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Est. Apr 2008

Daniel Mingo, Founder and Min Director

NEWSLETTER—April 2018

 Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry

*He rescued me because He delighted in me. Ps 18:19b*

**THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts. Roman 13:13,14***

**[Porn: Why Should I Stop Watching It?](#)** (Pulled from the Archives, April 2016)

In the April 11, 2016 edition of Time magazine, the cover story is about porn and “why young men who grew up with Internet porn are becoming advocates for turning it off.” The story identifies and talks about fellows who have watched porn regularly/habitually for most of their lives largely unhindered, and have now realized as adults wanting to engage in sexual activity with other individuals, they no longer have the ability to maintain erectile functionality when engaging a real live partner. They’ve even given it a name: PIED—porn-induced erectile dysfunction.

One twenty-something normalized his porn use, stating that “porn was as much a part of adolescence as homework or acne.” Another fellow whose dad was a software engineer said he was encouraged from the age of three to be on his computer. By the age of 14, he was masturbating to porn ten times a day. The rest of his time was spent playing video games.

Their rationale was explained simply by one man who shared, “There was a disconnect between what I wanted in my mind and how my body reacted.” According to the article, these guys “are convinced that their sexual responses have been sabotaged because their brains were virtually marinated in porn when they were adolescents.”

For those of you reading this piece, who may not believe that porn in our culture is such a big deal, check out these statistics from the article. “One independent web-tracking company clocked 58 million U.S. visitors to adult sites in February 2006. Ten years later the number was 107 million. One of the world’s largest adult sites...says that it gets 2.4 million visitors per hour and that in 2015 alone, people around the globe watched 4,392,486,580 hours of its content...” And that’s just one site! Recent studies show that the average age for first-time porn viewing in males is 12 years old.

To counteract the effects of this long-term porn use, there have been online groups, forums, phone apps, websites, blogs, educational videos, and podcasts established to help these men

avoid porn use, and to help them understand the dilemma. Some have taken on speaking engagements to spread the word, and one fellow does counseling for \$100 a session.

One such YouTube video that I have found helpful in ministry is called The Science of Porn, describing what porn viewing does to our brains.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ya67aLaaCc>

Not everyone is buying into porn being a negative thing, that it even has an effect on erectile functionality, or that people can become sexually addicted. Some believe that those individuals are simply over-sexed. However, I doubt that those who feel trapped with no way out would agree. One study showed that men who are 'religious' are more likely to believe they are addicted.

So, as a man of God, why should I avoid watching porn? Primarily, to be obedient to my Father! He created the good gift of sexual expression to be shared only between a husband and his wife. Therefore, any expression outside of that formula is disobedient to His word. Jesus preached that even entertaining lustful thoughts in our minds toward other individuals is adulterous. Sounds so simple! But carrying out His instruction is often not. Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ has been a strong support in my walk of purity and holiness for over 20 years. Being open, honest, and transparent with close brothers about my thoughts and temptations has served well, too. Additionally, engaging in repeated porn viewing will certainly deter me from pursuing God's purpose and destiny for my life, as He has called me to specific tasks in building His kingdom on earth. While He chooses to use fallible humans to accomplish His work, I certainly want to give Him my full cooperation in the process.

Have I become perfect in holiness? Not by a long shot! But it is a goal I continue to grow towards with His mercy and grace.

### **Responses From You**

From a pastor friend: Congratulations on your ministry milestone! May the Lord continue to bless you richly in Christ and for Christ.

From a brother in Christ: Daniel, Great report and encouraging!

From a Louisville Christian Businessman: Daniel, It is good to read about your faithfulness to this ministry for over a decade now. I pray you are strengthened and continually encouraged to be salt and light in this area of ministry. Each part of the body of Christ, doing their part. Your part is very much needed in the world we live in.

From a sister in Christ: Thank you for the letter. I look forward to your positive notes each time. Although I don't attend meetings, I am praying for you. I'm not sure if you call on churches but we attend SECC Crestwood campus. The staff seem like they would be open to your insights and wisdom as we are a large congregation and I'm sure I'm not the only one dealing with a family member identifying as gay. I will also ask our campus pastor his thoughts on you visiting or speaking. Thank you for all you are doing in the lives of so many.

From a faithful ministry supporter: " His master replied, 'Well done, good & faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come & share your master's happiness!'"( Mat25:21).

From a former ministry leader: ...I enjoyed reading this recent newsletter. You're right about churches being unwilling to talk about this issue and to support ministries. It doesn't make any sense. I've been praying really hard about it. Just in our church I'm finally seeing some doors open as I've cried out to the Lord...I'm not the director of \_\_\_\_\_ Ministries anymore. I'm a homeschool mom. But I still want to share my testimony - especially with young people. I will be praying for you and you can be praying for me! God bless you in every way!

### **Upcoming Ministry Meetings**

Overcomers Group: Thursday, May 3, 2018; Thursday, May 17, 2018; Thursday, May 31, 2018

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, May 8, 2018; Tuesday, May 22, 2018

### **Upcoming Prayer Initiatives**

God Belongs In My City monthly prayer walk is on Saturday, April 28, 2018, 10:00am at the Big 4 Bridge. Meet at the Silver parking lot on the KY side of the river.

Louisville Prayer Breakfast: Wednesday, May 2, 2018; 7:00-8:30am at the Ramada Inn on Zorn Ave at I-71. \$6.00 Continental Breakfast. Speaker is Sharon Neville of Operation Open Arms.

1 Voice Prayer Movement: Friday, May 4, 2018, 6:00pm at Energized Baptist Church, 3107 7th Street Road.

### **Upcoming Conferences**

Converge: June 8,9, 2018 in Sydney, Australia (Daniel is a conference speaker)

Hope for Wholeness annual conference "Rise", July 11-14, 2018, Ridgecrest Conference Center, Ridgecrest, NC (Daniel will be teaching a workshop(s) and leading the Prayer Team)

Help4Families: Hope Gathering 2018, July 27-28, 2018, Evangel North at 1732 Thames Drive, Clarksville, IN (Daniel will be exhibiting Abba's Delight and sharing his testimony)

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***