

**A  
Heartfelt &  
Transparent  
Interview  
with  
Rev. Sharon  
Jones**



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*International Kingdom Women's Coalition, Inc. is excited to present the supported vision for 2014, Rev. Sharon Jones' R.E.W.A.R.D. (Restoring Every Woman's Adrenaline Rush to Disciple). Creating a safe and relaxing venue for Pastors' wives and Women in Ministry by fellowshipping with like spirit women.*

**VKM**– Rev Sharon, how did you feel when you heard the news that you had received the most votes from IKWC Charter Members to assist you with this vision?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**-My initial response was total "SHOCK". I was lost for words. I tried to concede and was told that I couldn't. My silent response to the Lord was seriously, Lord you would respond to my heart's cry, like this?

**VKM**- Wow, Rev Sharon, I remember really looking at you when Apostle Wanda Sisco announced that you had won the vote, I was so moved by your response because I could see the awe in your face which was a real blessing for me, I was so happy for you. So Rev Sharon, please share with me what led you to create R.E.W.A.R.D. as well share in depth about your passion for this ministry?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**- A few months prior to being introduced to International Kingdom Women's Coalition (IKWC), I was desperately searching for a conference for pastors' wives and/or women serving in full-time ministry. My husband and I had been serving as pastors for over two years. Of course with growth comes challenges, and with challenges comes the feeling of being overwhelmed. I don't like feeling overwhelmed especially for a long period of time. I texted two of my good friends who are pastors' wives and asked, "Why aren't there any local conferences for pastors' wives and women in ministry?" Of course they didn't have an answer to my question. I said to the Lord, "There must be a group or place where we can go to express our concerns confidentially (and not be judged), release the stress, and be restored back to serve in ministry." Then a month or so later, I received a letter from Apostle Wanda Sisco introducing the vision of IKWC. I thought to myself, "I will check this out. Maybe this will be the avenue for me to get my release." As I attended the first IKWC meeting, I listened to Apostle Sisco share her vision of Christian women empowering other Christian women (locally and globally). She stated that God has birthed something in each one of us, and wherever we serve in the marketplace or in fulltime ministry, God wants us to share our story. Oddly, she kept referencing me reaching other pastors' wives as an example. At the end of the meeting, I thought to myself, Lord, is this the avenue to meet other pastors' wives and women in ministry?

**VKM**- How did you come up with the name of this ministry?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**-It is funny that you ask this question. After one of IKWC's workshop titled, "Identifying Your Why?" We were emailed 10 questions. We were instructed to pray and answer each question clearly, well, I prayed and began typing my response to the questions. At the same time, in my mind I was thinking, I do not have a vision for anything. I do not want to establish a business...Been there and done that, I am too busy in ministry to establish a new one. I continued to type and responded to the questions. As I answered each question, I noticed how passionate I am about connecting with pastors' wives and women in ministry. I want to know if these women are experiencing similar challenges and how they are dealing with it. I want to meet women of like spirit that they know they have been called to shepherd, who love the call in spite of its challenges, yet want to live a so-called "normal life" of rest and relaxation as parishioners and not as pastors and be restored back to serve God's people. After typing all of the above, one of the questions asked for power adjectives to describe me and my passion. I typed: restore, empower, disciple. Then R.E.W.A.R.D. stood out and grabbed my attention, my passion is to Restore Every Women's Adrenaline Rush to Disciple. Before I knew it, IKWC was moving forward to the next phase of the group...video recording our vision. Again I thought to myself, "I need to come up with a name for my vision." Nicely, the Lord told me to go back and look at my responses to the questions. At the bottom of the page I saw, "R.E.W.A.R.D." So, I announced the name on the video recording.

**VKM**– So even at that point you had no idea the name for the vision that God was creating in you?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**- No, I knew I had a need to connect, but I had no idea about, R.E.W.A.R.D.

**VKM**– Rev. Sharon God is so amazing because he always knows what we need which allows us the opportunity to discover more of what he has already placed in us. This leads me to my next question for you. Do you believe that R.E.W.A.R.D. is a God given vision and assignment for you?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**– Yes, most definitely R.E.W.A.R.D. is a God given vision for women in ministry. I came into this assignment as a woman in need of connection, restoration, and empowerment. I had no idea that God would use me to be the vessel or conduit to help women in ministry to relax, relate, and release in Him. But like many other things in my life, this doesn't surprise me. I love God's sense of humor.

