

# ***ABBA'S DELIGHT***

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

Ministry Newsletter February 2011  
P O Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269  
A Referral Ministry of ROCK

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2*

## **"I Hate Change!"**

I cannot count the number of times in my lifetime that these words have entered my mind and received my hearty agreement, or have crossed my lips with the perceived impending dread of whatever unpleasantness I thought was to come. I want things to stay the same. I'm used to the same. It's familiar, it's comfortable, and **it's the same**. Why would I want to alter what is already comfortable? Why would I want to adjust what I already know to be pleasant and acceptable? Why does there have to be change?

The Lord has been giving me the opportunity over the last couple of months to revisit my views toward change. And if I can judge by the way it's going so far, this is a mountain I'll probably be going around again and again. I've known for years that Father is all about changing lives. I know I cannot be conformed to the image of Jesus without change. It probably was not this way for you all, but believe it or not, I didn't arrive on the scene already perfect. I am constantly being tweaked. Ouch!

The latest adjustments that are occurring relate to my day-job company. For thirteen-and-a-half years, I have had the extreme pleasure of working for two owners who don't have the first micro-manage bone in either of their bodies. When I came to this company, it was like I'd been set free from the Egypt that I'd been bound to for the previous twelve years. I have often said you'd have to pry me away from there. But because our company hasn't been doing as well for the last few years as we previously had, they couldn't pass up an offer that came along to sell the company. So, we've been acquired. No more flexible schedules; no more as-long-as-you-get-your-work-done-you-can-pretty-much-set-your-own-hours; no more shorts in the summer; no more jeans-when-ever-you-want. Instead, it's clock-in when you get there, clock-out when you take a break, punch the clock when you leave for and come back from lunch, and clock-out when you leave for the day; make sure you don't park in someone else's spot; no more seniority (what happened to my 13 ½ years?); you can't get in the building without scanning your picture ID. We've been at the new facility since the first full week of February, but we had two months or so to get used to the idea that life as we'd known it was coming to an end and would never be the same again. I have to confess I didn't use

that time very well to get used to the idea. It was very, very, very, very hard for me not to speculate about our new situation and not to try to figure out ways around the new rules. Why? **Because, I hate change!**

All through 2010, our church congregation focused on trusting the Lord and learning about His righteousness. It didn't take me very long to see that I wasn't trusting the Lord where my new job situation is concerned. Longer than I think it probably should have, anyway. Most of my speculation and worry was focused on how the new work situation and environment was going to affect my ability to combine my job obligations and my leadership of Abba's Delight. Previously, I had the flexibility to take a ministry related call during the work day and could schedule a ministry meeting over an extended lunch hour because the time could always be made up. That luxury is gone now. So, now since the beginning of this month, I am learning to trust the Lord in new ways not only about my schedule, but also about the whole work situation. The dreaded change has come, and is coming, and continues to come.

I can see the goal ahead of instinctively turning to the Lord's wisdom for changes that come which may be viewed as unpleasant. I can also see that the journey for me is usually not smooth, but I'm coming to understand that is of my own doing. It doesn't have to be that way. But that's why I trust the Lord; He will lead me through these events out of His great love for me when I ask Him. I must learn to keep my eyes on Him and not the circumstances. I must learn to live in the reality of the present and not in the speculation of what may or may not come. I must learn to understand when I don't have any control over a situation, there's no point in worrying and speculating; that's the time to be on my face before the Lord and seek His counsel, wisdom and leading, and find His will for me in the new circumstances. That is where His peace and joy will be found.

In my heart, I want to be conformed to the image of Jesus. That's change. I want my mind renewed. That's change. I want my life to be transformed. That's change. So, do I really hate change, like I've been saying all these years? My changing job and ministry circumstance is just the vehicle that Father is using to get at my real issue. I think what I really hate is not being in control. If I am truly trusting Father, I will relinquish control of the matter—whatever it is, and follow Him freely and willingly. I've been freaking out about my job situation because the earthly control has been shifted. What I forgot for a time is that my Father has control of the "controllers," and He will work this matter together for my good, and even for the good of those connected to Abba's Delight. My truster is getting a workout. That must be what I need. I will learn to trust the Lord and operate in Him within the framework of the new circumstances He has chosen for me. There I will find His peace, joy, and contentment. OK, now on to patience!

### *Upcoming Ministry Meetings*

Family & Friends Support Group: Tues March 1, 2011 and Tues March 15, 2011

Overcomers' Support Group: Thurs Mar 10, 2011 and Thurs March 24, 2011

### *Upcoming Ministry Events*

**Love Won Out Conferences**---You may remember I reported a couple of years ago that Exodus International had received from Focus on the Family the mantle to carry sole leadership of these conferences. One will be held on April 30, 2011 in the Cincinnati, OH suburb of Mason. And another has been announced for September 10, 2011 to be held in the Houston, TX area in Sugar Land. Each location will have an Equipping Event about a month prior to the Conference. For more information, go to [www.exodusinternational.org](http://www.exodusinternational.org). I will include exact locations as I have them available.

**Exodus International Annual Freedom Conference**—Keeping true to the floating pattern of these conferences, this year's gathering will be in Ashville, NC at the Ridgecrest Retreat Center on June 8-11, 2011. Early registration discounts are available. Check out the details at [www.exodusinternational.org](http://www.exodusinternational.org).

### *Ongoing Prayer Requests*

Our website creation is underway. Please pray that Father will give us His creativity and His heart as we place His ministry online for the world to see.

Please pray for the addition of a couple of new members to our Board of Directors. There are currently seven, including myself. I would like to maintain eight to ten members of the Board. Please ask Father to lead me to those whom He has selected.

Please pray Father will continue to bring new participants to Abba's Delight who are ready to be set free from the bondage of homosexuality and sexual addiction, and that their hearts will be prepared for the journey ahead, ready to share, listen and learn what Father has for their lives as overcomers. Please pray also for the Lord to bring us new members for the Family & Friends support group—those who have loved ones who have chosen to remain in the gay lifestyle or are gay-identified, that they would find love and support from others whose lives have been impacted by homosexuality.

Thank you for your continued prayer support.

### *Responses From You*

Please let us hear from you. If something in our Newsletter has touched you in a way that you wish to share, please write and tell us. Please let us know that you are

praying for us, or if the Lord has given you a word for the ministry, please tell us. Our email address is [danielmingo.abbasdelight@insightbb.com](mailto:danielmingo.abbasdelight@insightbb.com).

### **Financial Support of Abba's Delight**

Please give prayerful consideration about becoming a monthly donor. No amount is too small. Your tax-deductible contribution will help ensure the continued work of this vital ministry setting the captives free from homosexuality and sexual addictions. Your gifts will be used toward funding education and resources used in the ministry.

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***