PO Box 991752 Louisville, KY 40269 502-939-9269 daniel@abbasdelight.com www.abbasdelight.com

Est. April 2008 **Daniel Mingo, Founder and Ministry Director** NEWSLETTER–September 2025

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

THIS MONTH'S MEDITATION SCRIPTURE: ***Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father so we too might walk in newness of life. Rom 6:4***

I'm A New Creature Now, But What Was I Before?

From September 2022

Last night, I was in a 12 Step Recovery Group, and the devotional from the Serenity Bible we were discussing started out, "Two indicators of addiction are the gradual loss of identity and the progressive violation of one's own values in the practice of the addiction." In the course of our conversation, the thought occurred to me, "If I became a new creature in newness of life when I got born again at 17 as the above Scripture verse states, then according to the devotion statement what was the identity I lost before I got born again, when I was already active in my addiction?

In John 10:10, Jesus declared, "…The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly…" And John 3:3 says, "Jesus answered and said to Nicodemus, "Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Then, if Jesus gives us life, our abundant life, through our born-again experience, does that mean we were not living at all before we got born again? According to Paul, that would seem to be the case as he writes in Ephesians 2:1-7, "And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." So, our bodies were alive and decaying towards death; but our spirits, which will live eternally, were not yet alive until Jesus changed that for us when we repented and became born again.

Going back to the question "What was the identity I was gradually losing when I was active in my addiction before I got born again?", the only conclusion I came to was that it was a temporary, earthly, finite identity that may matter to loved ones or friends while my body is alive, but in eternity when I am with Jesus, that part of me has absolutely no significance. And with that truth, it certainly behooves us to live with an eternal perspective in the present, even while we are in our mortal bodies.

Responses From You

From a local ministry leader and prayer warrior: Praying for God to continue to expand your territory to be a witness to HIS glory.

From a Louisville reader: Thanks. (for the newsletter)

From southern KY: Praying for you, your wife and the ministry.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

Overcomers Group: Thursday, October 9, 2025; Thursday, October 23, 2025

Upcoming Ministry Events

Friday, October 3, 2025: Podcast interview with Dr. Jennifer Morse of The Ruth Institute

Monday, October 6, 2025: 10:00-11:45am Nicholasville, KY @ Church of the Savior's Praying for Prodigals group. My wife and I will be sharing our testimony, and will talk about how we can minister to and love our LGBTQ friends and relatives.

Ongoing Prayer Requests

New Participants for Overcomers Group and new online lay-counselees • Ministry Finances • Open doors to churches, so pastor and staff can be effectively equipped • Those currently being served by Abba's Delight ministry's Overcomers group and online lay-counselees • 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