**VKM**-Do you consider yourself purpose driven?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**- I do consider myself a purpose driven individual. As a child, everything I did had to have a purpose (whether good or bad). When I rededicated my life back to Christ, I had purposed in my heart that my relationship with Him was for real and there would be no turning back. When the Lord called me into ministry, I said to Him, "If I am going to do this, I need to know that everything I read in His Word is real and relevant. I cannot preach and teach something that I have never experienced or believed." When I disciple individuals, I let them know upfront that I do this with the intent to see God be glorified and their lives eternally changed.

**VKM**– I can relate with that statement for sure, absolutely powerful! I would like to know more on how you are feeling at this point about your vision being carried out and being a Charter Member and Vice President of IKWC?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**-To be honest, I do not know how this vision will unfold, one thing I do know is that it is very much needed. Every week, we hear about a pastor who has committed suicide. My heart breaks, not only for the lost of the pastor, but for the wife. With all the challenges we as wives, mothers and ministers face trying to maintain a consistent relationship with the Lord, then teaching our parishioners how to do the same, then to be confronted with a husband who has become overwhelmed with his own struggles to the point of taking his life (what?) A relief and restoration mechanism must develop quickly. As a Charter member and Vice President of IKWC, I take this role seriously. I do not think it is a coincidence that R.E.W.A.R.D. was chosen at this time. I strongly believe that God has a plan beyond me and IKWC. My prayer is that I, along with my IKWC sisters, will flow with the leading of God. However He chooses to use IKWC and the vision of R.E.W.A.R.D., let it be. One of the IKWC questions asked was what I hoped to gain? My response was that all women who experience R.E.W.A.R.D. will be restored to serve God and His people.

**VKM**- Rev. Sharon, can you share more about you, the raw and uncut version of Sharon Jones, because we all know that being an Associate Pastor, a wife as well being given great responsibility for God's people there are times when we have to sometimes be in position for the sake of the people, even when we are discouraged, tired and just don't feel like it, etc.?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**-The raw and uncut version of Sharon is that she is content being alone. She is an only child and was raised by a single parent, her mother. She finds refuge in God, His Word, listening to praise and worship music, and staying home watching movies. Sharon's personality trait is in the middle of an introvert and an extrovert. Ministry and her husband, Dr. Aaron R. Jones, cause her to be an extrovert. But most time, she prefers to be an introvert. When Sharon is discouraged, tired, and just don't want to be bothered, she hides herself in the house. She figured if she hides herself in the house that will protect people from the wrath of her anger, frustration, and/or tiredness. If ministry calls and demands her attention, she pleads to the Lord to give her the grace and strength to serve Him with a heart of love and compassion.

**VKM**-Tell me five things that you know for sure?

**Rev. Sharon Jones**- Five things I know for sure. I have a genuine relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and I am ready for His return at any given time. I know for sure that God has "anointed" me to be the help-meet for my husband. I compliment his call as a pastor, author, song writer, and servant of God. I know for sure that the Bible, the Word of God, is true and transparent to all those who will read and apply it. But one must understand that God's manifestation of His Word will never turn out as she thinks or expects. Isaiah 55:11 states, So is my word that goes out from my mouth, It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. I know for sure that God doesn't want his servants overwhelmed, burnt-out, or defeated. He always makes a way of escape, 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. I know for sure that everyone needs a support system. No one can be all things to all people without having someone (a good friend) to assist and to empower her to keep going.

Vision Keepers Magazine would like to thank Rev. Sharon Jones for your transparency and candor in sharing your heart for your vision with us. I am truly honored to have had this opportunity and privilege to interview you for IKWC even the more it was such a pleasure to get to know you more. I am certain that many women in ministry and Pastors' wives will find R.E.W.A.R.D. a treasured place to come and be restored and empowered. Many blessings on this great vision.

Interview by, Vision Keepers Magazine  
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