



PO Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269

502-939-9269

danielmingo.abbasdelight@insightbb.com

Daniel Mingo, Ministry Director

Est. Apr 2008

NEWSLETTER – April 2013



An Exodus International Member Ministry

Referral Ministry of ROCK-Reclaim Our Culture Kentuckiana

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *And Jesus came up and spoke to them (the apostles) saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* Matthew 28:18-20

Sidetracked

The following is a piece I posted earlier this month on the Abba's Delight and my own FaceBook pages regarding the marriage equality debate in our country, and have decided to use it here as the featured article in the month's Newsletter (as always, feedback is welcomed):

I have read a *lot* over the last several weeks on the marriage equality debate. From gays and ever-straight to conservatives and liberals to Christians and other Christians who believe differently from each other, everyone putting forth passionate proposals on their position: Biblically, politically, relationally, socially, and on and on.

Some say the government has no business redefining marriage, citing the separation of church and state, because marriage was instituted by God; some say if we are ever to have equal rights in America, the government must have the final word, thus the Supreme Court's eventual involvement; others argue that marriage is not a "rights" matter at all, equal or otherwise, calling it a privilege; there are those in the Church who state that legalizing same-sex marriage will further put our country on the same course as other nations whose downfall has been related to the acceptance, practice and promotion of homosexuality; to draw attention to the unfortunate state of traditional marriages, proponents of marriage equality cite the high divorce rate of heterosexual marriages, even in the Church, while marriage purists contend that children fare better when there is both a mother and a father raising them as opposed to two same-gender parents; I have heard it advocated for the law of the land to become one that calls all marriages outside of a church "civil unions" and let the ones in the Church continue to be

known as marriages; many in the Church have pushed a grace-filled response to love and accept unconditionally but sometimes lacking truth, and many have pushed a truth-centered response coming across devoid of Christ's love and compassion; and then there are those who have attempted to link marriage equality to the Civil Rights Movement adopting the banner "Gay is the new Black," offending many African Americans in the process; again, it goes on and on.

We really don't know what the Supreme Court is going to decide, although some feel they have it all figured out. Because of the times, I could see their decision going either way. I am confident of this, though: if same-sex marriage is not legalized in this decision, its eventual approval is not far behind. Why? Because the further mankind moves away from God's standards of righteousness and holiness, the closer we come to seeing the Lord's return. Already, the Church has lost its significance in the culture by remaining silent over many years about many issues. Today, the Church has nearly no voice left at all. This legalization would be just another of the many steps away from God's design the world has taken. "Professing to be wise, they became fools..." Romans 1:22

When Jesus left the earth, He commissioned the apostles. He did not tell them to fight the Roman government, to picket, to demonstrate, to march, or to boycott. He told them to establish His kingdom on the earth by making disciples whom they would teach to love and serve the way Jesus did, one soul at a time. They would become known to the world by their love for one another. As the Church, we've lost our focus, our direction. We have become sorely sidetracked by the issues of the times. We know how to get decisions made for Jesus, but we seem to have lost our way in helping new believers become disciples of Jesus. Our new methods of evangelization may have gotten them in the door, but might we have failed them in the "becoming mature saints" department? It's not whether or not gay marriage is legalized; rather, it's whether the Church is going to obey Jesus and continue to make disciples the way He demonstrated. It's not whether abortion and divorce (or any other hot topic) are right or wrong, but are we living our lives in such a way that would make someone considering those choices think twice and seek our counsel because they see something/Someone in us they don't see in themselves? It's not whether the issues of the day matter or not, but instead are we allowing our focus to become so entangled in them that we veer off the path of being and making disciples? Regardless of what side of the issue the Supreme Court rules, our commission from Jesus has not changed; having gay marriage legalized doesn't alter our charge to make disciples. It is changed hearts that make a changed world, not changed issues.

I believe, as the Body of Christ, somewhere along the way, we have gotten sidetracked. We decided it was better to trust in our own wisdom and our own religious customs, rather than to seek and trust the Lord to carry out through His Body His desires, direction, and

implementation in the disciple-making commission. We would be wise to cling to this verse from Paul to the Romans, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28. I think, in our zeal to be the moral conscience for our society, we forgot to ask Jesus if that’s really what He wanted us to do and how to go about it.

I don’t have all the answers for the Body of Christ. I can only speak for, and handle, my life and the sphere of influence Father has given me. I work daily to bring these things into subjection under Him, seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit along the way. But it seems to me, if each of us in the Body of Christ would make it our top priority to seek His kingdom first and His righteousness as Jesus instructed, all the other things (issues included) will fall into place just as He promised, and we won’t feel like our world is crashing down around us when the results of our pet concern(s) don’t go our way. Our walk, our life, our calling, our commission are way more than our issues.

[Upcoming Ministry Meetings](#)

Overcomers Support Group: Thursday, April 25, 2013; Thursday, May 9, 2013; Thursday, May 23, 2013

Family & Friends Support Group: Tuesday, April 30, 2013; Tuesday, May 14, 2013; Tuesday, May 28, 2013

[Upcoming Ministry Conferences](#)

Exodus International Annual Freedom Conference: June 19-22, 2013 Concordia University, Irvine, CA Conference Theme: True Story Register: www.ExodusFreedom.org

Hope Gathering 2013: July 13, 2013 Gateway Fellowship Church in Hockley, TX Contact 814-598-4952 or help4families2004@yahoo.com Download your registration form at www.help4families.com

[Ongoing Prayer Requests](#)

Please pray that Father will continue to bring to Abba’s Delight those who are ready to surrender themselves to His Lordship in their overcoming journey, and for family/friends impacted by homosexuality so that they can receive support and growth in their own journey with the Lord.

Please pray that the Lord will open up doors of invitation to speak to church staff and congregations so that the message of freedom can reach the Body of Christ. We sent out nearly

250 letters to local churches introducing the ministry, and have had only one or two responses even after placing follow-up phone calls. Our churches have yet to realize how vital Abba's Delight's message is.

Please pray for continued financial support for Abba's Delight. Donations from individuals, churches' missionary fund giving, businesses, and organizations are all welcomed. And your gift is tax-deductible with Abba's Delight's 501(c)3 status.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support.

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