

## Preserved by Purpose – Your Vision and God’s Provision

As I began to make plans for this year’s Do the Write Thing Workshop, I marveled at how over the years God had transformed the conference. What started 10 years ago as a day full of workshops empowering singles has grown to provide strategies for those interested in writing and publishing books.

It hasn’t always been easy. In fact, some years it was a huge struggle. Not because of the finances; I always had a faith that believed that because God told me to do it, that he would then provide the finances for it to happen. He gave me the vision because he already had the provision. It just took me a while to see that His provision wasn’t just in the form of financial support. It also came in the way of supportive speakers, passionate participants, helpful volunteers, prayer partners and eager encouragers.

The struggle wasn’t in getting help...it was being able to accept the help that God had provided. I’ll admit that part of my wanting to make sure everything turned out the way I believed God had promised also led to me wanting to control everything. But that wore me out!

Exodus 17:12 recounts how Moses had to learn how to accept the support of others so that the children of Israel could defeat the Amalekites. **“When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his**

**hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset.”**

**I can understand how hard it was for Moses to realize that he needed help to keep his arms steady. The scriptures doesn't mention if he had a hard time accepting help, but it does show that Aaron and Hur took the initiative to offer it to him. All he had to do was accept it.**

I realize now that not being willing to let others help and use their talents was just as bad as not doing the conference at all. I was not allowing God to do what he wanted for others through the conference.

Others heard God also and them wanting to help with the conference was their response to the call of God in their lives. This was just like my wanting to host the conference was my way of responding to God's call in my life.

**One of my favorite scriptures is Philippians 4:19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” The question isn't whether God will provide; it's can you accept the provision that God has for you?**

**Learn more about the Dollars and Sense of Publishing at this year's Do the Write Thing Workshop June 26<sup>th</sup>. Visit [www.thewritethingworkshop.com](http://www.thewritethingworkshop.com) for more details.**

Shewanda Riley is the author of the Essence best-seller "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose after a Relationship ends." She can be reached at [lovehangover@juno.com](mailto:lovehangover@juno.com) or by visiting [www.shewandariley.com](http://www.shewandariley.com).