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Grace and Lace Letter

*A Christian Journal
For Crossdressers, Crossgendered,
and Transsexual Persons*

**Post Office Box 31253
Jackson, MS 39286-1253**

GRACE & LACE LETTER

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DEAR FRIENDS & SISTERS,

AS YOU SEE, A COMPUTER HAS FOUND ITS WAY TO G&LL. A SISTER IN OHIO SENT US A MAC SE AND A DESKWRITER INK JET PRINTER. IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST I HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER IT YET. IT ARRIVED ON MARCH 21 '95 AND NOW WE HAVE A COMPUTER AND I AM TOTALLY COMPUTER ILLITERATE AND HAVE A 76 YEAR OLD BRAIN THAT IS IN SEMI-RETIREMENT DUE TO MALFUNCTIONING AND MISFIRING AT TIMES. WEDNESDAY MORNING MY BENEFACITOR PHONED AND STARTED GIVING ME INSTRUCTIONS. AND THIS IS AS FAR AS I'VE GOTTEN. NOT ONLY HAVE I SLIPPED A COG AND NOW HAVE TO HIT THE SPACE BAR TWICE BETWEEN WORDS BUT NOW HAVE TO RELY ON MY SLOW-SHUFFLE INSTINCT AND I REALLY HAVE VERY LITTLE IDEA OF WHAT I'M DOING. I PROFOUNDLY THANK GOD AND HIS SERVANT, MY BENEFACITOR. PRAISE THE LORD!

G&LL IS GOING TO AN 8 PAGE EDITION WHICH YOU WILL RECEIVE EVERY OTHER MONTH. NEXT ONE DUE IN JUNE. THE REASON IS FINANCES. I DON'T WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN 'FUND-RAISING'. I CAN PAY THE COPYING COST OF \$70. EVERY OTHER MONTH. I AM PRETTY MUCH CONFINED TO HOME NOW AND HAVE NO SOCIAL OR CAR EXPENSES. THE CAR EXPIRED OVER A YEAR AGO. SO \$70 IS IN THE REALM OF THE AFFORDABLE. THE POSTAGE IS \$64. FOR A MAILING AND THAT IS WHERE I CAN USE YOUR HELP. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD SEND STAMPS WHEN YOU THINK OF IT. I WANT TO BE FREE TO WRITE ARTICLES AND NOT HAVE TO CONCERN MYSELF WITH EXPENSES. I HAD ENOUGH OF THAT WHEN I MINISTERED AT THE MISSION FOR 20 YEARS. THERE ARE WONDERFUL AND LIBERATING TRUTHS OF GOD THAT I WANT TO CONVEY TO YOU AS LONG AS GOD GIVES ME THE PHYSICAL BREATH OF LIFE TO EXPRESS HIS SPIRITUAL BREATH OF LIFE TO YOU. I WANT TO SPREAD THE PRICELESS PERFUME OF GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL OF US TRANSGENDERED PEOPLE.

AS OF THIS WRITING I CAN'T FIND JAYES ARTICLE. I HOSTED THE NEW TRANSGENDER GROUP, AURORA, HERE LAST SAT. NITE APRIL 1 AND HAD TO CLEAN THE FRONT ROOM WHICH IS MY OFFICE AND I HAD JAYE'S ARTICLE AND 3 MORE PAPERS HE WROTE ON 2 LEGAL SIZE CLIP BOARDS AND AS ALL OF US OLD FOLKS DO-I PUT 'EM SOMEWHERE FOR SAFE KEEPING. I AM GOING TO OFFER THE PAPERS AS SEPERATE ITEMS WHICH YOU COULD AVAIL YOURSELF OF FREE FOR A 32 CENT STAMP. I'M SURE THEY'LL TURN UP AND HOPEFULLY BEFORE THIS ISSUE GOES OUT. NEXT ISSUE WILL BE IN JUNE. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR SERIALIZATIONS AT THAT TIME.

