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Daniel Mingo, Ministry Director Est. Apr 2008 NEWSLETTER– Oct. 2014 www.abbasdelight.com

 Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry

 Referral Ministry of ROCK-Reclaim Our Culture Kentuckiana

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly. John 10:10*

Recently, I had an opportunity to share this piece with a ministry leader in California, and then again on FaceBook with a friend. It was originally written for our October 2008 newsletter. I have made some updates to the original.

[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 our heavenly Father. It is a direct attack from our enemy Satan against us as children of God. It tells us **we** are bad, **we** are worthless, **we** are 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 with God 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 and condemn 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 the 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. He promises us in Romans 8:1, "There is therefore, now, no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." He tells us we are His beloved, our adoption sealed in the Holy Spirit's witness that we are His children. The Holy Spirit brings conviction of sin, not condemnation of us, conviction that draws us closer into Father's heart.

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!

Responses From You

From one of our Family & Friends Group members: Excellent! And applicable in all areas of life, because we all need someone to hold our hand and stand with us.

From a Pastor in SC: Daniel, the article in this latest newsletter is really good. I know it is encouraging to those in the program, but the fact is...every pastor should read it. So many pastors and churches are structured in such a way as to prevent the very thing you are talking about. It takes a genuine relational base to create an atmosphere of safety, trust, and vulnerability in a congregation. The typical church has such superficial relationships which hinders the safety and trust factor. And the corporate organizational rather than organic relationships hinder staff from going to their pastors and leaders. A very good word---for those with problems and for those who should be standing with the ones seeking help and providing the healthy context you discussed in the newsletter. Bless you and the ministry.

From a fellow prayer warrior in Louisville: Thank you, Daniel!

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, October 23, 2014; Thursday, November 6, 2014; Thursday, November 20, 2014

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, October 28, 2014; Tuesday, November 11, 2014; Tuesday, November 25, 2014

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 Group, 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.

End of Year Gifts

Nearing the end of 2014, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to Abba's Delight. You can give on our website through PayPal at www.abbasdelight.com, which gives you the option of donating monthly or one-time. Or you can mail in a check to our address shown at the top left of this newsletter's first page. Thank you for your consideration!

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