

“...THAT THEIR HEARTS MAY BE ENCOURAGED,
HAVING BEEN KNIT TOGETHER IN LOVE...”

Colossians 2:2



From my Heart

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Suddenly a car came from a strip mall across three lanes of oncoming traffic in front of me. I slammed my foot on the brake trying to avoid hitting him, but could not. My right leg and foot took the full force of the impact. My neck and back were also affected negatively. Three years, several doctors and two physical therapists later, I have not recovered to where I was before the accident. I have neck pain, back pain and a bad limp because of an injured Achilles tendon, bone spurs and plantar fasciitis. I have continued to minister because the Lord and His Spirit working through me is my life and my purpose. There have been opportunities to minister at conferences, through my church, through Women of Faith, through people God brings across my path. I have kept in touch with my International friends and some of them have made the long trek to Texas so we could be together.

My heart is at peace and my spirit is good, but my body took a major hit. I have wondered if I will ever walk normally again. Time will tell. In the meantime, my ministry has a bit of a different face because I can't do the rigorous overseas travel right now. As Chuck Swindoll says, "God is not *almost* sovereign. He IS sovereign." And He is sovereign now.

My friend, Lana Bateman, who travels with the Women of Faith Conferences as their Intercessor and Prayer Warrior, is writing a book on prayer, which will be published sometime next year by JCountryman. She graciously allowed me to share with you a portion of her book, which spoke to my heart:

A few years ago, I [Lana] was given a note written by Elaine Cook, a dear Bible teacher who lives in British Columbia, Canada. Elaine had gone to the Lord in her personal prayer time, asking Him to teach her how to worship Him with her life. As He began to impress her heart with His answer to that prayer, she wrote these words:

When you accept whatever situation you are in without murmuring, you are worshipping Me.

When you can rejoice in Me in the midst of your infirmities, you are worshipping Me

When I have brought pressures to bear upon you to bring out the gold of My nature and you bear them patiently – blaming not Me, or another person, not yourself, then you are truly worshipping Me.

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When you can "forgive yourself" for your weaknesses and failures and cease expecting your human nature to bring forth perfection, you are worshipping Me.

When you have come to the place of recognizing and acknowledging that 'of myself I can do nothing,' then do I have your praise.

When you can look upon a wasted life and agree that I can and will make this one every whit whole—that this is My desire—then you have offered Me true worship, for you have seen My true nature.

When you hear My Word within you saying, "This is the way—walk ye in it" and you obey My Word with rejoicing, I feel worship from you

When you look with compassion upon one who is afflicted, tossed and broken, then I am worshipped

When you recognize My Body and honor them as My brethren, this is true worship unto Me.

When your lips are silent because of your pain, and you lift your heart to Me, I feel your worship.

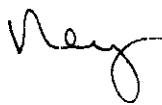
When you say, "I cannot—please help me!" then I am worshipped.

Worship is a heart attitude in every place and situation in which you find yourselves. It acknowledges My Lordship, the righteousness of My nature, the truth of My Word, and the reality of My indwelling presence. You may offer true worship at all times and in every situation by keeping your heart right toward your fellow-man.

This has so ministered to me that I wanted to send it along to you for your encouragement. Thanksgiving and Christmas are times of thanksgiving and worship. May these words encourage all of us to worship Him day by day all year long ***with our lives***

I am deeply grateful for you and your faithfulness to Him and to me

In His love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ney'.