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

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Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry



Referral Ministry of ROCK-Reclaim Our Culture Kentuckiana

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *Flee sexual immorality. Every other sin a man commits is outside the body, but a sexually immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? 1 Cor. 6:18,19*

[Biblical Sexuality in the Black Church](#)

On Saturday, September 19, 2015, I took part in the first Symposium on Biblical Sexuality in the Black Church. Since the beginning of this year, I had been meeting with a number of African American Baptist pastors to plan and coordinate this inaugural event. I was invited to participate by the pastor to whom the Lord imparted the vision for this gathering. He and I have been friends for about a dozen years, having met in a recovery program. It was a blessing and a privilege to work together with these men of God over the months to present this conference here in Louisville, KY where most of the planners and participants minister. Getting to know them, and they being introduced to me and the work I do through Abba's Delight, were valuable for us all, and I am hopeful about the prospect of ministering in some of their churches in the weeks and months ahead.

Topics for the symposium included: A Sexual Revolution in the Black Church; A Biblical Response to Homosexuality and the LGBTQ Community; Sexual Abstinence Before Marriage; Pornography in the Church; A Biblical View of Co-habitation; and A Biblical Response to Sexual Abuse & Exploitation. There were also a couple of panel discussions throughout the day for which attendees, numbering about 400, could submit questions electronically during the event.

I had invited Aqueena "Queen" Smith from Chicago, who spoke regarding the Biblical Response to Homosexuality and the LGBTQ Community. Queen runs a ministry in a church in Chicago and I've known her since our days in Exodus. She is now also affiliated with the Hope for Wholeness Network, www.hopeforwholeness.org, as is Abba's Delight. During my sharing at the symposium, I presented my testimony and touched on some of the work that Abba's Delight does in ministering to born-again believers who wish to live beyond their same-gender sexual issues, families and friends who have gay-identified loved ones, and churches that wish to deal with homosexuality in a redemptive way. Also during this segment, I interviewed one of my African American participants in our Overcomers Group, who was able to share a good bit of his story of the Lord leading him out of homosexual sin.

The Lord's timing of this event was perfect! Many churches have become lax in dealing redemptively and effectively with sexual sin in their midst. Sometimes, the pastors themselves have secret sins they are afraid to disclose for fear of being fired or removed from ministry, while others do not address sexual issues due to pressure from congregants or fear of tithes and offerings declining if messages aren't positive and uplifting so that everyone can always leave happy. So, pastors often opt for a God loves us message over a God disapproves of our behaviors message. In the area of homosexual sin, there are more and more churches all the time sacrificing Biblical integrity to choose the way of inclusion so no one gets offended. Additionally, in the last few years there has been released the Queen James Version of the Bible. I have heard one pastor here in Louisville touting its authenticity as being equally valid as any of the traditionally accepted translations of God's Word. Christianpost.com reports that its publishers have stated that it "accurately translates certain verses pertaining to homosexuality, which have been misunderstood by religious conservatives." In other words, hundreds of years of Biblical scholars are suddenly wrong about homosexuality being a sin, according to the Queen James publishers.

Coincidentally, or many not so, on the same day as the Symposium, the Louisville Pride Festival took place with an estimated 12,000 attending. A large section of Bardstown Rd in Louisville was closed to traffic to allow for the event to celebrate Louisville's pride in its diversity. Also, on the following day after the Symposium, the TV show Iyanla: Fix My Life presented on the Oprah Network (OWN), introduced the world to two African American pastors here in Louisville who have now come out as gay in the interviews she did with them when she traveled here.

One of the things I appreciated most about the Symposium, was a portion of the welcome statement in the program which read, "...a symposium designed to equip African American pastors and churches with a biblical basis for understanding human sexuality. This is the inaugural event of a brand new organization the Holy Spirit led me to initiate which is called African Americans for Biblical Authority (AABA). Members of the AABA have a convictional commitment to the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God. As such, we believe it is our final authority in all matters related to faith and life, inclusive of human sexuality."

Our churches must get back to recognizing and living by the authority of the Scriptures, and building our lives around God's revealed design and plan, not trying to create God in our own image based on our emotions and attractions hoping He'll approve.

[Responses From You](#)

From a Pastor in Winchester, KY: Keep up the good work!

From a brother in FL: Thank you Daniel. I really enjoyed reading about your HS reunion experience. My experiences with these things is similar. I learned that I was a lot more loved than I was aware. Sweet. Take care.

From a Ministry Director in the North: Hi Daniel, Your newsletter brought back memories of my own schooling. I also went to Catholic grade school, leaving it for public school in the 8th

grade. I also was active in the drama department of our high school. I had no close friends in high school, but related well to all the class cliques. Being in school plays brought me out of my shell and gave me some self-esteem I was lacking as a child. My gay drama teacher was in our wedding. Diane and I went to the same high school and graduated together. We have been to several reunions and I often wondered if any class mates knew about our ministry. Blessings to you and Fran.

Let us hear from you on our articles. Are we striking a chord, or hitting a sour note? Tell us!

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, Sep 24, 2015; Thursday, Oct 8, 2015; Thursday, Oct 22, 2015
Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, Sep 29, 2015; Tuesday, Oct 13, 2015; Tuesday, Oct 27, 2015

Upcoming Ministry Events

October 5-7, 2015 Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC) Annual Conference 2015 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. Abba's Delight is a Bronze Sponsor of this event. The Conference is open to the public. Go to <http://www.biblicalcounseling.com/annualconference/> for more information and to register.

Ongoing Prayer Requests

Abba's Delight needs to fill two seats on its Board of Directors that will become vacant after our November 2015 meeting. Meetings are held quarterly. If you have a heart for the work we're doing and you believe the Lord is leading you in this way, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Please pray that the Lord brings those He wants to serve.

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. 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