

OV daily devotions DAY THREE (Monday - 6/10/19)

What? Me a Bridge?

Today you'll be visiting a hospital where we will sing. This probably means something not so great has happened to someone. Yet, those who work here can show that God can do something extraordinary when people are willing to use their gifts for others.

Maybe you have experienced a devastating tragedy and know first hand how hard it can be. Have you had friends who have lost someone they loved? Perhaps something has effected you in a negative way and you're trying to hold on with all your strength.

Whether we're ready or not, we know that each of us will face hardships and sorrow. Floods will always threaten to sweep through our lives and jeopardize our peace and happiness. Whether it is us, someone we know, or someone we see, we must be ready to throw out a lifeline. In the middle of some pretty bad situations, we need to be willing to be a bridge across "troubled waters." After all, Jesus did it for us, right?

Can you imagine the pain that some of the patients at the Vidant Medical Center went through? Think of how they felt when they first arrived.

We rarely see ourselves as the answer to a problem. Oh, it's easy to see the problem. It's easy to complain about the problem. Some of us have even gotten very good at looking for solutions to problems, but we rarely look at ourselves as a bridge. This week we are being challenged to consider the truth that God wants to use us as a bridge to help others come to know Him.

Let's not sing the question, "Do you want to be healed," if we're not willing to be part of the healing process. Reach out and let God's love flow through you.

If you could be a bridge, where you like to be? Over a river? Over a stretch of ocean? Spanning a mountain gorge? Why? _____

Can you remember a time when you helped make things better for someone? Between two people? How did God use you there?

Take a moment to read 2 Cor. 5:17-21.

What does the word *reconciliation* mean? (Consider the stem “re” and the Latin root “*conciliatus*” which means to bring together.)

What does Paul say about our part in the ministry of *reconciliation*? _____

Are there situations in our choir that need reconciliation? How do you see God using you this week to bring this about? _____
