

ABBA'S DELIGHT

Established April 2008 Daniel Mingo, Min. Director

Ministry Newsletter, Aug. 2009
P O Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *"...and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loves me and delivered Himself up for me." Gal. 2:20b*

Walking By Faith

"Walking by faith" is one of those Christianese phrases that we disciples of Jesus throw around so easily, but that challenges us moment by moment as we live out our days in our fleshly bodies. Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 5:7 that we walk by faith, not by sight. Each and every day, we get so many opportunities to exercise our faith in the Lord based on what we know to be Biblical truth, rather than based on what we feel or on what our thoughts tell us—both of which we can be so ready to accept as gospel, and can be so deceptive to us.

So, part of exercising our faith means that we must become familiar with God's Word so that we will know the Biblical truths by which He calls us to live. As we are learning God's ways of doing things as well as His Biblical promises, and are facing these daily challenges, we are often tempted to react according to what our circumstances present to us and not according to God's truth. **This fact was a huge revelation to me: just because I think something, it doesn't make it true.** Believe it or not, our own thoughts are not the be-all-end-all of knowledge and wisdom. All the circumstances around me may be pointing towards something being true, I may be hearing from others in my life that this is the way things are and/or should be, it may even appear right logically---but if it doesn't square with God's word, it's not **His** truth. And whatever is not His truth is a lie, because **there is no truth apart from Him.**

According to John's gospel, Jesus is the Word made flesh. Jesus also said of Himself, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." When you hear it like this, it sure seems pretty cut and dry. But then life gets in the way, and we can become confused, and the truth of God's word can become kind of fuzzy. And since God is not a God of confusion (1 Cor 14:33), we know that we will find peace and assurance in our steps of faith when we are acting according to His word, and not out of our own thoughts or reactions to our circumstances.

So, while the term "walking by faith" may sound simple, living it out may be something altogether different for us. Now, we know that Father looks at our hearts, and that He's not sitting in heaven with a clipboard logging hash marks each time we sin, as if to say, "There he goes again." He created us flesh, He knows our weaknesses, and He is always ready, willing and able to help us through our process—and if you've been walking with the Lord any time at all, you know that just about everything is a process, much to the disappointment of our instantly-gratified selves---products of our culture that we are. But our Father is patient, as opposed to us who want immediate transformation.

Therefore, while we are on this walking-by-faith journey, let's understand that we're not making the trip alone. Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us, as well as His other adopted brothers and sisters who can speak encouragement and challenge into our lives. Sometimes this walk of faith is hard; let's not make it any more difficult by attempting it alone. Because of Father's great love for us, He makes the journey more bearable by providing us companions along the way. Let's take to heart Father's message in Ecclesiastes 4:9,10, "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his fellow. But woe to the one who falls when

there is not another to lift him up.” Paul wrote his letters to groups of believers, not to sole individuals. We need to begin viewing our journey as a corporate one, on which our speech, actions, decisions, etc affect our fellow travelers. It’s time to realize that our walk by faith is a community endeavor.

Focus On The Family

Focus on the Family has transitioned its Love Won Out conferences to Exodus International. Since 1998, the two organizations have worked together to present these conferences in over 50 cities worldwide. The purpose of these gatherings is to educate and equip the Church to respond Biblically to the reality of homosexuality in the world and the Church with a message of grace and truth. Melissa Fryrear of Focus on the Family states, “There is no one better equipped to take over the operation of Love Won Out than Alan (Chambers) and his team. They have been with us since the beginning. They have stood alongside us in sharing the hope that, with Christ, transformation is possible for those unhappy with same-sex attractions. And we will stand alongside them as they continue to share that message as the organizer of Love Won Out...Focus remains very committed to sharing biblical view of homosexuality...After all, we’re still in the truth and grace business.”

Responses From You

From a brother in Louisville...“Sounds like you had one of those Great Experience times at the Conference. I know we all need those experiences to refuel ourselves...I look forward to more good news as your ministry grows.”

From a Pastor in California...“It is good to hear all the Lord is doing with you and this ministry. Keep up the good work and give my greetings to Fran and the family.”

Thank You!

We are grateful to all of you who pray for Abba’s Delight, the work we are doing, our overcomer participants, our Family and Friends support group, our Board of Directors, our goals to increase and remain faithful to our calling, our application process to Exodus to become an affiliated member ministry, and we are grateful to you for your financial support through your tax-deductible donations. Father will bless your blessing of this work.

If you do not wish to receive the Abba’s Delight ministry Newsletter any longer, please let me know. If you wish to continue to receive it, please be certain to put our email address into your address book, so that this mailing does not go to your spam file 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