ENOUGH OF THE MUNDANE. I WILL WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE WHICH WILL PROBE THE QUESTION ALL TRANSGENDERISTS ASK "WHY ME?" FROM A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE. I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO ENGAGE IN WRITING ONCE MORE. GOD BLESS YOU AND THEN YOU ENJOY THOSE BLESSINGS,

MY LOVE TO YOU ALWAYS.

Lee Frances

4-2-95 did!

ON BEING MISLED

NO one wants to be misled. At least, no one does when they take a moment to think about their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Still there are a lot of folks who seem to be fully intent on misleading the unwary. There are a lot of human reasons for this, of course. In and under these "human" reasons such as ego and power issues, there is but one real reason.

Jesus Christ has promised us, no one can pluck us out of His hand. This means, to me, even the supernatural Enemy, Satan is powerless to remove someone from the place of Grace Jesus Christ has given them. The Enemy knows he has lost the struggle to control the person when they placed total and childishly simple FAITH in Jesus Christ. So... the Enemy does all he can to interfere with a person's doing this. He uses people to do his dark work too.

Well intentioned people, people who honestly think they are doing others a valued service unwittingly serve the purpose of the Enemy. It is not only those dedicated worshippers of Satan who serve his purposes. *People who proclaim anything but the Supremacy of the Propitiation of Jesus Christ for the "redemption" (buying back of something previously held) of humanity also serve the purpose of the Enemy.* Jesus has said: "I am the way, the Truth and the Light, no one comes to the Father but by Me." Anyone who teaches anything different from what Jesus taught does so in service to the Enemy.

The Enemy uses many tools. The Enemy is supernatural and thus infinitely more powerful and infinitely more intellectually capable than even the most astute of us humans. In dealing with him, we have but one infallible source of strength: The Holy Spirit of God. We are promised access to the infinite power of God when we invoke it in the Name of Jesus Christ. Only in this way can we blunt the assaults of the Enemy in our lives. Without this infinite Divine Power Jesus Christ gives us, we are helpless in contests with the Enemy.

Once a person submits all of herself or himself to the Lord Jesus Christ, in total commitment to the promises of Jesus Christ, then the Enemy has no more power to remove her or him from the very hand of Christ.

The Enemy can still harass and still trouble the believer. If the Enemy can harass the believer into doubting her or his faith, the Enemy can render the witness of the believer null and void.

If the Enemy can't "have" you, he will certainly try to neutralize you, try to make you ineffective and useless as a servant to Jesus Christ. He does this in many ways.

If you are a crossdresser, you are a ready made target for the Enemy's number one weapon. The number one weapon the Enemy uses is GUILT! With guilt the Enemy instills a sense of unworthiness and sinfulness without any promise of an escape. He seeks to keep us focused on how miserable and how unworthy we are by piling on the sense of guilt. He does this endlessly!

Our worthiness is not at issue. Jesus Christ has settled all issues of our value to God, by taking our sins with Him to the Cross and there paying the price we do not have the ability to pay. The Enemy would confuse us, misleading us into thinking we must in some way earn our place of justification before the Throne of God. He uses this and our innate knowledge of the Law to instill guilt at every turn.

None of us, no human knows the wonderful Divine written Word of God as well as does the Enemy. He knows just what verse or section to use to hammer us into feeling guilty as a way of weakening our Faith and hoping to destroy our witness.

Deuteronomy 22:5 is one of the Enemy's favorite texts when it comes to making a crossdresser feel guilty. The Enemy knows Jesus Christ has already fulfilled ALL the requirements of ALL of the LAW for us because our sinful nature makes it impossible for us to fulfill them for ourselves. But, unless WE know this and unless WE WALK in a simple CHILD LIKE FAITH, knowing Jesus Christ did in fact PAY IN FULL THE PRICE WE

COULD NOT PAY; then the Enemy has us right where he wants us: over a barrel; a guilt barrel.

