



Northwest Houston  
Inspirational Writers Alive!

THE SCRIBE

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Inspirational Writers Alive! (IWA!) is a Christian interdenominational writers' club. IWA! promotes creative writing to glorify Christ by helping individuals advance their writing skills and find effective markets for their work. We welcome writers at all levels

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NW Houston IWA! Meets  
Second Tuesdays at Copperfield Church, 8350 Hwy. 6 North, 7:00-9:00 p. m.  
Check with front desk for Room Number

April meeting  
Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Speaker  
Leigh Powers

Leigh loves helping women find their places in God's great story of salvation. She is an award winning author, speaker, pastor's wife, and mother of three from Conroe, Texas. She is a graduate of Baylor and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Publications include over three hundred Bible study lessons and devotions with publishers such as BaptistWay Press, Smith&Helwys, Union Gospel Press, and Worthy. You can usually find her with either a book or knitting needles in her hand—and sometimes both.  
Renewed: *Devotional for Healing from Church Hurt* and *Loving Well in the Ministry*, her first book.

GOOD NEWS!  
Come hear all about it!  
Jeff Campbell's book is at the publishers and will be out soon.

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Members are invited to submit articles to The SCRIBE.

Our members bring great manuscripts for critique to our meetings. We encourage submission of articles, word count up to about 1000 for publication in the "The Scribe" to [magnolia7787@gmail.com](mailto:magnolia7787@gmail.com)

Easter 2018

We celebrate Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection symbolizes the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. "Why do I Cry" is humbly submitted.



Why do I Cry?  
Martha Roddy  
Written Easter 2017

Do you cry at Easter? I do. Let me tell you why. Years ago at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, I stood before a full face portrait of Jesus Christ. In the painting with the crown of thorns pressed on the head, Jesus eyeballs were drenched in blood.

Thoughts of Jesus on the Cross with nails driven into his hands and feet had always wrenched my heart, but the sight of Him looking directly at me with blood-filled eyes overwhelmed me. The artist captured the uniqueness of God's only begotten Son on the Cross and His infinite understanding and knowledge (Psalm 14, 4, 5). No one hides from Him (Hebrews 4:13). His blood-soaked eyes spoke and cried out. He knew all about me. He knew my heart, the good and the bad, an unsettling revelation. A young Sunday School regular, I knew Jesus loved me and the number of hairs on my head. The bloodshot eyes shouted more, His compassion, forgiveness of sins and transgressions, and His magnificent abundance of goodness. The chilling and comforting revelation was etched in my memory forever.

Years later, I've found other paintings of Jesus wearing the crown thorns, i.e., the Vatican Gallery's rare "Portrait of Christ with Crown of Thorns (The Veronica of Guercino).", painted in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. [www.Italiansrus.com/galleries/vaticansplendor/vatican\\_splendors17.htm](http://www.Italiansrus.com/galleries/vaticansplendor/vatican_splendors17.htm). In some portraits of Jesus suffering from the crown of thorns, He looked up. In others, he looked down or to the side with his eyes opened or closed. None of the portraits researched showed the blood in His eyes I remember seeing in the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art painting. Not surprisingly, on a call to the museum, no record or the identification of a crown of thorns portrait exhibited about 1935 was unavailable.

In reading about the crucifixion, the vivid writing by Dr. C. Truman Davis, "A Physician's View of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ" (The Christian Broadcasting Network) detailed the torture Christ suffered and endured on the cross. Dr. Davis credits Dr. Pierre Barbet's, a French surgeon, exhaustive historical and experimental research on the Jesus' suffering.

Excerpts from Dr. Davis' account of our Savior are chilling ...*battered and bruised, dehydrated, and exhausted from a sleepless night standing before Pontius Pilate, ...the scourging Jesus suffered from a short whip with several heavy, leather throngs with two small balls of lead attached near the ends of each ...brought down with full force again and again across Jesus' shoulders, back, and legs... blows cut deep into the subcutaneous tissues, producing first an oozing of blood from the capillaries and veins of the skin, and finally spurting arterial bleeding from vessels in the underlying muscles.*

Dr. Davis tells us the crown of thorns was made from ...*flexible branches covered with long thorns (commonly used in bundles for firewood) were plaited into the shape of a crown and pressed into His scalp. Again, there was copious bleeding, the scalp being one of the most vascular areas of the body. ...Many of the painters and most of the sculptors of crucifixion, show nails through his palms. Historical Roman accounts and experimental work established nails were driven between the small bones of the wrists (radial and ulna) and not through the palms. ...The left foot was now pressed backward against the right foot, and with both feet extended, toes down, and a nail driven through the arch of each, leaving the knees moderately flexed. As He slowly sags down with more weight on the nails in the wrists, excruciating pain shoots along the fingers and up the arms to explode in the brain — the nails in the wrists are putting pressure*

*on the median nerves...there is searing agony of the nails tearing through the nerves between the bones of the feet.* From *A Physician's View of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ* found at

<https://www.growthtrac.com/a-physicians-view-of-the-crucifixion-of-jesus-christ/>

During Friday night Easter services in Houston, Second Baptist churches displayed crucifixion tools of torture used on Jesus. Among the items shown were a whip and crown of thorns. We were given an oversized nail. I secured the nail of torture with a magnet on my refrigerator, a daily reminder of tears of blood Jesus wept on the Cross for my sins yesterday, today, and tomorrow, the tears He weeps when I am out of step with Him.

I remember those I've hurt, my siblings, my children and grandchildren, friends and others; my parents, my husband, my son, and my baby granddaughter who live with Him. He forgave me and loved ones forgave me because of Him.

I cry at Easter. Why? He wept for my sins, he forgave me. He dried my tears on the Cross. My heart turns to joy and sings with his goodness, grace, and glory. He promises Eternal Life to those who believe on Him.

His death and resurrection changed my life. Over and Over, I renew my commitment to Him. Generations after the Cross, He is always near and dear.

#### **What's New?**

##### **Membership Application Form**

Want to join NW Houston IWA!? Membership Application Form is now on our website.

[Nwhoustoniwa.weebly.com](http://Nwhoustoniwa.weebly.com)

Please complete the form and e-mail to [magnolia7787@gmail.com](mailto:magnolia7787@gmail.com) or bring two copies to NW Houston IWA! meeting.

**For Members:** If you are an active member of NW Houston IWA!, please complete the new form and e-mail to [magnolia7787@gmail.com](mailto:magnolia7787@gmail.com) or bring in two copies of updated membership form to our March meeting. Two copies give us a copy for our secretary and updated e-mail addresses for the newsletter.

#### **Meetings and Events**

Now is the time to work on manuscripts for: IWA! Open Writing Contest. Submission for contest closes **May 15, 2018. Details will follow soon for where to submit your manuscripts.**



15 He sendth forth his commandment upon earth:

His word runneth very swiftly.

16 He giveth snow like wool:

He scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes.

17 He casteth forth his ice like morsels:

Who can stand before his cold?

18 He sendeth out his word, and melteth .them:

he causeth his wind to blow, and the waters flow.

**Psalm 147:15-18**

CONTACT

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