

~ My Joy-at-Work Journey ~



Dear One,

Greetings in His most precious name.

It is only now in 2023 as I look back that I realize that my Revelation 2:17 Whitestone of Joy at Work started at age 2.5 in my little *kindergarten* school. Totally unaware at that time of what was happening. We were a class of about 20 and I was left in charge of my classmates as Teacher Paulette ran quickly to the market. I had no issues keeping my fellow baby kids together. They respected me and did as I asked. Upon her return and after dismissing the class, she and I would have her freshly-cooked soup as she asked me how the kids behaved and also imparted knowledge to me that made me a leader at that tender age. But now I recall how joyful it all was for me. I felt such love for her and my classmates. I could not wait to get to school the next day!

Then there was *primary* school where the Headmistress singled me out again. Between ages 5-10, I was respected by my classmates. They treated me more like a teacher than a friend. Again, totally unaware of what was happening, I felt such love for my teachers and fellow students. I was the one they came to for counsel and guidance. I excelled in school without even knowing it as learning was not even my focus. I knew I had some purpose there and liked it. I loved going to school each day. I felt like a young leader on a mission. A daily joy for me.

Then there was *high school*. Again, the leadership continued as again, I became the one many came to for guidance, support, counsel. By then it seemed normal to play the priest role in school drama or to be the mother or the concert director. Then at age 15, I asked to keep the Catholic teachings going when the government took over. At that same time, I was growing as a strong leader in my Catholic Church – the youngest to distribute communion and with a catechism class of 102 by the time I was age 12. Some of my students were older than me. I carried the banner of the Church Saint with such pride. Old and young approached me with awe and respect. I was like a child in the body of an older person. I loved each day of my high school and church with such joy. Since then, whether or not I was allowed to be in a church, God provided all the teachings He wanted me to have through others and directly through His voice. Whether or not I had the finances, He saw me through all my further schooling to university. There is no lack in Him.

Started my first job as teacher at age 17 at one of the most challenging schools by choice ... by then I felt I was fully ready to take on the world of problems with the confidence I could handle it all. I realized I was truly not as ready as I thought but this did not keep me back. I organized a concert with students that many condemned. The concert was a total success. Many realized these kids had lots of hidden talents. Our concert paid for the many broken windows and doors. I was excited to awake to another day of teaching and working with the kids. Shortly after, at age 17+, my sister passed and my mother became ill. I took over her school and ran it for one year until she was better – teaching 6 subjects and outsourcing *Shorthand* that I did not know.

I went on to serve another 44 years in Diplomatic and Foreign Services, Government, Church, Education, Business and NGOs from cleaning the floors to Coordinator, Supervisor, Faculty, Dean, Director, Vice President and President.

Earning from \$1.00 USD per hour to quarter million USD per year. But it did not matter which work it was or what I earned, I enjoyed it all. Some assignments were short and some were very long but each carried purpose with lifelong relationships. I enjoyed all of them. I know now I

was at each with purpose to transform lives in one way or the other. The road was not always smooth but purposeful always. I saw the fruits of my labor in each work journey.

Around 2009, I had the joy of learning more formally about Joy at Work (JAW) that I realized I was living all along. I was told by my leaders to make it my own. I did. This is the beauty of JAW – many can own this but personalize it as God whispers your Whitestone to you (Revelation 2:17). In this way no two JAW callings will ever be the same since that vision He whispers is only for you! I then traveled and taught JAW for some 15 years. I saw it as a fountain of life from which some 7,500 from about 26 countries drank. Today, I listen with joy as I hear of the many who are living this Joy-at-Work message through their calling and purpose. Our Daily Work for God's Daily Walk - through Love, Respect and Support for each other.

Today, in 2023, I have found my happiest year in all of my life's journey. I am exactly where I ever dreamt of being in my relationship with God in His full Trinity. It is an ongoing walk – one of learning and living. It continues on from glory to glory. It is only now that I can truly confirm that this Joy-at-Work journey is my Whitestone (Revelation 2:17). Called to work for God through His walk. Moving as He moves, pausing as He pauses. A desire to be only where His feet are daily. A commitment to be the human body that the Trinity chose to give to us.

This does not mean that my life's journey was an easy one. Pain, disappointment, illnesses, death experiences, low finances, failure and so forth. But each experience grew me spiritually stronger. As such, I embraced each and would not have it any other way. I learned how to see God in all of my walk. Once I focused on His face, the rest became nonexistent. I truly lived the words of the song: "When I look into your Holiness, when I gaze into your loveliness, all things that surround me become shadows in the light of You."

He provided relationships and all resources needed for my journey. I am eternally grateful to all who played and continue to play roles in my walk. I cherish each. I am so thankful to have learned that He takes care of His projects through budgets that match His calling. From cents to dollars to thousands to millions. I had all I needed for what I felt called to do for Him. Lacking nothing. I continue to reach out as He provides. The secret is learning that we own nothing. We are given what we need to steward for His work then it is gone when the work is done. Yet He keeps us well ensuring our daily needs are met.

As I now transition in my Joy-at-Work (JAW) journey from formal JAW training to writing as He leads, the joy continues on. After months of retreat in 2022, I learned the deep meaning of quieting our mind, body and spirit as we prepare ourselves for the true meaning of revelation. It is merely the end of the old world and the beginning of the new world as God comes forth in His full reign here on earth with His Son and His Holy Spirit. He is preparing and placing His loved ones in positions globally. But this is being done with two clear messages: we cannot do it without the Holy Spirit as David's cry in Psalm 51:11 and when we do, we give all of the Glory to God for He will not give this glory to another as shared in Isaiah 42:8.

I keep listening and sharing and look forward to hearing from you too. He is working through His Bride like never before. Oh joy!

Love, D