There is but one reliable way by which the believer can verify the teaching of one such as this writer: **TAKE IT TO THE LORD IN PRAYER!** The Holy Word tells us to test the Spirits for no witness can testify Jesus Christ is Lord unless by the power of the Holy Spirit. Likewise and by extension, no teacher, preacher, theologian, etc. can set forth Divine Truth unless it be by the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Do not believe what any human writes or says; not even this one. Believe what the Holy Spirit dwelling in you validates and confirms. Take not my word for it... Take it to the Lord Jesus Christ in Prayer.

So for the crossdresser, when doubt and guilt come upon you, the power is yours in the Name of Jesus Christ, to turn aside the blandishments of the Enemy and to send him packing.. in thus to renew your Faith and your JOY in Christ.

J. Reviere, Ph.D. DD 

A faith full of faith,
like a dam filled to the top
will find its way out or over.

A heart full of love
will seek a heart that needs filling,
it is the nature of the full, to fill.

A soul changed by grace
will praise, speak and sing
so that others might come
to their own place
of new life and love.

ANOM

It can be turned off,
but not silenced,
sent away
but certain to return.

There is a place deep within
that can be made full
with anything more or less
than that which if real, alive, of God
and deep place filling.

This is faith not contained
in work or deed alone,
but rather one which comes
in power and Spirit,
making all the difference in the world
and in the world to come!

Christian Deeds, Not Words

IGNATIUS (1ST CENTURY A.D.)

Run your race in harmony with the mind of God. You must — every one of you — join in his choir, so that being harmonious and in concord, and taking the keynote of God, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father, so that he may hear you and through your good deeds recognize that you are parts of his Son. It is advantageous for you to live in blameless unity, so that you always share in God.

But pray constantly for other men, too, for in their case there is a hope of repentance — a hope that they may find God. Permit them to be instructed by you at least through your deeds. To their anger, be meek; to their boasts, be humble; to their abuse, utter your prayers; to their error, be steadfast in faith; to their savagery, be gentle, never desirous of imitating them. Show yourselves to be brothers and sisters by forbearance, and be zealous to imitate the Lord, and deny yourselves, so that no plan of the devil may be found in you, but with all purity and sobriety you may remain in union with Jesus Christ in both flesh and spirit.

These are the last times: let us feel shame at our shortcomings; let us fear the patience of the Lord, that it may not result in our condemnation. Let us fear the wrath that is to come and love the grace that is now; let us be found in union with Christ, living the true life. Let nothing attract or distract us

apart from him.

Be zealous to meet together more frequently to give thanks to God and to glorify him. When you meet together frequently, Satan's powers are destroyed, and his destructiveness comes to nothing through the harmony of your faith. There is nothing better than true peace.

Nothing can escape you if you have perfect faith and love for Jesus Christ, who is the beginning and the end of life. Faith is the beginning, and love the end. And when the two are bound together in unity, they are God, and everything else that contributes to goodness follows from them. No one who has faith sins, and no one who possesses love hates. The tree is known by its fruit. Similarly, those who profess to belong to Christ will be recognized by their deeds. For it is not a matter of what we now profess, but that a man continue in power of faith to the end.

It is better to be silent and be, than to talk and not be. The man who is really possessed of the word of Christ can hear even His silence, so that he may be perfect and may act through what He says and be known through His silence. Nothing is hidden from the Lord, but even our secrets are near him. Let us do everything with a sense that he is dwelling within us, so that we may be his temples, and he be within us as our God.

from *Letter to the Ephesians*



For each soul that exclaims, "Speak Lord, for Thy servant heareth," there are ten that say, "Hear Lord! for Thy servant speaketh" — and there is no rest for these.

—Pamela



Someday, after we have mastered
the winds, the waves and gravity;
we shall harness for God
the energies of love.
Then for the second time
in the history of the world,
Man will have discovered fire.

Teilhard de Chardin

Man,
because of his present day religion:
is not yet mature enough
to totally love.

