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Daniel Mingo, Ministry Director Est. Apr 2008 NEWSLETTER– Sept. 2016

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 Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry

 Referral Ministry of ROCK-Reclaim Our Culture Kentuckiana

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

Five-and-a-half years have gone by since this piece first appeared as the featured article in the March 2011 Abba's Delight newsletter. I find it just as relevant today as it was then.

Consecrated, Set Apart

Last week end I attended an annual one day retreat that my recovery group sponsors. There were between 20-30 men there. Besides all being born-again believers, our common link is that we are all recovering addicts. It's in our name, ARC: Addicts Redeemed by Christ. We had a few times of musical worship, the fellowship of eating a couple of meals together, and some different kinds of exercises. Not the push-ups or sit-ups kind, rather spiritual and reflective exercises.

One of these exercises involved walking to three different gazeboes on the property. Stopping at each gazebo, we would reflect on each Person of the Trinity. The Father gazebo represented to us the different aspects of God's relationship to us: Father, Provider, Protector, etc. At the Jesus gazebo, we were presented with a picture card of the nail-scarred Savior holding up a collapsing man with a wooden mallet in his hand. This picture represents forgiveness with the posed question, "Do you know the joy of forgiveness?" The third gazebo was reflective of the Holy Spirit. There, one of the leaders was stationed to anoint our heads with oil and to pray over us. This was especially meaningful to me as the brother at this gazebo is one I've known for over 20 years, and with whom I talk regularly throughout the week about our recovery and things of the Lord. Beyond that, our assignment at this gazebo for the time after we were anointed and prayed over was to reflect on why we were being anointed.

As I walked away from the other men towards a little beach area by the lake and sat down at one of the picnic tables, I sensed the Lord speaking to my heart that I was anointed for service. It would be natural to connect that anointing to the ministry work of Abba's Delight,

and that would certainly be applicable. But even beyond and higher than that is the anointing for service to the King and His kingdom. Obviously, what Father has called me to do with Abba's Delight is part of that calling/anointing, but it takes in so much more than that. In Christ, I am a son of the Father, a co-heir to the throne with Jesus, a husband, a father, a brother in Christ, a disciple, a businessman, a mentor, and on and on. I am anointed to do all that Father has called me to do in His kingdom. I am being equipped for every good work through Father's on-the-job training and discipleship course. All this, not so I'll be a swell guy when Father is finished with me, but so that I will be an effective tool for His use as He builds His kingdom in the hearts of men and women here on earth. I am/we are blessed to be a part of that. I want to be one who takes this assignment from Father seriously. This isn't for my sake, but for His sake, and for His kingdom. My pastor, Ted Sandquist, wrote a song years ago based on Psalm 84. A couple of the lines are, "And I would rather be a doorkeeper in Your fold than to take my fate upon myself. For You are my sun and my shield, You are my Lover from the start, and the highway to Your kingdom runs through my heart."

When we are in the service of our King, it shouldn't matter to us what we are called to do, only that we serve with all our hearts to please Him who has called us from the kingdom of darkness into His marvelous light.

I want to be obedient to serve, no matter what the assignment. No matter if I feel qualified or not, if I am fearful or even feel foolish, I want my life and choices to be pleasing to Him who has found me worthy of serving Him.

Responses From You

From a sister in IN: Love is always the answer. Thank you, Daniel, for the reminder.

From a brother in the Hope for Wholeness Network: Heavy, Dude, heavy!.....Trudat!.....I am about to copy this and print as a daily reminder. I needed this right now. Disenchantment, discouragement, disillusionment and distrust in male bonding relationships come fairly easy for me right now. I'm licking a few of my wounds recently resurrected from some childhood wounds. Regardless of that, I am fully aware that my focus should be on loving myself and others. Real intimacy and love is challenging to me.....again. thanks for sharing.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, Oct 6, 2016; Thursday, Oct 20, 2016

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, Oct 11, 2016; Tuesday, Oct 25, 2016

Upcoming Speaking Engagement

Aldersgate Renewal Center, Goodlettsville, TN "Men's Advance" October 14-15, 2016

I will be presenting a talk on Sexual Purity. I would appreciate your prayers.

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. Please pray that church leaders and congregations will awaken to the necessity of being prepared Biblically 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