

Volume I | Issue I | March 2020

# Welcome to our first Newsletter

I am **Rachel Caban**, the founder of Until We Arise (UWA) and I am overjoyed to be able to share with you all the great things that are going on! I'm in complete awe as I reflect on all that is happening and where this all started. I am especially **grateful to all of you who have joined us on this journey and have supported us in prayer, with your time, talents, and donations**. As we move into this next phase, I'd like to take some time to walk you through how UWA came to be.

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## The Beginning...

In October 2017, I had just been laid off from my job as a charter high school principal. I was faced with the very distinct choice to sink or swim. I had been an educator all of my adult life, and while I was faced with this circumstance that could have easily rocked my world, I also felt this sense of freedom, like I was being "freed up" for something that was so much bigger than I could imagine. There was this little voice inside of me that said I was called for more. I dreamt of building a nonprofit and speaking before thousands, but I was terrified, and I felt so unworthy. I knew I had to decide in my heart that either I was a complete failure, or God had something up His sleeve. I remember the day that I cried out to my mom, telling her that I was teetering on a point of desperation, either it was all God or all me. I was on the verge of massive breakthrough or complete depression. There was no in-between. It felt that important. I chose God.

It was with that determination to choose God daily that Veronica Vazquez, UWA's Co-Founder, and I pressed on for the following months. We made radical decisions, to quit school, leave our careers, sell my house, and abandon the many dreams we had set up for ourselves. As a teacher, it broke my heart to see my students graduating with a high school diploma, but still dying from gang violence, still trapped in abusive relationships, and still hooked on drugs. Veronica's work in social services awakened her to the disconnect in her field. She could provide housing for the homeless, but they would still find themselves in unhealthy cycles. My students and her clients were spiraling without Jesus. God was tugging on our hearts to be a part of a greater healing in Los Angeles, but Veronica and I had no clue what the path would look like.

"Village life in Israel ceased, ceased until I, Deborah, arose, arose a mother in Israel."

## Until We Arise

I sought the Lord, I saw **Deborah** in the book of Judges, a woman I admired and a story that always stuck out to me. A woman whose **obedience**, whose **commitment**, and whose **courage** changed a nation. Because she arose things changed, people were inspired, and healing came to the land. Judges 5:7 says it this way, "Village life in Israel ceased, ceased until I, Deborah, arose, arose a mother in Israel." I began to wonder, what wouldn't change in my community, in my life, in my family, in my church until I arose. "Until We Arise" what won't happen? **There** were dormant dreams and broken hearts and people robbed of their voices, waiting for me to **ARISE!** So I did, and thus the birth of Until We Arise.





#### Do the work

Veronica and I got on the same page and began meeting on a daily basis and decided to write out our vision. We prayed, we fasted, we studied, we rested, and we learned what it meant to be led by God. We allowed God to take us through a real purification process, and we put one foot in front of the other. Whether that meant staying up all night praying with a hurting friend, or gathering our quarters to help our parents out with groceries. It was worth it because while we had dreams of a big, fully-functioning nonprofit with multiple offices, and an excess of resource and financial support, at that point all we had was us: two girls with big dreams.





## **Beauty Brunch**

In that season, God told me clearly to restart Beauty
Brunch. **Beauty Brunch** was just a little gathering I was
organizing at my house a couple of Saturdays a month a few
years prior to this season. It was just my way of
intentionally creating community with my own
circle of friends. It was girl talk, and it just seemed like a
small offering to God, a "thank you" for the provision
for my first home purchase. I had no idea of the power this
possessed, and I honestly saw no connection to the big
visions of a booming nonprofit; Nevertheless, we pressed
on.



In October of 2017, I restarted Beauty Brunch in the living room of my 650-square foot home in Long Beach, Ca. About 14 women came out, and I had a message of empowerment that I knew I had to share. I longed for clarity from God about how to make all this work, but all I heard God telling me was, "Do it, and do it well!" So, I did. The following month more ladies trickled in, and before I knew it, girls wanted to be a part of it. They began offering their homes for brunch and asking how they could help.

From my little house, we have expanded to hosting Beauty Brunch in 15 different locations across Southern California, including a site in Guaymas, Mexico. To date, Until We Arise has organized 36 Beauty Brunches, 2 Beauty Brunch conferences, and multiple outreach events. We have reached hundreds of women, and we have witnessed dozens of lives transformed by the Lord.

This is just the beginning!

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### **Updates**



UWA's first intern, Jessica Ramirez, is completing her first year this July. She has been thriving and growing in leadership, confidence, and spiritual disciplines.



Veronica Vazquez, our Co-Founder has become our **first international missionary**, is in Guaymas Mexico serving at a local church and hosting worship nights and Beauty Brunches as a representative of UWA.



If not us, then who?

If not now, then when?

### How You Can Get involved!









UWA is a **federally recognized 501c3 nonprofit, and** when you give a tax-deductible donation **you are helping to fund Beauty Brunch,** covering costs like flowers, décor, food, gifts, printing, and other administrative costs.

Beauty Brunch is so much more than a monthly event...

- Women are being freed from years of abuse and depression.
- Women are being empowered and finding their voices.
- Women are becoming leaders in their communities and taking a stand against oppression.

We are finding the courage to say I am worthy and until I arise... what in my life will not change?

## Would you Arise with us?

Become a monthly partner with a gift of \$25, \$50\*, or \$100\*

Sponsor with a one-time donation

- \$1200 to sponsor a 4-month Cycle of Brunch\*
- \$300 to sponsor a single Brunch event\*
- \$15 to sponsor a single Brunch attendee

\*Receive a special monthly Beauty Brunch gift and a printed copy of our beautifully designed Newsletter.

To give online via PayPal or Credit Card, you can go to www.untilwearise.org and click on "Give"

Checks can be mailed to

**Until We Arise** 

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