



# SHEILA B. MINISTRIES

MINISTERING TO WOMEN IN ALL SEASONS OF LIFE

[www.sheilab.org](http://www.sheilab.org)  
Thanksgiving Issue 2012

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## "AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE"



The song lyrics from Hezekiah Walker's hit song read: "I am grateful for the things that you have done; I am grateful for the victories we've won. I could go on and on and on about your works, because I'm grateful, grateful, so grateful just to praise you Lord. Flowing from my heart, are the issues of my heart....it's gratefulness." On behalf of Sheila B. Ministries, we pause during this Thanksgiving season to say how grateful we are for your continued support over these past few years. We have a lot for which to be grateful. This year, because of you, we have experienced the expansion of the STAND conference to STAND Houston. In addition, Sheila B. has traveled from coast to coast, visiting many of you, while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in conferences, workshops and many other venues. Most recently, she shared at the *Just Give Me Jesus Revival* in my hometown of Augusta, GA.

We hope you will enjoy this Thanksgiving edition of the Sheila B. Ministries' E-Newsletter. In this edition, you will find some of the exciting things that have been happening in the life of Sheila B. Ministries. Enjoy the thought provoking column on Thanksgiving written by Rev. Dr. Patricia Hunter of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Seattle, WA. In addition, we have shared highlights from STAND Houston, STAND Dallas and the Just Give Me Jesus Revival. Sheila B. Ministries is GRATEFUL.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
**Michelle Williams**  
Sheila B. E-Newsletter, Editor

## Celebrating Thanksgiving By Rev. Dr. Patricia Hunter



Thanksgiving is a holiday that all Americans can celebrate regardless of faith tradition, political persuasion, age, or occupation. Even atheists can gather around a table with friends and family and find meaning in Thanksgiving. For people of faith, Thanksgiving reminds us of God's faithfulness. God blesses us not because we are good, kind, and loving, but just because God can. It is all about grace.

It may be my imagination, but it feels that Thanksgiving gets less attention than it used to. If it were not for the four day weekend that many look forward to, Thanksgiving would be the forgotten holiday between Halloween and Christmas. Retailers are quick to dismantle the Halloween decorations and put up Christmas trees, lights, and blow up Santas.

I like Thanksgiving and Christmas, but I am partial towards Thanksgiving. On Thanksgiving, I get to hone my culinary skills, and practice the gift of hospitality to those I love and see much too infrequently. The bonus is that on Thanksgiving, I do not have to wrap a single gift!

There is a high likelihood that at some point during large family get-togethers, conversations will get animated and voices elevated. Some families avoid this by having an unspoken rule against talking about religion or politics. Whatever your family norms, the opportunity to see our loved ones overrides the risk of an occasional family feud.

For those of us whose faith is central to our lives, it is impossible to ignore God's goodness during this sacred season of Thanksgiving. God is going to come up at the family gathering and not just while blessing the food. Someone is going to shout hallelujah in between the turkey and dressing and the macaroni and cheese.

As friends and family gather around the table, it will be

hard to refrain from a postmortem of the recent election. After two years of political discourse regarding who is best suited to occupy the White House, governors' mansions, and local offices, the people have finally spoken. Although the people have spoken via voting boxes, conversations are not yet finished. It is highly likely that in between the ham, green beans, and the sweet potato pie, politics will come up.

While we will have differing opinions about politics, hopefully we can all agree that we live in a great country and we thank God for those who gave their lives so we could have a voice and a vote.

All of us of can think of something we are thankful for. During this slow economic recovery, we may not have as much as we would like or what we used to have, but many of us still have plenty. Even though we may be forced to pinch pennies, we can choose to be grateful for the few pennies we have.

The holidays are often stressful. They become even more stressful when we put pressure on ourselves and others to re-create holidays of yesteryear. We can have wonderful memories of holidays gone by, but those days will not return. We can still have wonderful holidays, but they will be fashioned out of this year's desires, challenges, joys and sorrows.

