

THE PROPHETIC CORNER

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It's a wonderful time to be alive and to be a believer. God is so rich in mercy and love. He is so good. I can't express in words how He makes me feel inside. Even in a hopeless world, He brings hope...and hope in Him will never be met with disappointment. The most intriguing thing about all this is how God pulls us gently to Himself in the midst of this hopelessness and says, "I am here."

How many times in your life have you heard those words? It's great to know God is in your corner. You can carry on and make it just with those three simple words, "I am here." The key is hearing those words from the Father in your spirit. Hearing that still small voice of Jesus on the inside of you, telling you it will be all right, just trust me, I can take you through this, I am here.

I want to touch on a subject that I have learned a great deal about since the last time I covered it. I felt led to revisit this subject in greater detail and provide a different perspective. I believe it's one those subjects that we can't hear enough about. It is the very subject where the rubber meets the road in the life of a believer. It's our intimacy with the Father through our Savior Jesus Christ in the power of His Holy Spirit.

Our intimacy begins in the book of Romans when it says, "If we confess with our mouth and believe with our heart you shall be saved," but it should not end there. It should keep on getting deeper and deeper as time goes on. All relationships need to grow and gain more meaning through each experience.

Our experience in relationship with God is key, as it is in that experience that we find out who we are and who God is. However, the reasons we seek that relationship are also important. I have learned over time that we should not seek God to get more power, money, blessing, etc. We seek God because of who He is.

Seeking and cultivating that relationship with the Father causes us not only to change our mind but our heart. Real and honest change happens when our heart is changed. The scripture says, "out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks." When our heart is changed, our words change, and then our actions. Our tongue is like a small rudder that guides a mighty ship. We bless and curse with the same instrument, which runs counter to what God desires for us. Ps 34 11-13 says it best.

¹¹Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD. ¹²What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? ¹³Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

In this issue we will examine one by-product of intimacy, real and honest change.

A word about Real and Honest Change

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. This great and wonderful statement from the 23rd Psalm reflects the deep provision given to us from above. It is the essence of our relationship with Jesus. This very statement is a summation of that which God provides. It reflects all needs fulfilled in all areas of our lives with Him. It is very emphatic. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. I shall not want for anything, physical, or spiritual. God has provided it all and meets us with all we will ever need right here on earth in our mortal state.

He looks upon us with loving eyes and intense focus and says, "You are my children." However, He goes beyond that to refer to us as His friend, His brother or sister, and His bride. As we grow up in Him, we learn to be all these things. The scripture says that the Lord, our maker, is our husband and that He rejoices over us. He burns with passion and intense longing to spend time with us. Who are we to argue with the God of heaven, the creator of the universe, when He says to find that secret place and spend time with Him?

You see, it is His call to us that breaks us and moves us. We need to be in tune with Him in order to hear as He calls and know what He says. The word promises that he who seeks, will find, and to him who knocks the door will be opened. We, as His bride, must embrace Him with loving arms, lay our head on His chest, and hear His heart beat.

This may sound a bit strange to some of you. Nevertheless, this is not a physical manifestation but a spiritual one. This embrace that we can actually feel happens in the spirit, in the deepest, inmost part of our being. This is not wrong, but the very place God desires us to be. We can do this through praying in quiet solitude, fasting, reading, and meditating on His Word. We press in with passion, seeking God's voice, His touch, His face, and His loving arms around us. Once we realize that God is passionate about us, we begin to be passionate about Him.

If you have ever taken a marketing class, you have heard the term "location, location, location." I believe that with God it's "relationship, relationship, relationship." It is not about our religion, our ministry, our feelings, or any other thing. It is tied to the deepest longing of our hearts that becomes so calloused because of the world, the bitterness, and the strife. We can take action and come into the bridegroom's chambers, allowing our spirit, soul, and body to be swept into His loving embrace. In this passionate communing with the Master, we find deliverance and inner healing. When we allow Him to get that close to us, then and only then, does real and honest change begin to occur. God is constantly seeking us, wooing us, and speaking to us. If we close Him off and shut Him out, we will never have the deep intense touch of His Spirit within our being. Real honest change may never begin to take place.

Two years ago, I embarked on a journey that has led me to a real and honest change. I was not living right and I knew it. I had been a Christian for most of my life and still all things had not become new. I loved God deeply, but I was constantly angry, frustrated, full of rage, critical, judgmental, and pretty much as carnal as I could be. I could lift my hands at church, praise Him so sweetly, and then go home and act like a jerk. I finally got sick and tired of being sick and tired. I started my journey by applying PS 32 to my life. Although I did not realize it then, I now understand how I was applying PS 32 to my life. In the next section, I would like to share a bit more about how this worked.