Rayne M. Chapperton

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Observation of CHRISTMAS having been deemed
a Sacrilege, the exchanging of Gifts and Greetings,
dressing in Fine Clothing, Feasting and similar

Satanical Practices are hereby

FORBIDDEN

with the Offender liable to a Fine of FIVE SHILLINGS

No Christmas? Colonial magistrates in New England banned public celebration of Christmas. In Cotton Mather's words, "Can you in your conscience think, that our Holy Saviour is honoured, by Mad Mirth, by long Eating, by hard Drinking, by lewd Gaming, by rude Revelling; by a Mass fit for none but a Saturn, or a Bacchus, or the Night of a Mahometan Ramadan?"

PLAY IT AS IT LAYS

by

Rebecca Anne Allison

Hear now the parable of the talents.

A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted his property to them.

To the first he said, "Here is five hundred thousand dollars. Invest it exactly as follows: one hundred thousand in Consolidated Camels, two hundred thousand in First Jerusalem Savings and Loan, and two hundred thousand in Galilean Fishing Enterprises. You will enjoy riches and live a life of ease."

To the second he said, "Here is fifty thousand dollars. It isn't enough for a life of ease, but it will get you started in your own business. If you work hard, you will survive and perhaps even prosper a little."

To the third he said, "Here is five hundred dollars. It's your severance pay. You will live your life outside the shelter of my blessings. You will, however, still have to gaze upon these others, the ones for whom life may be easy or hard, but is always *normal*."

"You will envy them for their normal lives, because yours will never be like theirs. And yet you must attempt to be normal. It will be in vain, for you are not normal as they are. But woe to you if you attempt to accept or embrace abnormality! Other men - *normal* men - will reject you and cast you into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

STOP!

This is not at all what Jesus said in the parable of the talents. I think, however, that it is what many of us believe.

We see those few who live in the fine houses and drive the fine cars. They seem to lead charmed lives. We think, "I could be just like them - if I hadn't had this lifelong burden of gender identity conflict."

We see the much larger number of ordinary working people, and we identify with them. Perhaps we have been quite successful in our transition, and we blend into society in our

proper gender. Yes, we appear to fit in. But to ourselves we think, "If these people knew my past, they would reject me. For I am not *normal* like them."

Too often we see ourselves as outcasts - in our own eyes, and more importantly, in the eyes of God. "God does know my past, and he knows I am not *normal*. Therefore God has rejected me."

Well, now. Just who says you are not "normal"? Is it God? Or is it Satan, laying the guilt on you to defeat you?

Who created you? God did, you say. Yes, he did. And did he create within you a conflict between the person you appeared to be and the person you knew you were in your heart? Or was this just something you chose to do on your own?

Chose? No, I didn't choose it, you say. I know I have had it as long as I can remember. I think I was born with it. On this point, science would agree with you. Transsexualism is biological, not a learned behavior.

Listen to these verses:

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.

Jeremiah 1:5

Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, "What are you making?" Does your work say, "He has no hands?"

Woe to him who says to his father, "What have you begotten?" or to his mother, "What have you brought to birth?"

Isaiah 45:10

God made us just the way we are. We may feel deformed, like a broken potsherd. But in his plan, we are just as he intended. We are beautiful in his eyes.

God wants us to deal with our inner conflict. He will give us the strength to deal with it. Almost certainly, he will not simply remove the conflict; he will guide us to its resolution. That resolution for us is to become congruent in body and spirit.

The cliché from the language of golf is "play it as it lays." We don't go back to the tee and start the round over. We have to play out of the rough.

We don't ask him to let us start our lives over with no conflict. We have to deal with our lives as he created us.

God doesn't reject us; he never did. Neither will most of our friends, if they see his beauty and love in us.

So now let us redo our paraphrase of the parable of the talents.

A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted his property to them.

To the first he said, "You will enjoy the riches of life. Just remember, to whom much is

given, much is required. I expect you to use your blessings to bring my love to others. I will give you the power to do so."

To the second he said, "You will not have an easy life, but through hard work you will realize satisfaction and success. I will give you the power to bear the toil of daily life."

