



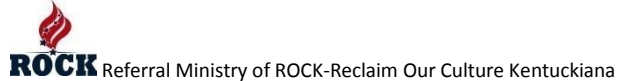
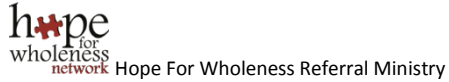
PO Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269

502-939-9269

daniel@abbasdelight.com

Daniel Mingo, Ministry Director Est. Apr 2008 NEWSLETTER– Feb. 2015

www.abbasdelight.com



THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *Jesus answered and said to Nicodemus, "Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:3,5*

Happy Birthday To Me!

It was 45 years ago on February 27, 1970 that I was born again. It sure doesn't seem that long ago in some respects, but in others, it seems like a lifetime has gone by. I remember the night as if it were yesterday.

I was a senior at Tates Creek High School in Lexington, KY, and I had heard from friends in my class that a revival had broken out at nearby Asbury College in Wilmore, KY. I was raised Catholic, so I wasn't sure what a revival was, but my friends were talking about how God was changing the lives of some other friends who were students at the college. About 15-20 of us gathered at the home of one of our classmates, Paige, on Friday night to hear what all the buzz was about.

That night there were two guys who shared their testimonies. At the time, I didn't know what that was either. Each one talked about how they had grown up in church, but really had not been living a Christ-like life. One was Danny, and it was his brother, Tim, who attended the college and had been touched by the Holy Spirit in the chapel services. Tim shared with Danny who rededicated his life to the Lord. The other guy who was speaking at Paige's house that night was Danny and Tim's friend, Ben, who also rededicated his life to the Lord upon hearing what God was doing in Tim's life. There was another fellow there named Bob who went to a different school and had been born again for quite a while. As I remember, he had not fallen away from the Lord, but shared also about what having the Lord in his life meant to him. Bob was the student leader of a group called Youth in Action for Christ (YAC) which drew kids from most of the different high schools in Lexington.

This was the first time I ever heard the term "born-again." More importantly, it was the first time that I ever heard that God loved me. Those were concepts I never heard, or maybe never picked up on, in the Catholic Church. I did have a basic understanding of the faith. I knew about the Trinity. I knew that Jesus came to earth, died, rose again from the dead, and

ascended back into heaven. I knew that I was supposed to live a good Catholic life if I wanted to get to heaven, and that meant obeying my parents, following the other commandments, and going to Mass every Sunday and on the Holy Days. There were various other Church laws I was supposed to follow as well. But this was the first time I'd ever heard that **God/Jesus loves me**. That was huge for this boy, as I felt my life had been pretty miserable up to that point.

I wouldn't have thought that in 1970 there would have been much pain a kid could experience by 17, but that sure wasn't the case with me. I grew up feeling unloved, both in my own family and by my peers. I felt very much mocked and ridiculed. I wasn't one of the 95% of boys who are rough & tumble and do sports well; I was in the 5% who are sensitive and artistic, and couldn't hit a pitch, make a jump shot, or catch a football to save my life. And I often heard about that from coaches and teammates in not-so-affirming terms. At 13, I was sexually molested by a stranger and told no one (for years), fearful I would get in trouble for hitchhiking. When the onslaught of puberty hit, I found myself attracted to boys as well as girls. I would have one or maybe two friends every school year, but somehow I seemed to drive them all away in my dysfunction. And if those things weren't painful enough, I was still heartbroken over the fact that just two short months before this night, my girlfriend broke up with me for my best friend.

So, when Danny, Ben and Bob talked about how God loves us, and that Jesus laid down His life for us—for me!—well, that was just an incredible thought. How could He love me? No one else seemed to. But at the same time, the Truth that was coming out of their mouths about God's love for me pierced my heart. One of them presented the opportunity for us as he prayed to ask Jesus into our hearts to change our lives. I jumped at the chance; I knew that surrendering my life to Him and acknowledging Him as my Savior and Lord had to be better than what I was getting out of life up to that point. So, when the invitation came, I raised my hand high, my need for Jesus overpowering my self-consciousness that someone might be watching, instead of every head being bowed and every eye being closed.

That Friday night, February 27, 1970 marked the start of my true life, my identity solidified in Jesus. It has been quite a journey, filled with straight and narrow roads, roads branching off to the left and right, bumpy and smooth roads, but never roads that stole my heart away from following Jesus. The Lord has healed many hurts from my past; He has restored many relationships; He has taught me how to be a friend in making friends; He has truly restored the years the locust has eaten; He has brought many amazing saints into my life; He has blessed me with an exceptional and beautiful wife and three wonderful sons; He has called me His own. Jesus said He came that we might have life, and have it abundantly. I do!

Happy Birthday to me!

[Responses From You](#)

From a brother in Louisville: **To fear God is to desire to live in harmony with His righteous standards and to honor Him in all that you do.** There lies the lifelong challenge of His will vs our own will. Thanks for sharing your insight about such an important part of our Christian walk. Great newsletter!

From a Pastor in Central KY: Preaching pretty close there, Brother. ☺

From a brother in SC: Daniel, a good word on the fear of the Lord. Bless you.

From another brother in Louisville: Daniel, this newsletter was spot on for me personally. I guess I wish it wasn't, but if that's me then that's me, and thank God He points the way toward salvation and a redemptive heart. Thank you for your honesty and gift of articulation. I am encouraged and I'm going to forward this to several friends.

From a sister in IN: Thanks for the reminder: It boils down to being obedient & aware of the consequences. And, of course the benefits if we fear the Lord!

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, February 26, 2015; Thursday, March 12, 2015; Thursday, March 26, 2015

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, March 3, 2015; Thursday, March 17, 2015; Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Ministry Finances

If you would like to become a monthly donor to Abba's Delight, you may go to www.abbasdelight.com and make arrangements on PayPal. You may also send a check or money order to our mailing address at the top of the newsletter's first page. All donations, monthly or one-time are appreciated and much needed. Thank you!

Ongoing Prayer Requests

As always, we covet your prayers for our ministry to grow, financial support to increase, to move forward proclaiming freedom to the captives, and that churches would open their doors to Abba's Delight. Please pray for our ministry participants, our Family & Friends Support Groups, our meetings, our conferences, events at which we sponsor and exhibit, our Board of Directors, and most importantly that many lives will be touched by the Holy Spirit to draw closer to Jesus, seeking freedom from their bondage.

Please pray that church leaders and congregations will awaken to the necessity of being Biblically prepared with wisdom and God's love to face head-on the growing numbers of those in our congregations who are being impacted, either directly or indirectly through a loved one, by homosexuality and the ever-increasing acceptance of gay life in our culture.

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