Relationship, Relationship, Relationship

¹Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ²Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. ³When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. ⁴For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. ⁵I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. ⁶For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him. ⁷Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah. ⁸I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. ⁹Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. ¹⁰Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. ¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

In the opening verse of PS 32, it says, you are blessed if you are clean from your sin, sin is not imputed to you, and you have no guile in your spirit. In verse three, the psalmist makes this remark, “when I kept silence,” silence about his sin. It says the result was his bones waxed old and he roared or cried all the day long. As he suffered from being silent about his sin, he would sweat as if it was hot summer day, because the hand of Lord was heavy upon him. However, in verse five we see he stops hiding his sin, acknowledges his sin, and confesses it. God now forgives him and he acknowledges that he needs to seek the Lord and make the Lord his hiding place. God has broken the power of sin in his life and has preserved him from trouble and songs of deliverance encompass him. This means that the psalmist had perpetual deliverance from sin in his life. God was surrounding him in the spirit with songs of deliverance. As long he did not keep silent or try to hide his sin, he continued to reap the benefits. Then he says that God himself would guide him with His eye. Allowing him to see his path as God sees it and guide him on that path. Then, he warns us not to be as a horse or a mule that we need bits in our mouth. We need to be willing to submit and follow the process of acknowledgment and confession, no longer hiding our sin.

The key in all this is the perpetual deliverance, in that we do not try to fool ourselves by hiding what we know is not right. When I say this, it is not to bring condemnation but freedom and a deeper relationship than we have ever known. Your relationship with Jesus can be deeper than you ever thought possible as you move from grace to grace and glory to glory. In the times to come, we are going need this deep abiding intimacy, understanding what it means to truly become His bride; both individually and as a united body of believers. I pray this is your hearts desire that all things become new with each hour that passes. As it says in Ps 34 “O taste and see that the Lord is good. Happy is the man who takes refuge in Him.” Glory to God. Ps 34, Ps 32, 2 Cor 5, Eph 4

Prayer

Father God, I am so glad I know you but I desire to know you more. I will not keep silent about the things in my life that are not right. I purpose now at this very moment to acknowledge and confess that which is not right. I receive onto myself your deliverance and I ask you God to encompass me with your songs. I want to start now to see the reality of all things becoming new in my life. As I walk daily with you, I acknowledge that only you can do this. I draw closer in your deep embrace, allowing you in to all area's of my life. I expect to see real and honest change, which only you can provide, as I see our intimacy grow like never before. Amen

The Wounded spirit

Our relationship with God starts when we confess with our mouth and believe with our heart. The scripture teaches us that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. In that moment, eternal life begins. However the ravages of sin can often leave wounds.

If you ever had a cut, bruise, or broken bone, you know how much it can hurt. You may have experienced the stress it can bring on your body. When the Bible describes the crucifixion, it says that by His stripes we are healed, this applies to our spirit as well as our bodies. The sin that we were cleansed from may have left wounds in our spirit that have not been dealt with. But, praise God, through Jesus we can have those wounds healed as well. Just like the wounds to our physical body, those wounds caused by sin cause pain in our spirit. Jesus paid it all on the cross and we can turn to Him for healing of those wounds. I know how much it hurts while wounds are being dressed and stitched. It helps bring healing though, when we let a trained physician do his work. That's what happens when we open ourselves up to let Jesus mend our spirit to be used for His Glory. Isaiah 53

ARK MINISTRIES

Our Vision

Helping you fulfill God's promises and calling in your Life

Reaching a lost world for Jesus Christ

Providing strength for God's people.

Our Mission

We are called to help believers grow, equip them to serve and to activate them for ministry in the service of our Lord

We are called to reach the lost by living a life that shows the love of God to those around us. We are called to care for one another as the body of Christ

We are called to encourage one another to fulfill the Great Commission, preaching the Good News

An Invitation

Ark Ministries would like to invite you to join us. We are committed to letting the Holy Spirit lead the service. So come expecting God to move and speak as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Service times Sunday

9:30 a.m. Intercession

10:00 a.m. Service

Location:

Allen Park Civic Center Ice Arena

15800 White Ave.

Allen Park, MI 48101

For More information please visit our Web Site

www.arkministrieshome.com

Author Comments and Bio

God is truly wonderful with Jesus being the man for this hour. I have been serving Him many years and He has never failed me, not once. He always comes through with an answer. Although the answer is not always what I think it should be, His answers are always perfect. Ark Ministries is a great church to be a part of. The leadership team is deeply committed to bringing you into His presence, so that you may experience the fullness of His life changing power. We come together each week to lift up the Holy God who has transformed us into new creatures in Him. Always reminding ourselves it is not about us, it is about Him.



Real and Honest Change

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