

Ring of Fire Ministries Prison Ministry Outreach Newsletter - October 2024

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and **God of all comfort**, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Cor 1:3&4

The truth is... We all need **comfort**. The truth is... The **only real source of lasting comfort** is our Lord Jesus!

Let me be the first to say... I don't know how God comforts us like He does, I just know He is the God of all comfort in ways that cannot be explained by someone as myself. Which I know that may sound a little strange coming from someone in a ministry position, but I've learned the more I come to understand His ways, the less I actually know. And we all need comfort, especially right now, don't we? To me, comfort is like "Warmth when one is cold." We all feel alone sometimes, in need of His touch like a loving encouragement from a friend. Thankfully, the Lord Jesus always comes to us in our time of need. Sometimes it is a quiet whisper from Him or a confirmation you read in His Word or even one sent by Him to just listen or help us when we want to give up. Regardless of "How" He comes to us, the truth is... He is the source of all our comfort, when we seek Him and call out to Him – He is near to the broken-hearted.

Some of you may ask why? I've been there and done that too. I've wondered at times why I have to be so broken to be mended by His hands. The Scripture above gives us a glimpse into this process we are going through. Simply put, we could not touch the hearts and lives of others had we not gone through some of the pain in our own lives. As Jesus's hands and feet, being one sent out to reach others and yes, to even comfort them, had we not also been in that place of lack, in need of a touch from Jesus, we would have nothing to offer those who are hurting. He tells us to, "Comfort others with the same words by which you were comforted." This is what it means to be used by Him as a vessel of honor. YOU... Have been placed into what I call a divine appointment, being surrounded by many in need and hurting. You alone have within you gifts that most do not have to encourage, love and grant hope to the hopeless, because you cried out to the Lord in your time of need and received of Him and His comfort.

Keep in mind... For many, the only time they may witness Jesus alive and appearing is through you, His chosen vessel. Every time I think of this truth, I have to take a pause and consider... Does my life reflect His? Am I doing all I can to imitate my Lord in every way possible? Am I letting His light shine forth through me, so that others desire to gather around and learn of Him? So this is what I do... I pray... I pray that I may decrease and He increase within me that I may walk in truth and in the spirit of love continually, just as Jesus did. I hope you will pray that, as well. And most importantly, may you be comforted by Him no matter what you are facing each day.

I am always praying for you and asking Jesus to watch over, guide and use you in a mighty way. May He continue to strengthen you to endure and may His light of love shine forth from within you, so that all you say and do gives Him glory! I thank Him for the hedge of protection He has placed around you and may His perfect will be done unto completion in your life!

May you be comforted always & may you be His Comfort to another today!

In His Love, Angela

The Lord has appointed *Ring of Fire Ministries* to feed spiritual food to you and to help you grow spiritually in your walk with Jesus, in that you partake of Him and are content, in plenty and in want. If you desire a Bible and do not have one or a Bible Study, please write to us and we will provide you with the materials you need to spend more time with Jesus each day. In addition, should you know of an inmate who would benefit from our Pen Pal services or need a Bible or Bible Study, please have them write to us making that request.

PLEASE NOTE: We are not a dating site or able to provide legal counsel or financial assistance. Everything we do offer is to only assist you with your walk of faith. When requesting a Pen Pal, be advised, you may be matched with a male or female of any age. Keep Shining for HIM!

Ring of Fire Ministries ~ Mare's Message...

We are hearing and seeing more and more darkness playing out as if it has free reign. The Bible tells us this time would come, that it all be revealed in order to be removed. What's inside someone is being openly displayed without fear this day. It can be overwhelming for someone who desires a change from the way they used to be. We can actively take steps against desiring to make those choices that don't have good outcomes. It starts with being truthful to God and desiring His intervention. The truth is we can't do it alone. We need Jesus's help. A true heart that rejects the things we once liked to do is what He is looking for in us.

In Psalms 51, beginning with verse 7 we see David asking the Lord to help purge sin from within him. The first step in change is acknowledging we have something that needs to be removed. We can say, "No" to that thing, because everything we say and do is by choice.

In wanting that dark desire to be removed it shows the LORD we desire a clean break from old ways and need His help in creating that change in us. The first part of this is recognizing that we don't want to do those things again because the outcome is always the same and it's never good.

Lord Help me to choose your ways that I may be pleasing to you. I don't want to keep doing what I once did.

Psalms 51:7-13 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

A Note From Kim ~ When I was growing up there was a song, "Love Makes the World Go Round. Love sweet love, everybody needs love." How true that is, but **love means a whole lot more than something revealed through a song.** Love is a powerful word and has so much more meaning in the Bible. I can't help but reflect on this world and the state of affairs we are in. Only love could make this world go round. The world needs the love of Jesus.

John 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

1 John 4:8-9 "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

Jesus is the Word. Jesus is love. Jesus came down to Earth to live with us, to experience our pain, our temptations, our tribulations. He came because He loves us. The Father sent Him because we needed salvation. We all have a sinful nature and have fallen short, but Jesus never sinned while here on Earth. He kept his deity and taught us to love one another.

Matthew 22:36-39 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Jesus showed us true love, He gave His life. He was the perfect sacrifice, sinless without a blemish. He became the last sacrifice, He was persecuted, tortured and suffered an agonizing death for you and me because of His perfect love for us, His creation.

John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."