



Established April 2008 *Daniel Mingo, Min. Director*
An Exodus International Member Ministry

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A Referral Ministry of ROCK

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." And He said, "Come!" And Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came toward Jesus. Matt 14: 27-29*

A Giant Leap of Faith II

Fifteen months ago, I announced in this newsletter that the Lord had spoken to me to begin moving towards transitioning Abba's Delight ministry to full-time status so that I could have my week days free to do the work Father has called me/the ministry to do. That meant leaving my day job, which I was willing to do. So we set out to raise support money so that the ministry could pay me a salary. We received occasional one-time gifts, but what was really needed was for monthly donations to come in from committed supporters who believe in the Lord to use me in the mission He has set before me. Our goal was \$2900.00 per month, but the most we have received during those months was only \$275.00 per month.

I was becoming frustrated, and Fran encouraged me to share my frustration with the Exodus staff and other ministry leaders during our annual Freedom Conference back in June. I did, asking for their prayers. It was helpful for me to share that burden with others who may have had similar experiences in their leadership roles. Also, the prayer time was special, as I sensed their love and support.

After that meeting, one of the other member ministry leaders asked me if I had any plans for dinner. I didn't, and he invited me to join him. He shared with me that he'd been in the same position several years before, that I was finding myself in now. He owned a successful landscape business when the Lord told him to take his ministry full-time. He did the same thing, tried to raise support money for the ministry work while he maintained his landscape business. And as well, he ran into the same snag that I have. **He discovered that donors are not as willing to give to a mission work as long as the one doing the work has his day job to fall back on if the support-raising doesn't meet the need.** That really struck a chord with me, and resonated in my spirit. I thought about that quite a bit during the rest of the conference and on the way home. What would that look like, leaving my day job, stepping out in faith like that before the funds are

committed? It was a challenge that frightened me, but at the same time exhilarated my faith.

When I returned to Louisville, I told Fran about this new insight that had been shared with me. Fran has been amazing in her support of this full-time ministry vision, but neither one of us were truly ready for me to just end my job right there on the spot. In processing this part of our journey for the last 15 months with our pastor and his wife, we've all had the sense from the Lord, along with my board of directors, that this is the right direction for the ministry. Since August, my prayers for seeing this vision become a reality have been more intense, more focused—if that's possible. Around the end of September or first part of October, I had said to Fran one morning as I was getting ready to leave for work that I really hoped that this would all be settled by the end of the year, and I sensed in my spirit that the Lord would be fine with whatever timing we selected to make the move, that He was just waiting on us now. She agreed to begin praying that specifically, as well.

On Sunday, November 4th, Fran and I met again with Ted and Dawn, our pastor and his wife, and I shared with them my sense from the Lord. In the course of our discussion, which included some financial plans as well as my intent for how I would be spending my time during the days doing ministry, we agreed that I would go to work on December 15th and give my two weeks' notice to be done by the end of the year.

The following day, November 5th, which was my and Fran's 29th wedding anniversary, I was called into the conference room at work at about 4:15pm, along with one other of our five employees, and was told by our supervisor and the HR lady that the two of us were being laid off, effective immediately. No severance; no vacation pay; no sick day pay; no good-byes to co-workers. We were told, "You guys are a class act. Bye-bye." Our stuff was waiting for us outside of the receptionist's area and we were ushered out to it. Our company had been losing money steadily over the past few years, and I had already survived three other layoffs.

Immediately, I saw the hand of the Lord! I was excited, I was relieved, and I was affirmed in our direction. I was also just released from a position I'd held for over 15 years, which felt very weird. About three hours after I was laid off, the Abba's Delight ministry board had its quarterly meeting. I shared my news with them; they didn't know whether to congratulate me or feel sorry for me. I totally understand.

