

Love Conquered My Grief

Both my mother and father passed away within a span of four weeks, and my heart was broken. I was totally stricken with grief.

After they were gone, I embarked on a journey through a dark, lonely place. But it was there I learned to cry out to God from the very deepest part of my heart.

So deep was the pain that my tears could have been blood. I needed to get past it, but grief was taking over my life.

God Led Me Out

When facing an eating disorder, your world becomes nothing but endless fear! Being anorexic, I was destroying my family, depleting our finances and driving my husband to the brink of a breakdown.

I don't remember admitting to myself that my eating disorder was an addiction. However, I do remember how God reached down to me in love and led me out of it.

My road to recovery started when my husband, Tom, took me by the hand and assured me that we would get through this together. He suggested that I get professional help.

The Lord is Waiting

I'm a big fan of schedules. I prefer the security of a solid plan and a definitive timeframe. I hate having to wait, and I hate having to rush.

However, being an obsessive planner can sometimes make living with God's timing a little difficult. We have all had that conversation with God when we say: "Hello! Your timing could use a little work." I have said this—more than once.

Six years ago my husband and I were expecting our first child. We were so excited. But our hopes ended in a miscarriage.

He is There 24/7

I first experienced God's healing power at the age of 10, when I had meningitis. When the enemy attacked my body, he didn't realize that I had a mother who believed and trusted God.

I remember it as though it were yesterday when my mother came to the hospital to see me, but found me quarantined and unable to walk. She immediately called on the best physician she knew: Jesus.

With authority, she spoke, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" Instantly, I arose from the hospital bed, healed.

His Faithfulness Is Our Shield

Early one morning, as I made my way through the darkness of my family room to pray, I had a vision. It was of a snake, six feet long, that had wrapped its body around the walls of the room.

When the vision ended, I began to pray and walk in a circle around the room, pointing my finger at the floor and repeating, "Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle" (Ps. 144:1, NIV). I knew this was spiritual warfare!

I was still praying as the sun rose, and I noticed a small earthworm lying on the floor in the middle of the room. Not knowing how it got there, I pointed to it as I continued to pray.

God's Perfect Love

Whack! Miss Mazy's yardstick slammed down on a classmate's desk in front of me. "No homework?" she queried. He responded with a whimper.

As Miss Mazy resumed collecting our homework, we opened our religion books. "God's Love—1 John 4" was the heading on the page she commanded me to read. I choked on the words "Perfect love drives out fear" (v. 18, NIV). I wondered why it didn't drive away my fear of Miss Mazy.

Someone poked me. I looked back at Tammy, who snorted a laugh.

Miss Mazy ordered Tammy out of the room and moved toward me. “You,” she began. Coffee breath pelted my nose. “You sponge!”

My First True Love Relationship

I am a 44-year-old woman, and for the first time in my life, I feel truly loved. I am proud to say that I have a love relationship with my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! My search for love, acceptance and approval began in childhood. My parents divorced when I was young, so I didn't have a father at home. When I looked around my community, I saw few positive male role models. As a result, I grew up with a distorted view of men.

This view only got worse when, at 17, I was raped by two men at a mall. Then, at 19, I married a man who was verbally and physically abusive. Men are not capable of loving, I decided—a deception from the enemy that led me to develop a same-sex attraction.

I stayed married for a while and even had children, but I also began “experimenting” with women. I didn't consider myself to be gay, and I never referred to my activity as bisexual. I just thought I was “bi-curious.” I was convinced that God would overlook my occasional alternative lifestyle choice because He knew that men had hurt me.

God's Dream

When I was 10 years old, I had a dream that I was wearing a white robe and standing behind a podium in the middle of a field. People were all around me. I began moving my mouth and motioning toward the people with my arms.

I didn't realize it at the time, but God was giving me a picture of His calling on my life. Many years later, in 1987, I accepted that call. In 1990 I was licensed as an evangelist in the Church of God in Christ. God's dream seemed to be coming true!

Then one day a male friend began to talk to me about some concerns in his marriage. I believed I was doing ministry—but my willingness to listen turned into an opportunity for a sexual encounter. I became pregnant instantly.

Live Chat With Alvin Slaughter

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Listen to gospel legend Alvin Slaughter discuss overcoming one of life's greatest struggles: fear. He gives tips to help combat fear.

Race Based Politics

☒ Last week, Rep. Artur Davis (D) lost his primary bid for governor of Alabama in a crushing defeat. His opponent, Ron Sparks, won by 25 points in a contest which some believe shows that the race-based politics of the south have not changed. This conclusion has been postulated because traditional, non-elected black political stakeholders seem to have temporarily derailed the career of one of the Democratic Party's fastest rising black stars.

Before the emergence of President Barack Obama on the national presidential scene, lots of Democrats felt that Davis would eventually become the nation's first black president – especially members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). His credentials were incredible. In fact he was a classmate of President Obama at Harvard Law. He was incredibly articulate and what he lacked in charismatic speeches, he made up for in strategic thinking and networking ability.