



PO Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269 502-939-9269 [daniel@abbasdelight.com](mailto:daniel@abbasdelight.com) [www.abbasdelight.com](http://www.abbasdelight.com)

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Daniel Mingo, Founder and Min Director

NEWSLETTER – March 2019



Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry

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

**THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Pet 5:8***

This article first appeared in our May 2017 newsletter issue. I'm repeating the article, but also providing an update on the current situation. Please pray about what you can do.

### [We Are Allowing the Culture to Steal Away Our Parental Choices](#)

God, through His Word, has spoken that it is the parents' obligation and responsibility to raise their children according to His ways, as He has set forth. However, on social media this week, an article reported that two more states have passed laws which take away parental rights and choices to seek professional counseling when determining the well-being of their same-sex attracted minor children. Even when those attractions are unwelcomed and unwanted by the minor, and even when the minor is the one initiating the process with his/her parents to get help. As of the passing of this latest legislation, there are now nine states whose legislators have declared they know better than parents what is best for those parents' children.

The counseling being robbed from these families is often referred to as "reparative therapy" or "conversion therapy." According to Wikipedia, "Conversion therapy is psychological treatment or spiritual counseling designed to change a person's sexual orientation from homosexual or bisexual to heterosexual." According to the FaceBook page description for the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality (NARTH), it declares, "The Alliance for Therapeutic Choice and Scientific Integrity upholds the rights of individuals with unwanted homosexual attraction to receive effective psychological care, and the right of professionals to offer that care."

We could debate the rightness or wrongness of this method of counseling ad nauseum, but the bigger concern for us as Christians and as citizens of the United States is, and should be, that the government has again intruded its way into our lives to tell us they know what is best for us and our families. Only 1%-3% of the population of the United States is LGBTQ, but you would think it was the majority, the way the culture, courts and media would have us believe.

For the record, Abba's Delight ministry does not practice any kind of therapy, reparative or otherwise. Biblically-based lay-counseling and discipleship are what is offered, along with support/recovery groups. As a referral ministry of the Hope for Wholeness network, [www.hopeforwholeness.org](http://www.hopeforwholeness.org), our ministries, churches and Christian counselors agree not to engage in reparative therapy, mostly because we do not promise that someone will change from same-sex attracted to opposite-sex attracted. God can do anything, and if He chooses to bring about that kind of change in someone's orientation, He's perfectly capable of doing so, and has.

Most importantly, though, in this article, I want to call up the Body of Christ not to sleep through yet another issue that affects the entire Church. A friend of mine commented on the online article, "For every one Christian parent who tries to find a therapist who can help their child understand their emerging orientation and desires for intimacy, there are many, many more who want the therapist to "fix" their teenager so their family life won't have the mess of a non-straight orientation. If conservatives focused on fixing this in-house problem, then there wouldn't be a need for this specific public policy conversation." I agree with my friend's premise; still, I believe it goes beyond conservatism; it is the Church who must act in righteousness. The Church should be leading the conversation and the healing process. The Church should be the one with the solutions. The Church should be viewed by the culture as God's answer to any of life's issues, including LGBTQ issues. We've got a long, long way to go to be Jesus, the Body of Christ, to the culture."

March 27, 2019: There are now 15 states, plus the District of Columbia which have banned ministry/counseling to minors with unwanted same-sex attractions and gender identity issues. According to Wikipedia, "All bans, except for New York City's (and Washington, D.C.'s pending review), are limited to such therapy for minors," which means in those two cities, the ban extends to adults as well, taking away their right to self-determine treatment for unwanted same-gender attractions and/or gender dysphoria. Two bills were filed in Kentucky in this last legislative session, but never made it to a vote. I believe the end goal of those pushing this evil and ungodly agenda is for self-determination to be abolished completely in our country for anyone, young person or adult.

As Christ's body of believers building His kingdom here on earth, we must repent of our irresponsibility in these matters and pray, and fast, asking for God's intervention. The foretold persecution is here, and we are not equipped.

### **[Responses From You](#)**

From a brother in Louisville, KY: 1970? wow, The year I graduated from high school. We are older than I think.

From a sister in the Lord: Thanks Daniel.

### [Upcoming Ministry Meetings](#)

Overcomers Group: Thursday, April 4, 2019; Thursday, April 18, 2019

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, April 9, 2019; Tuesday, April 23, 2019

### [Upcoming Prayer Initiatives](#)

Louisville Prayer Breakfast: Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 7:00-8:30am at the Ramada Inn on Zorn Ave at I-71, Salon D. \$6.00 continental breakfast. Our April speaker is TyiaLynn Mikels from Critically Loved.

1 Voice Prayer Movement: Friday, April 5, 2019, 6:00-7:00pm at St. Stephen Baptist Church, 1018 S 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Louisville, KY 40210

God Belongs in My City: Saturday, April 27, 2019, monthly prayer walk at the Big 4 Bridge, 10:00am, meeting at the Silver Parking Lot on the Kentucky side.

### [Upcoming Conferences](#)

Kentucky Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God: April 29-30, 2019, Crowne Plaza Hotel at 830 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY 40209—exhibiting Abba's Delight ministry

Hope for Wholeness Conference: July 10-13, 2019 Exalt 2019 Ridgecrest Conference Center, Ridgecrest, NC

### [Scholarship Fund for Hope for Wholeness Conference](#)

Each year we ask for your financial support to assist those who would like to attend the conference, but are financially unable. Your tax-deductible donations allow those in our Overcomers and Family & Friends support groups to be able to attend this all-important event. If you are unable to go, but can help someone else, please make your checks payable to Abba's Delight and mail them to the address at the top of our newsletter, noting "scholarship fund" on the check's memo line. Thank you for your prayerful 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***