at the time. It was during her short time working at the law office that the Lord led her to start looking again for publishers. She came across PublishAmerica who agreed to publish her book. She needed 50 poems in order for them to print the book and since she had continued to write as she was instructed, she had exactly that amount.

In 2008 her book ***Mercies of God*** was published and the Believer To Believer website was completed.

"The title of the book Mercies Of God was given to me after asking God for the title. I prayed, read the bible and "mercies of God" appeared several times in the scripture I was reading and I said ok Jesus, this will be the name of the book. The poems are very honest and bold. I am confessing my failures, sins, confusion, grief, rededication, and more."

In 2009 Diana moved into a shelter and the Daily Record, (a newspaper based in New Jersey where Diana now resides) did a full article about her.

Since then Diana has moved out of the shelter and is living in a apartment and currently still seeking a full time job.

"I am looking for employment knowing that God has perfect work for me. I'm still going through the process with joy and being content wherever I am. In the midst of my test and trials God has still enabled me to share my testimony with many. He's orchestrated for me to be in the Daily Record, a guest on a gospel radio station in New Jersey, featured in Kingdom Living, and I'm filming next week to introduce the book and website."

"I am trusting and have faith in the Lord. I know that what he started in me he will finish. I am glad to go through whatever test and trials Christ needs for me to go through. I look back and realize this part had to be included. I've learned so much through my storms and received so many blessings and favor. I love Jesus and I know that he loves me. I love the good things he's done in me and for me."

Check out BelieverToBeliever.com!

You can purchase *Mercies of God* by visiting PublishAmerica.com, BarnesandNoble.com or Amazon.com

Email: BelieverToBeliever@live.com

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