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Est. April 2008

**Daniel Mingo, Founder and Ministry Director** 

NEWSLETTER-October 2023

Referral Ministry of
Transformation Ministries Alliance

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

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. 1 Pet 5:5-7

## **Finding Humility**

From July 2010, revised and tweaked a bit

I suspect clothing ourselves with humility, as Peter admonishes us in his first letter, is as challenging a concept for other believers as it is for me. I know it certainly doesn't come easy for me. It is not natural to my personality. Yet, it is a way of life to which Father has called us all. I'm sharing with you some thoughts I've had and the conclusions I've come to, at least in this stage of my journey, with the huge disclaimer that I feel like I've only begun to scratch the surface of what I believe Godly humility is, even after almost 54 years in the Lord.

I had been involved in a discussion about the 7th Step in the 12-step recovery process. It states, "Humbly asked Him (God) to remove our shortcomings." In my way of thinking, I first have to understand (more than I have in the past) what it means to be humble, in order for me to know how to approach Him in that way when asking Him to remove those shortcomings. I remembered these Philippians verses, 2:5-8, "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking on the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." I began to think about Jesus' example. I also thought about the mealy-mouthed, Caspar Milquetoast, spineless, pushover type character I've seen portrayed in the past of men who were supposedly humble. But that characterization certainly doesn't fit my Savior and King. Jesus lived His life on earth as a wellspoken, strong-of-character individual. No one could ever describe Him as spineless or a pushover. Jesus knew who He was, knew where He came from, knew what His mission was, and faithfully served His Father's will as a man on earth. And He accomplished all that He did in a loving and compassionate way.

Jesus exercised great self-control in His mission. He was the one who emptied Himself, no one did that to Him. He Himself took on the form of a bond-servant by His own choice. He chose to humble Himself obediently, surrendering Himself in death to fulfill Father's plan. No one took his life from Him. No one forced these decisions on Him. He took them on intentionally and with purpose, in complete obedience to His Father's will. I believe part of the reason He was able to live His earthly life in this way is because of the close relationship He maintained with our heavenly Father. Jesus knew He was here on earth to carry out His Father's will, and He told His disciples that He only spoke and acted upon His Father's bidding. See John 14. And I believe therein lies the key for us in finding humility for ourselves.

I believe we first have to know who we are in God. We are sinners saved by God's grace, yet in that gift of salvation, we have become His sons and daughters. We are no longer merely His creation; we have become co-heirs with Christ to Father's kingdom. We are no longer slaves to sin, but have been set apart for holiness to God. We are kings and priests. All this, and more! But just like Jesus, we must intimately know our Father and His will for us, so that we may do His bidding on the earth to further His kingdom according to His plan. Co-heirs? Wow, that's pretty cool! Yeah, it is! But we have to be careful, as Paul encourages us, not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. Or less highly, for that matter! We must avoid becoming arrogant in our knowledge of who we are in God, in any position we hold, in the church we attend, in our expressions of worship, etc. And at the same time, we must also avoid the false humility claim of "I am nothing, and worthless."

So, my conclusions about finding humility before God are all tied in to knowing Him more intimately, knowing who I am in Him, knowing His will for my life and carrying that out day-by-day as His obedient son in His service, and learning to die to self so that I might become more perfectly conformed to the image of Jesus. I'm sure there is more to clothing ourselves in humility, but for today this is where I've landed for the challenge.

It's a good thing Father sent the Holy Spirit to help me. Can I get an Amen?

#### **Responses From You**

From a retired counselor: Daniel, thank you so much for this message that is so profound

concerning boundaries. God bless you!

From a local pastor: Daniel...you did a great job writing this piece.

From a sister in Australia: Fantastic newsletter.

From a family member: Love this! So timely!

From a member in a former church: Yes!

From a sister in the Lord: Thank you for this word, Daniel Mingo! Great word!

### **Upcoming Ministry Meetings**

Overcomers Group: Thur, Nov 9, 2023; Thur, Nov 23, 2023 Thanksgiving, no mtg; Thur, Nov 30,

2023

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, Nov 2, 2023

# **End of Year Giving**

I want to thank everyone who has generously donated to Abba's Delight this year. Your prayers, love, and support have enabled participation in three ministry trips. Especially since COVID, donations have declined; but even the few previous years before, our number of donors had lessened. There is so much more we can accomplish in the Lord through your financial boost. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us either one-time or monthly tax—deductible gifts. Checks can be mailed to the P O Box at the top of the opening page of the newsletter; or you can go to the website and give online through PayPal. Thank you so much for your consideration.

#### **Ongoing Prayer Requests**

New Participants for Overcomers Group and new online lay-counselees • New members for our Family & Friends Group (especially wives) • Ministry Finances • Open doors to churches, so pastor and staff can be effectively equipped • Those currently being served by Abba's Delight ministry, both Overcomers and Family & Friends • Continued freedom to operate ministry in KY Continued speaking engagements.

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