



## Crack That Shell

Ephesians 4:31-32 states..."Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you along with all malice. Be kind to one another tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

Hmmmm, This is very powerful scripture if you think about it. Many of you are like me at a time in your life when you thought your time would be yours and had pictured living a very different lifestyle at this age, are now coping with grown children that have moved back home or perhaps you are raising grandchildren or have an aging parent living with you....we have become a multi-family home culture. It can at times make our lives less private, give us more chores, cause you to have to "share" your things, cost more money, and can even at times become a war zone; after all they are used to being head of their household and now what is their place?. We all have to learn to give and take but our nature is to want have our own way and if we aren't careful bitterness, resentment, and yes even anger takes root. When I am completely overwhelmed God speaks to me through dreams. It is amazing and I can't tell you how grateful I am that he brings me solutions to my problems this way....no not always but when he does it is truly a miracle and I will share some of my other dreams with you at a later date.

I was in my kitchen boiling eggs to make deviled eggs (imagine that...lol). Carlos came in and asked if he could help....I must have been dreaming....ha,ha,ha,ha. Actually he asks to help more often than I give him credit but I really like to cook alone most of the time. I asked him to peel the eggs. He began to peel the first egg and said oh my gosh Rose there is no egg inside this one it is a bird! I said what are you talking about as he tends to tease me alot. He said I am not kidding. I looked and he wasn't kidding with me. It was this beautiful white bird but of course after being put through boiling water it was just lying in his hand dead. We were both just dumbfounded. I said well crack another one. He started on another egg and said you aren't going to believe this but it is another bird and it's dead too! I looked and sure enough he was holding another bird but it's eyes started to flutter and it was taking shallow breaths. I said crack another egg. He began to work on another egg and soon we had another beautiful bird, but this one came out completely alive and was standing erect in our kitchen. Before long, we had a kitchen full of these beautiful white birds everywhere with just the one dead. It was a beautiful sight and they were all coming towards me fluttering their wings. They were the purest snow in color white with yellow beaks, dark round black eyes and probably just the prettiest bird I have ever seen and suddenly I realize they are doves! The symbol of peace. Carlos is now running around the kitchen in a panic. Oh my gosh Rose what are we going to do with all these birds? We have to call someone to come and get them. I said no, no Carlos it's okay, all we have to do is open the door and set them free....they will know just what to do. After all it is in their nature.

I woke up realizing that I have let bitterness, resentment and even anger form a crusty shell around me instead of walking in beautiful peace which I so crave. It's so easy when you have so much going on in your life to let it creep in not even realizing it, and it's just what the devil wants. He waltzed right in, took a seat in my favorite recliner, is giving himself a heated massage, enjoying a cold beverage watching the show he created. We get upset with the people we love the most in this world. I have become resentful because I do the lions share of the work around here and so when asked a question my favorite saying has become I don't know I just work here. I just need to crack that shell, die to self, become the dove, open the door and walk in peace. Only then will I have freedom from all the other junk.....I KNOW what to do....how liberating is that? Isn't our GOD AMAZING?

We ladies have an upcoming conference and I for one am so excited about and hope to see you all there. You just know she had a shell to crack after reading some of the obstacles she had to overcome!

Hugs

Rose