Those who have teetered on the edge of sanity and survival and landed safely, have to witness to those going through trials that life will get better. Give thanks this season for friends and family who love you through good times and bad. Give thanks for health, strength, and daily provisions. And remember to give thanks for that cloud of witnesses who may no longer sit around our Thanksgiving tables, but whose presence is still felt in our hearts.

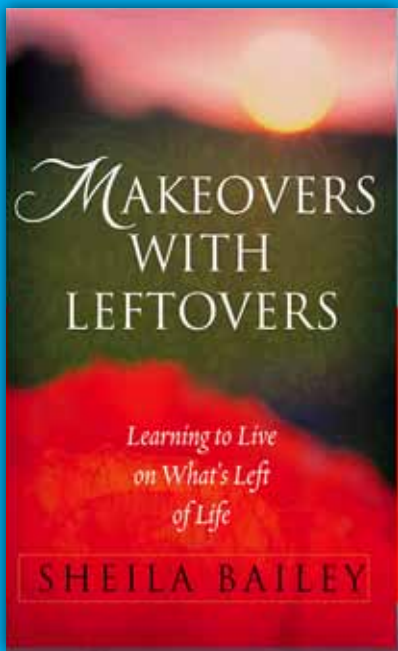


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## S.T.A.N.D. EXPANDS!

By Tina Robertson

October 13, 2012 will forever mark a very important time in the life of Sheila B. Ministries. It was on this day that the S.T.A.N.D. (Sisters Touching Assisting Networking with Dignity) conference officially became a "national" conference! The S.T.A.N.D. conference began in Dallas, Texas in 1997 to minister to the spiritual needs of women, many of whom would accompany their spouses to the E.K. Bailey Int'l Expository Preaching Conference. In recent years, the S.T.A.N.D. conference grew in numbers and in name recognition, serving women in all stages and ages of life. When Sheila B. Ministries, Inc. was birthed in 2009, God began to increase the vision for serving women through S.T.A.N.D. and simultaneously, he began to increase the faith of his called-visionary, Dr. Sheila Bailey. As she talked with the Lord, and later shared with her family, confidants and her ministry board, it was evident that God was up to something, and it was larger than Dallas, Texas! It was time for S.T.A.N.D. to expand!

God had a plan and His plan included a generous offer from Pastor S.J. Gilbert, II and his wonderful church, the Mount Sinai Baptist Church (MSBC) of Houston, Texas. They agreed to host the first S.T.A.N.D. one-day, expansion conference at their lovely church home. Because of their generosity and hospitality, not only did S.T.A.N.D. expand...it exploded! With approximately 200

women attending from the local Houston area—many from partner churches of Sheila B. Ministries--S.T.A.N.D. would never be the same again. The conference opened with a time of praise and worship which was so powerfully and ably led by Minister Gaye Arbuckle, national recording artist and Minister of Worship at the Concord Church in Dallas, Texas. The featured speakers, all of which are gifted and dynamic teachers in their own right, included Dr. Sheila B. and her daughters, Shenikwa Bailey Cager and Cokiesha Bailey Robinson. Dr. Bailey taught about the importance of women STANDING in unity and love, as we serve God and his people. Shenikwa challenged each woman to STAND when her courage is being tested and is under fire, as she shared from the life of Rahab. Finally, Cokiesha ended the day on a high note of worship, as she helped each woman realize that the only way to STAND in moments of crisis is to have first fallen at the Savior's feet.

**So what did the participants have to say?** Pat Williams of Gethsamane Baptist Church in Houston attended the conference and when asked about her most memorable take-away from the day, she responded *"I was inspired by Rahab's story. It let me know that no matter what I have done, he will still be faithful to us, if we trust in him and honor his word."* Sis. Mary Andrews Paul from Greater

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church added that the story of Rahab helped remind her that God can save your entire family and she was inspired to hold on to her hope that God still saves families!

