

ABBA'S DELIGHT

Established April 2008 Daniel Mingo, Min. Director

Ministry Newsletter, October 2008

P O Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269

Board of Directors: Sue Boldrick, Revel Dawson III, David Edmunds, Jim Fraser, Rick Miller, Daniel Mingo

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12,13*

Guilt vs Shame

In a recent support/recovery group meeting, the discussion turned to the concepts of guilt and shame, what the difference is and what effect(s) they have on the life of a follower of Jesus. At first, it may not seem there is much difference at all, but as we were talking we realized that though the differences may not be numerous, they are certainly significant. As children of our Father, we have been given the promise of the Holy Spirit residing in us. It is He who enables us to see the distinction and recognize which of these two effects we face in our daily walk.

Shame is not from Father. It is a direct attack from our enemy Satan against us as children of God. It tells us we are bad, worthless, no good. It tries to convince us we are unlovable both by other people and even by Father Himself. It seeks to drive a wedge in our relationship to Father by isolating us from Him and other believers through loneliness. When we isolate ourselves, we relinquish the ability to know and be known, fearing that if someone knows who we **really** are or what we're **really** like, they would reject us. So we take control of our own lives striving to be perfect Christians, making it difficult to find our way back home.

Guilt is much different. Paul tells us in Romans that our conscience bears witness of God's laws written on our hearts. This is a gift from Father in us to show us through His Holy Spirit when we have sinned or not. But rather than separating us further from God when we sin, we are drawn to Him as we become aware of our need for Him in those moments. We acknowledge our guilt, recognize our utter need for **His** control of our lives, and surrender ourselves to His forgiveness, mercy and grace in repentance. Guilt focuses on what we have done that is displeasing to Father, but leaves the relationship intact.

It seemed for us then in our group discussion that our bottom line is that guilt goes after what we have done and leads us back to Father, whereas shame attacks us as Father's wayward children and drives us further away from Him.

May we always have the discernment from the Holy Spirit to see clearly our way back when we have wandered from Father's path for us!

Louisville Aids Walk

On the last Sunday of September, I and one of our ministry's participants, joined in on the annual Aids Walk. This was my fourth year to participate and it and continues to be a significant event for me. One man I have walked with in ministry for over four years has been being healed of the

Aids Virus by Father for two decades or more. It has been amazing to see His faithful hand on this man of courage and resolve as he lives his days in the Lord's will and service. Our God is mighty in battle, indeed!

Ministry Goals

Our goals really have not changed much since last month. We are still looking at having a website developed. We continue to seek opportunities for speaking engagements, as well as looking to providing the additional services of a spouse/family/friends support group meeting and finding creative ways to add new participants to our ministry.

Please pray for the ministry and our goals that Father would be glorified in our endeavors.

Ministry contributions may be sent to the address at the top of the newsletter. Thank you for what has been sent already. Meeting our future goals will become realities sooner with your help.

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