To the third he said, "I love you as much as my other servants. But I am giving you a different burden. This burden will handicap you for years, and will require great strength and patience to overcome.

"But this burden is the gift I give you. Do not bury it. Take it, accept it, and use it to find fulfillment in your life.

"I, your Lord and master, will give you the power to resolve your burden and live the life I intended for you. When you have done so, you will know my joy and peace. Your life will be sweeter than ever as you know completeness; as you realize that you are - and have always been - *normal*, as all my other beloved servants."

Transitions

Terri L. Main, MFCC Intern No. 26336

Gender Identity • Abuse • Shyness •
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I WAS SO PLEASED TO READ OF YOUR THANKS THAT MY THERAPIST HAD MADE ME AWARE OF YOUR EFFORTS. I HOPE THAT OUR PATH-CROSSING BY MAIL MAY BE THE BEGINNING OF THE HEALING PROCESS IN MY MARRIAGE AND MAYBE ACCEPTANCE BY MY WIFE. ALTHO MY FAITH IS STRONG, I HAVE OFTEN LACKED THE WORDS TO MAKE THE POINT THAT CROSSDRESSING IS NOT A SIN. I HAVE RECEIVED A GIFT FROM GOD. WITH HER UPBRINGING MY WIFE HAS TAKEN THE LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF DEU. 22:5. SHE ALSO SAID THAT SOMEWHERE IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION INCREASED INCIDENCE OF CROSSDRESSING IS ANOTHER SIGN OF THE END OF THE WORLD. [IT AINT THERE, ED.]. THE RESOURCES YOU HAVE PROVIDED ME HAVE GIVEN MUCH INSIGHT FOR MY OWN SELF ACCEPTANCE, MAY THEY ALSO PROVIDE ENLIGHTENMENT FOR MY WIFE. OH

I DO NOT CLAIM TO BE A VERY GOOD CHRISTIAN. I AM NOT LOOKING FOR A RELIGION THAT CATERS TO TRANSGENDERED TYPES BUT RATHER, HOW I CAN BE A GOOD CHRISTIAN WHILE BEING A CROSSDRESSER, IF THIS IS POSSIBLE. [IT IS AND GOD SENT YOU TO THE RIGHT PLACE TO HAVE IT CONFIRMED, ED.] I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF GOD AS BEING LOVING AND MERCIFUL BEYOND COMPREHENSION BUT AFTER SEEING SEVERAL SHOWS ON CHRISTIAN TELEVISION, I HAVE MY DOUBTS. I HOPE YOUR NEWSLETTER CAN ANSWER SOME OF MY DOUBTS. MY WIFE AND I WOULD FEEL SO MUCH BETTER ABOUT CROSSDRESSING IF WE KNEW HOW IT EFFECTED OUR FAITH. ALSO OH

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SENDING THE ISSUES OF G&LL. ALTHOUGH MY OWN ATTITUDES ARE MUCH DIFFERENT FROM YOURS, I WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE POWER OF BOTH YOUR WRITING AND IDEAS. IT SEEMS VERY EVIDENT YOU ARE DOING A GOOD WORK FOR THE MANY OF US WHO ARE TORMENTED UNJUSTLY BY FEELINGS OF GUILT. WE ARE WHAT WE ARE. I AM INCLOSING \$ AS A SMALL CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR WORK. [GOD'S WORK, ED.] IN

DISCOVERING MY DESIRE TO CROSSDRESS WHEN I WAS IN JR HIGH SCHOOL WAS VERY CONFUSING BUT I HAVE FINALLY BECOME COMFORTABLE WITH IT. HOWEVER THERE IS STILL SOME CONFLICT SINCE I COME FROM AND AM INVOLVED IN AN EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN TRADITION AND HAVE A WIFE WHO HAS NOT MOVED FAR FROM THE FUNDAMENTALISM IN WHICH SHE WAS REARED. SHE HAS NO WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER THE VALIDITY OF MY CROSSDRESSING DESIRES AND DOES SO ON THE BASIS OF HER "CHRISTIAN CONVICTIONS". I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT BUT I CANNOT AGREE THAT THOSE CONVICTIONS REQUIRE THE REJECTION OF CD-ING THAT DOES NOT VIOLATE THE BIBLICAL PROHIBITIONS PLACED ON SEXUAL EXPRESSION. MN

