# Sew Precious In His Sight



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# GOD ALWAYS HAS A PLAN "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." John 14:14



**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to show parents the love of Christ, especially at a time when their personal pain is hard to endure, and let them know that God is faithful. Through acts of obedience and donations, His work can and will continue. We pray that this ministry will have an impact far beyond our expectations.

**Our Purpose:** Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of newborns and tiny premature infants.



Threads of Love has been meeting the needs of parents for the past 25 years

I was so touched when I read these stories of a mom and grandma. I am sure there are many more like this that can be told. Please hear this mom's and grandma's hearts and know that you are making a difference with each item you take to the hospital.

#### From Amanda, the mom

Every year on July 16, time slows down and I open this box. Pictures of your little fingers and sweet face...I swear the blanket still holds your sweet baby smell...I remind myself in my brokenness that God's plan for you was never to be here with us—you were pure from the start. You opened your eyes and saw Jesus— what a precious gift for a grieving mom.

But still, I have to try so hard not to get caught up in false hopes of you getting ready to go to junior high or hearing you and your sister constantly fuss your brothers ... An unimaginative pain—missing someone you never got the chance to meet. But God knew we would only have you for a short time and that you would make us immensely appreciate this precious life we are given...that we would wrap ourselves up in each moment with our babies knowing any one of them could be the last.

You helped me find an unwarranted, unimaginable strength in myself. I have learned to willingly trust our God and His plan. You are with me every day I'm given, and I know it will only be a little while before I see those beautiful, open eyes greeting me at the gates with a smile.

Romans 8:18

Our present sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory that will be revealed in us.

Happy 11th birthday to my Hallie Marie.

From Tracy, the grandmother:

Eleven years ago I held you weighing in at 4 lbs 4 ozs and 19" long in my arms. Everyone else had gone up to the room to comfort your Mom and Dad. So it was just you and me. Although my heart hurt so much, it was like you were just

sleeping peacefully. We had some quiet time together as brief as it was and I was just so proud to be able to hold you knowing that you were in the arms of Our Heavenly Father. I felt such a peace and comfort that I can't explain because I knew that it wasn't just you and me in the room, Jesus was in the room with us. MeMe needed that! Fly High Baby Girl Hallie





## Please return form VIA US MAIL (no e-mail) along with payment to Sissy Davis, Director 27674 Lakeview Drive Walker, LA 70785 (225) 667-7714

# 2021

#### PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THREADS OF LOVE <u>PLEASE FILL IN ALL INFORMATION</u>

CHAPTER NAME:		
CHAPTER LEADER NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:ZIP:	
PHONE ()	EMAIL:	

# PLEASE SEND ME THE USB STICK WITH THE SONG "SITICHES OF LOVE" AND THE STORY OF HOW THREAS OF LOVE GOT IT START IN 1993

THREADS OF LOVE STORY	USB	\$8.50 each	
		Total amount enclosed	

## Sewing Threads of Love By Victoria Ostrosky

The buzz of conversation and laughter bounce melodically around the walls as the angels focus on their labor of love. Angie Livingston, the head angel of the group, joyfully leads the ladies in prayer and a devotional each month when they get together to sew, knit, crochet, and pray over the items they craft to clothe precious premature babies in local hospital NICUs and the little ones whose breaths were few and already in the arms of Jesus.

Threads of Love is a 501(c)(3) organization with chapters across the country. Its mission, as stated at <u>threadsoflove.org</u>, is to provide "clothing, blankets and other handmade articles for tiny premature and sick infants. We desire to show God's love to the parents and loved ones of these babies in their time of uncertainty."

The local Panama City Beach chapter meets once a month at Destiny Worship Center on Back Beach Road where they sew, knit and crochet blankets, vests, bonnets, caps and lovie dolls. During the COVID-19 shutdown last year, even though they weren't able to get together face to face, they continued their ministry in their homes, making masks along with their staple items.

