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Daniel Mingo, Ministry Director Est. Apr 2008 NEWSLETTER— February 2016 www.abbasdelight.com



Hope For Wholeness Referral Ministry



Referral Ministry of ROCK-Reclaim Our Culture Kentuckiana

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: "...and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loves me and delivered Himself up for me." Gal. 2:20b

Following up on last month's article, "Reality vs Truth," it seemed fitting to reach back into the Abba's Delight newsletter archives for a reminder on walking by faith from August 2009.

Walking By Faith

"Walking by faith" is one of those Christianese phrases that we disciples of Jesus throw around so easily, but that challenges us moment by moment as we live out our days in our fleshly bodies. Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 5:7 that we walk by faith, not by sight. Each and every day, we get so many opportunities to exercise our faith in the Lord based on what we know to be Biblical truth, rather than based on what we feel or on what our thoughts tell us—both of which we can be so ready to accept as gospel, and can be so deceptive to us.

So, part of exercising our faith means that we must become familiar with God's Word so that we will know the Biblical truths by which He calls us to live. As we are learning God's ways of doing things as well as His Biblical promises, and are facing these daily challenges, we are often tempted to react according to what our circumstances present to us and not according to God's truth. This fact was a huge revelation to me: just because I think something, it doesn't make it true. Believe it or not, our own thoughts are not the be-all-end-all of knowledge and wisdom. All the circumstances around me may be pointing towards something being true, I may be hearing from others in my life that this is the way things are and/or should be, it may even appear right logically---but if it doesn't square with God's word, it's not His truth. And whatever is not His truth is a lie, because there is no truth apart from Him.

According to John's gospel, Jesus is the Word made flesh. Jesus also said of Himself, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." When you hear it like this, it sure seems pretty cut and dry. But then life gets in the way, and we can become confused, and the truth of God's word can become kind of fuzzy. And since God is not a God of confusion (1 Cor 14:33), we know that we will find peace and assurance in our steps of faith when we are acting according to His word, and not out of our own thoughts or reactions to our circumstances.

So, while the term "walking by faith" may sound simple, living it out may be something altogether different for us. Now, we know that Father looks at our hearts, and that He's not sitting in heaven with a clipboard logging hash marks each time we sin, as if to say, "There he goes again." He created us flesh, He knows our weaknesses, and He is always ready, willing and able to help us through our process—and if you've been walking with the Lord any time at all, you know that just about everything is a process, much to the disappointment of our instantly-

gratified selves---products of our culture that we are. But our Father is patient, as opposed to us who want immediate transformation.

Therefore, while we are on this walking-by-faith journey, let's understand that we're not making the trip alone. Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us, as well as His other adopted brothers and sisters who can speak encouragement and challenge into our lives. Sometimes this walk of faith is hard; let's not make it any more difficult by attempting it alone. Because of Father's great love for us, He makes the journey more bearable by providing us companions along the way. Let's take to heart Father's message in Ecclesiastes 4:9,10, "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his fellow. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up." Paul wrote his letters to groups of believers, not to sole individuals. We need to begin viewing our journey as a corporate one, on which our speech, actions, decisions, etc. affect our fellow travelers. It's time to realize that our walk by faith is a community endeavor.

Responses From You

From a ministry leader in MA: A great word on allowing our theology and what the Word says about God in shine truth into our feelings and experiences, and not the other way around!

From a brother in Louisville: Very poignant message Daniel. I remember right after I gave myself over to the Lord I had a conversation with the person whose life I was emulating. I said something to them that was, basically, "You're living your life according to your own perspective, I've made a decision to live it differently, because I now have hope that I never had before." That was when I was nineteen; I'm now sixty-two... nothing has changed.

From a pastor in SC: Good word, Daniel.

From a sister in IN: Powerful! I never thought about people confusing the two. Makes sense.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Family & Friends Group: Tuesday, Mar 1, 2016; Tuesday, Mar 15, 2016; Tuesday, Mar 29, 2016

Overcomers Group: Thursday, Mar 10, 2016; Thursday, Mar 24, 2016

Upcoming Conferences

Driven by Truth, March 18-19, 2016 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
Exhibiting Abba's Delight Ministry

Counsel the Word, April 26-27, 2016 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY
Exhibiting Abba's Delight Ministry

Hope for Wholeness, "Jesus Above All," June 1-5, 2016, Ridgecrest Conference Center, Black Mountain, NC
Presenting workshops

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