

A Season of Influence for the Women of God

In the coldest days of winter, when it gets dark early, we wait for spring. Spring is a time for life-giving rain and new growth. It's a re-awakening, a Revival of something we've seen and experienced in the past. It's a time of wonder, beauty and new life. We long for it. And it is here.

Revival is happening in our own spirits as well. Like Christ's followers waiting for the Holy Spirit to fall on them at Pentecost, we also have a keen sense of expectation. Things are ramping up in the unseen realm. Intercessors and worshippers of the Most High God are crying out: "Come Holy Spirit. We're here, we're waiting and we want to do your will."

At this time in history, the enemy is still killing the most vulnerable among us. Erin shares some tragic examples of this, particularly suicide among our youth, the killing of our innocents through abortion and the ravages of human trafficking. The Lord needs us to share His message of life and love and take action to help them before it is too late.

God puts women in places of authority for a reason. More than 2400 years ago, Queen Esther courageously cooperated with Him to save her people. Erin will talk about embracing our own identity and authority in Christ, standing beside our brothers in Christ and advancing into the present darkness. As Jane Hansen-Hoyt wrote in her book, *Master Plan*, "The world will not fully see Jesus until the foundation of His house, the God-intended partnership between male and female, is fully repaired." Haggai the prophet talked about the House of God being a priority, and the need to "Work!"

As women, we have great influence in the Kingdom of God, in service to the young and vulnerable among us. Erin will highlight some of the women who have made their mark in history:

- The Queen Mothers of Judah, particularly Bathsheba, the mother of King Solomon, and Abijah, the mother of King Hezekiah.
 - Dorothy Ripley, a single woman, an evangelist in the late 1700's and early 1800's. She endured fierce opposition to be obedient to her call, and became the first woman to preach before the U.S. Congress.
 - Harriet Beecher Stowe, who wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which vividly portrays the evils of slavery. It was during the 2nd Great Awakening. Her work was a call for Americans to repent of apathy and neglect. It has been called the most influential book of her century besides the Bible, "a moral battle call for freedom."
 - Mother Graham, Billy Graham's mother. A devoted Christian and a "Biblical quote factory," she raised her son to be the same. An avid supporter of Martin Luther King Jr., Billy Graham opposed segregation and preached the Gospel. In his ministry, his audience exceeded an estimated 2.2 billion people.
- We also can make our mark on history. When we live what love is, miracles happen!

God may grant us another Great Awakening. Yet as an essential part of this, we need to face up to the need to combat evil right here in our community—now, without delay. Graham Cooke exhorts us to assume that God is giving us a green light, unless He stops us. We need to advance into the darkness and support those who are doing the same; He has our backs. We serve a God of limitless possibilities and infinite love.

The presentation will end with Erin's original, fictional monologue written in the voice of Queen Esther of Susa, many years after her history-making choice. She is speaking to her daughter, who is engaged to be married to the ruler of another province, about the duties of royalty. Esther describes how the God of Israel revived her spirit and gave her the courage to obey Him, no matter what the cost, for such a time as this.

Erin Bergstrom – Writer, Public Speaker and Evangelist - Founder of Morning Sky Ministries
erin@morningskyministries.org - 970.691.0320 - P.O. Box 7545, Loveland, CO 80537

Note: Erin is dedicated to sharing these truths in lively and meaningful ways. She incorporates relevant music and other audio/visuals in her presentations. She wants to collaborate with your leaders and will customize the content to the needs of your group.

