

Twenty-One Day Fast
We've Come to the Launching Pad
by Sara Jo Burns

As we come to the conclusion of our twenty-one day fast, we find that we have not come to the end, but to a launching pad – a launching pad of believing God, of obedience, of opportunity. We continue to stir our hearts and to allow our hearts to be stirred by His Spirit.

Recently I was making a cake for my husband's birthday. Two of our grandchildren were visiting at the time. Before I knew it, they had pulled up stools to the kitchen counter and were ready to help make "Moredaddy's" cake. I measured the ingredients and Lawson's chubby little toddler hands eagerly dumped flour and sugar (most of it) into the bowl. Sara Grace asked if she could stir. It was not easy: the flour made the batter stiff, but she did her best. I then put the bowl under the electric mixer and let it do the rest. When the cake was presented at dinner that night, Sara Grace proudly announced, "I made that cake for Moredaddy."

Later, as I thought about the sweetness of that moment, the Holy Spirit began speaking to my heart. He pointed out that our attempts to stir our hearts toward Him are somewhat feeble at times. But He honors our attempts, and just as the powerful mixer beat the cake batter, so He comes in power and stirs our stirrings to accomplish His desire in us. Praise God!

I was recently drawn to a passage of Scripture where the Lord did exactly that – He added His stirrings to my feeble attempt. The passage is Deut. 32:11 "Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that hovers over its you, He spread His wings and caught them (His people), He carried them on His pinions." When little eaglets begin to feel the instinctive stirring to leave the nest but cannot quite make themselves fly, the mother eagle literally stirs the nest so that the youngsters one at a time are pushed out of the nest and they have to fly. But the mother eagle does not leave them on their own after her powerful stirring of the nest. She swoops down and allows the eaglets to land on her back and she carries them to safety. Soon the eaglets are flying confidently on their own.

What a powerful encouragement the Lord gave me! The stirring to walk and speak the life and power of Jesus into people is met with His powerful stirring to get me out of my "nest". But in His love He is there to "catch" me and carry me to safety until I can move more boldly in the things He is stirring within me.

I need not be afraid. And you need not fear. What stirrings do you feel in you heart? Stir your heart to believe Him, to speak to Him, to love Him, to spend time with Him, to step out in obedience to Him. We've come to the launching pad, the edge of the nest..... He will be there with eagle's wings.

PRAYER POINT: Oh, Lord! Launch us out into your Kingdom Pursuits! Stir us to hunger. Stir us to love. Stir us to believe. Stir us to spend our hearts on You. **WE THANK YOU** Lord for hearing our hearts. You are Worthy, You are Worthy!