Another conference participant commented that the S.T.A.N.D. Houston conference was unique from other conferences because of the sisterhood she felt from all of the women that attended, even though they were from different churches. Sis. Bertha Dinkins, also of Greater Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Houston shared that she was excited about attending S.T.A.N.D. Houston from the time she saw it in her church bulletin. She candidly shared that she is not usually timely for church, and her pastor lovingly teases her about it. He told her that she wouldn't be on time for the conference. Well...Ms. Dinkins surprised a lot of people. She arrived at 7:45am for registration and called her pastor after she arrived to tell him that she was on time! And, she had such a great time that she stayed afterwards to share from her day's experience.

Praise God that He enlarges our territory and increases our borders. S.T.A.N.D. will never be the same again.

## S.T.A.N.D. Houston



## Just Give Me Jesus

By Sandra Jordan  
and Aquila Allen



It was a cool, sunny morning on September 22, 2012, as Sheila Bailey stood in the James Brown Arena, in Augusta, Georgia, ministering with Anne Graham Lotz at the Just Give Me Jesus Revival. The arena was filled with thousands of men and women worshipping and praising God. Sheila encouraged those in attendance to have the courage to cry out, the courage to obey, and the courage to continue. It was more than a time to enjoy the company of believers, but a time to thirst for God as the deer pants for the water. The focus of the session was on the more you confess that you need Christ, the more He draws you to Him. The closer you get to Him, the more satisfying His company is to you and the more you chase Him, the more He cherishes you. It assuredly led us to hear Jesus through prayer, whisper to us personally, that "whoever drinks of this water will never thirst again." Recording artist Babbie Mason's music was interwoven with Sheila's message; thus, drawing us even closer to God's presence. Sheila closed her message with a victory shout that rang throughout the arena. Passages such as Philippians 4:13 "I can do everything through him who gives me strength (NIV) and II Timothy 1:7 "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity"... (NIV) were shouted out by all. This was one of the most exciting prayer sessions ever held in the James Brown Arena. To view a simulcast of this dynamic women's revival, visit [www.annegrahamlotz.com](http://www.annegrahamlotz.com), select events, then JGMJesus Simulcast.

## S.T.A.N.D. Hand in Hand



S.T.A.N.D. Hand in Hand 2012 accentuated another great year for Sheila B. Ministries. Dallas, TX was not ready for the hundreds of women who assembled at the Fairmont Hotel to be refueled, refreshed, and replenished. As the women emerged at the end of the week, it was clear that lives had been changed.



S.T.A.N.D. is committed to ministering to women in "All seasons of life". In this year's interviews, you will see the seasons represented. We have a young woman who attended S.T.A.N.D. for the first time, we have Pastor's wives, and women in ministry who agreed to sit down and share their experiences relating to S.T.A.N.D. 2012. I asked each of the interviewees to identify their hometown, church affiliation, age, and what they enjoyed about S.T.A.N.D. Dallas 2012. Below are their answers.



Michelle Price was a first-time attendee from Bethany Baptist Church of Fort Worth, TX. She was especially blessed by "how God navigated the speakers to touch on what was going on personally or in the life of my church." She is excited about the resources and tools she will take back to help with ministry. She was so blessed that she will be paying her registration early.



Jocelyn Thomas was another first-timer from Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Newark, NJ where her husband is the senior pastor. She is a young 25 year old who left her 8-month old, for the first time, with the grandparents so that she might be refreshed at the S.T.A.N.D. conference. She stated that she enjoyed listening to the women share their personal experiences in the Sister Chats and that it was great to interact with women from all over the country.

Rev. Virgia Haynes from Unity Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church of Chicago, IL. is 62 years old and another first time attendee. She has received certification at the E.K. Bailey conference. She is now transitioning from youth ministry into Women's Ministry. She shared that she enjoyed the diversity of the workshops and especially appreciated the workshop on finances because "although we don't want to talk about it, we really need it."

Alene King from The Cities of Refuge in Dallas, TX. is a 56 year old pastor's wife who is enjoying her 5th year attending STAND. Although her church is experiencing a transition at this time, she is hopeful about taking the tools from S.T.A.N.D. to help rebuild their ministry.

As you can see, S.T.A.N.D. 2012 impacted many lives, of many women, in many different seasons.



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