I have spent the last few weeks setting up an office in one of the spare bedrooms of our home. I have sent out nearly two hundred letters of introduction to area church pastors, presenting the opportunity for Abba's Delight to assist them however we may in walking alongside those in their congregations whose lives have been impacted by same-gender issues. Going forward, I want to follow up with those pastors with phone calls and visits. I want to get involved with prayer groups and ministerial associations, developing contacts for referrals, support and speaking engagements. I want to develop teachings for these occasions. I plan to talk with other Exodus ministry leaders, pick

their brains, find out things that work and don't work in ministry. I plan to develop various teachings that can be used in support group meetings and conferences, as well as workshops for churches. I'll also be searching for different conferences and seminars at which I can exhibit Abba's Delight with materials and resources.

So, the vision I've carried these many months has now become a reality. I am the ministry director for Abba's Delight, and I am doing it on a full-time basis. And it is also a reality that I am depending on the Lord to speak to those of you with a heart for this ministry to support me and this endeavor financially. Though this time, I have no day job paycheck on which to fall back. I am depending on individuals, on businesses, and on churches to donate to the ministry so that I can draw a salary to help meet my family's financial obligations.

Some of you receiving this newsletter are part of my church family. Many of you in our congregation have already been aware of some of the things Father has been doing in and through the ministry of Abba's Delight. Many of you are members of our family and friends of mine and Fran's who, over the years, have walked with and supported us through love and prayer for us and the ministry. Many of you are overcomers yourselves and either have been connected to the ministry in the past or still are. Many have participated in our Family and Friends Support Group as we have helped you deal with the impact of homosexuality on your family through a loved one's involvement. Some of you are friends and/or extended spiritual family who simply believe in what God is doing through our ministry. Many of you have asked to be included on our mailing list as we have exhibited the ministry at conferences or seminars, so that you can be made aware of events and become educated regarding the matters pertaining to Abba's Delight ministry, and others like it. Some of you are pastors, ministers and church leaders who have extended help to struggling members of your congregations, and realize first-hand the benefit of a ministry like Abba's Delight. Perhaps your church can offer financial support through your missions or benevolence funding. It is all of you to whom I am appealing now for financial support for the ministry work. Because Abba's Delight is a not-for-profit organization in KY, all donations are tax-deductible and can be sent to the P O Box on the front page of your newsletter.

I want to give a **huge thank-you** to those of you who have been contributing already these last months. Your support has meant so much to me and the work Abba's Delight does in helping wounded saints find freedom. One-time or occasional gifts are most certainly appreciated, but it is your monthly commitment that will help us reach our goal.

I would ask that each of you earnestly seek the Lord about contributing monthly to the work of this mission, and I thank you for your consideration. May Father bless you abundantly for your kindness and generosity!

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Support Group: Thursday, November 29, 2012; Thursday, December 13, 2012

Family & Friends Support Group: Tuesday, December 4, 2012; Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Responses From You

From a SC Pastor: Daniel, Another good, and informative article. One thought I have on the bullying issue is that it is another reflection of the lack of discipline in homes and at schools today. When I was a kid in high school, bullies were simply dealt with through the usual disciplinary channels. The teachers had some disciplinary authority in those days, and a kid guilty of bullying or any other misbehavior would be disciplined by the teacher or warned, and then taken to the principal's office to get the "hickory stick" if he did not obey. One of the problems in schools today is that since real discipline has been removed, they are having to resort to psychological and "educational" manipulations and appeals in an attempt to solve the problem. But people who are mean don't usually respond well to logic and "training." The final answer to unreasonable and unresponsive people is authority. And authority armed with disciplinary powers is what seems to be missing today. If a fellow is prejudiced in a mean way against any group of people, it may be difficult to impossible to change him. But with proper discipline as a potential weapon, we can force him to moderate or change his behavior. It worked when I was a kid. That's my "2-cents" for the day.

If you do not wish to receive the Abba's Delight Ministry Newsletter any longer, please let me know. If you do wish to continue to receive it, please be certain to put our email address in your address book, so that this mailing does not go to your spam, and report to your carrier. Thank you.

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 24, 25