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Daniel Mingo, Founder and Ministry Director

NEWSLETTER—April 2024



Referral Ministry of
Transformation Ministries Alliance

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

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: *The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him. Prov 23:24*

I wrote this article just over six-and-a-half years ago, when my dad was near death. I'm sensing a prompting from the Lord to share it again at this time; from September 2017.

Fathers and Sons

As I am writing this piece, my Dad is dying. He has been in the late stages of dementia for some time, and has now developed aspiration pneumonia. There are no heroic measures being taken, according to his wishes, and that includes a feeding tube. It's a matter of hours to days at this point. To some degree, I have already begun my grieving process.

Dad was a very likable guy according to everyone who met him, and his personality suited him well enough as a salesman to get promoted later to District Sales Manager. Unfortunately, that's not the Dad I was able to see.

Dad and I have had a life-long complicated relationship. Growing up, in my mind I questioned his love for me. In my adult years, I began to realize some things about Dad and how he expressed love. He was from a generation that was known for not verbally expressing love to its offspring. That a roof was provided, that there was food on the table, and that there were clothes on our backs were expected to be enough of a love expression that it didn't need to be said. Back then, nobody knew about love languages, and Dad didn't feel the need to tell me he loved me. And I couldn't see it.

It's been said that males need the three A's: attention, affirmation, and affection. For decades, it had been my perception that these needs in my life were neglected by my Dad. In truth, they were not. But, for me as a child, my perception was my reality. So, in my adult years as I began to gain a more realistic perspective, I realized that my Dad really did love me, and that he did his best to meet the needs of those three A's in my life. By that time, though, I had dug a hole deep enough for myself in my relationship with him that I spent years trying to dig out of.

My wife has reminded me on several occasions of something Dad said to me the day that she and I disclosed my homosexual history to Dad and Mom, and my siblings and their spouses during a family meeting I had called when I was preparing to begin active ministry to those with same-sex attractions and their families. At the end of the conversation, Dad said, "I've always been proud of you, but now I respect you, too."

We have never gotten to where I would have wished it could be, and over the years the Lord brought a lot of healing to our relationship. Yet, in my grieving, I am realizing already I am mourning the loss of what will never be maybe even more than grieving him himself. I knew with his dementia, as time went on, this would be the case, but with his impending death, it becomes final. We were both incapable, for whatever reasons, of giving and receiving certain things with each other in our relationship.

I was talking with one of my sons yesterday, after his trip to say good-bye to his grandfather, about the fact that because of how I perceived my Dad the way I did, I raised him and his brothers being intentional about how my wife and I expressed our love to them as they were growing up. God is a God of redemption, and I trust that there is future healing both for me in my relationship with my Dad even after he's gone, and for my sons in their relationship with me.

Fathers, and prospective fathers, let us be intentional going forward with our sons to discover how they receive love best and to sow into those needs.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, May 9, 2024; Thursday, May 23, 2024

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Ministry Events

Transformation Ministries Alliance (TMA) Annual Conference: Epic Transformation Conference 2024...May 30th-Jun 1st. Hampton Inn by Hilton in Williamstown, KY. Go to www.TMAcorp.org for complete information

Rainbow Revival Freedom March...Chicago, IL...October 2024...Details to follow

Ongoing Prayer Requests

New Participants for Overcomers Group and new online lay-counselors • 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