PLEASE PUT ME ON YOUR MAILING LIST. FINDING A SISTER WHO IS ALSO A CHRISTIAN IS A TREAT. IT'S HARD ENOUGH TO BE TRANSGENDERED, BUT TO BE TRANSGENDERED AND CLERGY CAN BE DIFFICULT. I LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING GRACE AND LACE LETTER. AL

I HAVE SHARED THE 2 G&LL WITH MY PASTOR. WE HAVE NOT YET MET TO DISCUSS HIS THOUGHTS. -----THE PASTOR TOLD HER THAT CROSSDRESSING IS A WOUND AND THERE HAS TO BE SURGERY. HE TOLD HER THE FIRST EXCISION WOULD HAVE TO BE HER P.O. BOX. SHE HAS CLOSED IT. NOW ON TO HIS COMMENTS ON G&LL, ED. YOU HAD ASKED WHAT MY PASTOR THOUGHT OF G&LL. WELL, THE WORDS WERE NOT KIND AND I DON'T AGREE WITH HIS ASSESSMENT. HE FELT THAT THE SCRIPTURE WAS TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT. WI

PLEASE ADD MY NAME TO THE MAILING LIST FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER. I AM ^{inclosing} A DONATION TO DEFRAY THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING AND HOPEFULLY TO LEND SUPPORT TO YOUR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE CROSSDRESSING COMMUNITY. AS A THERAPIST WORKING WITH BOTH CROSSDRESSERS AND TRANSGENDERED AND TRANSEXUAL PEOPLE I FIND RELIGIOUS CONFLICT TO BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES FOR BOTH THE GENDER DIVERSE AND THEIR LOVED ONES. I THINK YOUR NEWSLETTER MAY BE OF HELP TO SOME OF THEM, AND WITH YOUR PERMISSION I WILL COPY AND SHARE IT WITH CLIENTS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS. WITH HELD.

EDITORIAL COMMENT: I WANTED TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ON CD-S AND THERAPISTS. WHAT A MESS!! I GET LETTERS FROM OUR SISTERS WHO GO FOR THERAPY AND COUNSELING ON THEIR CD-ING, HOPEFULLY TO EITHER ADJUST TO IT OR TO ELIMINATE IT FROM THEIR LIVES. FINE. HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL BUT THEY GO TO FAMILY THERAPISTS WHO HAVE NOT ONE IDEA OF WHAT A CD OR TRANSGENDERED OR TRANSEXUAL PERSON IS. ON TOP OF THAT THEY DO NOT REVEAL THE FACT OF THEIR CD-ING BUT HOPE THAT SOMEHOW IT WILL SHOW UP IN A SESSION. IF YOU WANT THERAPY THEN, BY ALL MEANS PHONE OR WRITE THE AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL GENDER INFORMATION SERVICE [AEGIS]. WRITE OR PHONE DALLAS DENNY AND ASK IF THEY HAVE A QUALIFIED THERAPIST THEY COULD RECOMMEND TO YOU---A REFERRAL. PHONE: [404] 939-0244 OR WRITE TO HER AT AEGIS, P.O. BOX 33724, DECATUR GA 30033-0724. AN UNQUALIFIED THERAPIST COULD DO MUCH HARM [NOT INTENTIONALLY] TO YOUR LIFE. IF YOU HAVE SOME TREPIDATION ABOUT CALLING DALLAS, CALL ME

AND I'LL CALL HER ON YOUR BEHALF. WE CAN WORK TOGETHER ON GETTING HELP FOR YOU, THE LORD HAS PUT THESE FOLKS IN YOUR WORLD TO HELP YOU. THIS IS NOT THE END OF THE EDITORIAL COMMENT AS I COULD WRITE A FEW PAGES ON THE SUBJECT BUT THIS WILL HAVE TO SUFFICE FOR THE PRESENT. BACK TO THE LETTERS.