Gulf Coast and Ascension Sacred Heart hospitals each receive packets every month from this group of devoted ladies that contain a handmade blanket knitted or crocheted of the softest acrylic yarn with a fine, tight pattern so a baby's tiny fingers can't poke through, a knitted cap, a lovie doll, a vest with an ingenious design that carefully wraps around the infant without disturbing their life-saving medical wires and tubes, and a prayer. The lovie dolls, made of toddler-sized white socks are unique. They are sewn in such a way that nothing unravels or comes off, so they're safe for the preemies. The new momma sleeps with the lovie doll against her skin the first night, then the lovie doll is placed in the isolate with her baby where her newborn can breathe in her scent. Comfort for the baby and comfort for momma.

## CONTINUED

Angie also sews burial gowns when the hospitals alert her to the need. She sews the tiny gowns for infants ranging in size from ½ pound to 6 pounds and covers the gowns with lace, ribbons and embroidery – a gown fit for the most precious and beautiful of souls. The gown is accompanied by a memory envelope like a lingerie bag with a pocket that has a certificate celebrating a recognition of life with the verse from Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you came to birth, I consecrated you." To add to the personalization of the memory envelope, some nurses are able to get the baby's inked footprints on the certificate. The memory envelope is completed with a blanket and bonnet or cap for burial. Angie's sewing skills used as an expression of love toward parents and grandparents experiencing a profound loss is a sweet fragrance to the Father and a great comfort to the grieving moms and dads.

Angie, Debbie, two Vickis, two Karens, Sherry, Annette, Sue Ann, Tina, Nancy, Jennifer, and others in the group at Destiny Worship Center are utilizing their spiritual gifts of helping and encouragement to lift up the body of Christ and reach out with God's love to touch those outside, giving Him the opportunity to bring them into the fold.

Threads of Love is always ready to welcome more members with the gift of helping. Even if you can't sew or knit or crochet, you can participate by cutting out patterns and ironing the pieces or drawing faces on the lovie

> Thank you for sharing. As I've said so many times, please send in a story about your chapter that we can share in the Newsletter. I would love to have so many stories that there would be a



I am sure in your 10 and 20 years you have blessed an abundant amount of families. Keep up the good works.

Gal. 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Stay tuned for more on our 2022 conference. I know we are all anxious to see each other again.





### Psalm 131

**1**My heart is not proud, O Lord , my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me. <sup>2</sup>But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me. <sup>3</sup>O Israel, put your hope in the Lord both now and forevermore.

I read this a few days ago in my devotional and it has been with me since then. The main verse for me is verse 2. "But I have stilled and quieted my soul;".

What does it mean and how does it look to "still" and "quiet" our soul. I don't know about all of you, but I have a friend who is so consumed with all that is going on today that she talks about not much else. She even said she does housework with earbuds on so she can listen to all the different ones speak.

I don't want to sound like I don't care or I am not concerned about what is happening, but I don't want to be to the point that I let all the gloom and doom take over my life and that I begin to live in fear of the future.

I had rather have earbuds in my ears and listening to God's Word or just sitting "still" and "quiet" and listen to Him speak to me. He is the only answer to all that is going on around us.

Take time in the next few days, weeks, months, to be able to say with David, I have stilled and quieted my soul."

In verse 1, he says he does not concern himself with great matters or things too wonderful for him. I wouldn't call all that is going on "wonderful", but it is too great for me. I am choosing to depend and lean on God.

"O Israel (put your name in here) put your hope in the Lord both now and forevermore."



## Life After Delivery?

In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Why, of course.... There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later.

"Nonsense" said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover if there is life, then why has no one has ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us."

The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist."

Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist."

To which the second replied, "Right, but sometimes, when we are in silence, you can hear her singing or feel her caressing our world. You know, I think there's a real life waiting for us and now we are only preparing for that."

And so the last days in the womb were filled with deep questioning and fear and finally the moment of birth arrived.

When the twins had passed from their world, they opened their eyes and cried, for what they saw exceeded their fondest dreams.

What they saw was the beautiful eyes of their mother, as they were cradled lovingly in her arms. They were home.

"No eye has seen, no ear had heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).