



North Stelton AME Church

*2008 Women's Department
presents*

'God's Women of Strength and Beauty'

"Honor and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in the sanctuary" Psalms 96:6

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Grace and Peace

To: God's Women of Strength and Beauty

As we approach the Women's Day for this season, I am reminded of God's graciousness.

He's shown us his grace and mercy and as women of strength and beauty, we should exhibit the same grace. There is a spirit of offense in the world which has crept into the church. To counterattack this spirit we must use the weapon of **Forgiveness**. So many times we have been hurt by circumstances and situations in the past by people whom we trusted and yes loved. Pain, issues, and just plain every day drama - it's a trap of the enemy to keep you from God's Blessings.

We hide our feelings by covering up with a mask, just as one might hide the marks and blemishes by putting on foundation. But it's really not hidden; it comes out in our attitude as anger, strife, wrath, evil speaking, bitterness and jealousies. Michal, Saul's daughter, was offended by the way her husband David blessed God for the ark of the Lord being returned. II Samuel 6:16 says that she "**despised him in her heart**". God caused her to be barren all the days of her life for the offense that she had in her heart against her husband.

Wives, mothers, daughters, women of God do not be provoked. The offense will come and from one closest to you. Do not allow Satan to trick you. Let's exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. Practice self-control. Be at peace with one another. Love unconditionally. Forgive each other because that's what is required of us from God our Father. For Matthew 6:16 tells us "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

God's Women of Strength and Beauty show forth your inner beauty and strength. Practice the power of **Forgiveness**.

Rev. Linda A. French