I HAVE DISCOVERED THE G&L LETTER THROUGH READING DOWNLOADS FROM COMPUSERVE WHICH WERE ARTICLES WRITTEN BY BRADY ALLISON AND THEY WERE QUITE MOVING. BECKY MENTIONED THAT PERSONS COULD WRITE TO YOU FOR A FREE SAMPLE COPY OF G&L I HAD BEEN A REGULAR ATTENDER OF OUR LOCAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH BUT I DROPPED OUT OF FELLOWSHIP SINCE LAST JULY I DIDN'T KNOW IF I COULD RECONCILE MY CD-ING WITH MY FAITH AND RATHER THAN TO DEAL WITH THE GUILT OF BEHAVING IN AN UNACCEPTABLE WAY TO GOD, I JUST LEFT THINKING IT WAS EASIER. AFTER READING YOUR ARTICLES I SEE THAT THERE MAY BE SOME HOPE FOR ME TO COME BACK INTO FULL FELLOWSHIP WITHOUT THE STAIN OF CD-ING. AZ

THE WORD DWELLS IN OUR SOUL REGARDLESS OF THE WRAPPER AROUND OUR BODY.

I HAVE FEL SPIRITUAL REBIRH SINCE ATTENDING CHURCH DRESSED ENFEMME. I FEEL THE LORD LOVES ME APPEARING AS A WOMAN IN HIS HOUSE. I FEEL AN APPROVAL OF MY CROSSDRESSING BY THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY KNOWN TO MANKIND , I WOULD LIKE TO HELP OR ENCOURAGE OTHERS IN MY AREA TO ACHIEVE FULFILLMENT, IF POSSIBLE, IN CD-ING
LISA MARIE / P.O. BOX 22131 / LEHIGH VALLEY PA 18002P

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Many Christians are hurting... in our families, our jobs, our health, our marriages - and we're tired of being told that peace and blessings will come to us when - and if - we are right with God.

Because of what Jesus accomplished for us on the Cross, we *are* right with God... but we still have problems. Nowhere in Scripture are we promised no problems, pain, or suffering. We're never told in Scripture that from the moment we come into a relationship with God, we'll do no wrong, hurt no person, feel no pain, or have no sickness. Well-meaning Christians have told us these things, but they're wrong. Rather, Scripture tells us that we'll know true peace, His peace, in the midst of all our trials and tribulations - that He will be there with us in the midst of it all.

Many of us are tired of pretending, tired of putting on a smiling face when our hearts are broken and we're hurting.

We want someone to be there, someone to care, to strengthen and sustain us, whatever our situation. We want to be encouraged, but most of all, we want to be loved ... loved without terms or strings or conditions, not just when we're being good and doing right things, but especially when we've messed up our lives.

We all need to know we are loved unconditionally ... and the Good News is, we can - in God. This longing for unconditional love, this "void" inside of us, is God-given. He created it. And only He has the capacity to fill this need. Father always intended to fill us with His love. He's there for each of us, just waiting for us to acknowledge that we need Him. All we have to do is invite Him in.

God loves us, all of us, not because of anything we do, but because of who He is. That's the Good News of the Gospel. And that love will never change. It will never diminish or disappear because of anything we do. The only way we can lose that sense of His love will be if we step outside of Him and take the control of our lives back into our own hands.

So, when I've messed up my life in some way, no matter how badly, I've learned to not take my eyes off Him. Over the years I've learned to quickly run to Him and hide there ... secure in His arms, right where I was always intended to be, resting in His unmerited, unearned, and unshakable unconditional love for me.

A Dear Christian Friend wrote This for
her magazine and permission was granted
for ELL to use it. This is a real Christian. • Borrowed