

P109

Grace Notes Program
SERIES: INTIMACY with GOD
TITLE: Intimacy by Identification
SONGS: EVERY NEED SUPPLIED
SAVIOR WHO WEEPS

If you were in the middle of a crisis and needed someone to talk to, who would you choose...a person who has never experienced your pain or someone who has gone through what you're going through?

Today, on 'Grace Notes' Barbara continues her series on 'Intimacy with God' as she explores the subject of 'Intimacy by Identification'.

Well, what was your choice? It's no contest to me. I'd much rather solicit the help of a co-partner in pain when I'm in the middle of a crisis. Wouldn't you?

It's not only beneficial to me, it's beneficial to our relationship, too.

The traumas of life can bind people together.
Intimacy GROWS when we share similar feelings
- it helps us better identify with each other.

It works the same way with God.

God did not spare suffering from His own Son, Jesus.
He suffered for sure - more than we can ever comprehend.

Why did God allow Christ to go through all that he did?

Hebrews 2:17 & 18 says...

He had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that He might become a MERCIFUL and FAITHFUL High Priest in service to God and that He might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because He HIMSELF suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2:10 says...

The Captain of our salvation was made
perfect(or complete) through suffering.

Our Salvation package was perfectly designed by Almighty God to first, woo us to Christ, through His incredible demonstration of love, and then to effect a continual desire in us to come to this suffering Savior who chose to identify with our sorrows.

**He suffered like we do... so He knows us,
and because we KNOW He knows us - He becomes APPROACHABLE.**

Hebrews 4:15-16 states...

We have not an High Priest which can not be touched with the feelings of our infirmities, for He was in all ways tempted just as we, yet without sin. So, let us come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**I've quoted this verse many times, but one time I stopped and wondered why God used both mercy and grace. What's the difference?
I asked God and this is what he showed me.**

Mercy takes us OUT of the situation. Grace takes us THROUGH it.

But the neat thing about Grace, is what God revealed to me through this poem...

***More than Grace
by Barbara Sandbek
Praying...for the answer
Waiting...for His Word
Looking...for His Grace to handle
Troubling times...my inner hurt.***

***As I seek Him on my knees
And share with Him my earnest pleas
I realize that once again
He joins with me as a friend.***

***More than grace when You are with me
Face to face...Your presence frees me
I'm not left with gifts You give
You come near to help me live
When I'm distressed, it's then I find
You're more than grace...
Much more than grace!***

***** WRITER: Joel Hemphill
*** EVERY NEED SUPPLIED *** LENGTH: 4:52

VERSE 1

*I asked the dear Savior
what He had purchased
for me when at Calvary He died
For all my past and all my problems
He just said that He'll provide.*

CHORUS

*And He said, "Every need supplied,
every need supplied.
Healing, cleansing, sweet peace inside...
every need supplied".*

VERSE 2

*If I had to name the greatest blessing
He's given, how would I decide?
For after He saved me, I just have to say
that every need He's supplied.*

(repeat chorus)

*He's all I need. He's all I need.
Jesus is all I need
He satisfies, my needs supply
Jesus, He's all I need.*

(repeat chorus)

**A friend and I went to visit a lady in the hospital. Before we left,
my friend prayed and I quoted the 23rd Psalm.**

I was particularly impressed with these verses..

**Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will FEAR NO EVIL for Thou art with me,
Thou prepest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.**

I stopped and pictured her enemy of sickness surrounding her. Then I saw the Lord placing a tray table on her bed, and adorning it with a freshly washed white linen cloth and a single white rose. He filled the table with fruit; but it was no ordinary fruit, rather the fruit of the Spirit. With His nail-scarred hand He took from his overflowing basket, the fruit of LOVE, that immediately filled the room with a beautifully scented fragrance, like the smell of a lily of the valley. He handed her a piece of JOY that she could eat in the middle of her suffering. He gave her His KINDNESS and GOODNESS berries to sustain her through the night when she couldn't sleep. His fruit of PEACE was a succulent orange, full of juice that overflowed like a river. The PATIENCE and SELF-CONTROL fruits He offered were to help settle her down and enable her to cope with the many hours of confinement. He then proceeded to show her the fruit of KINDNESS, GENTLENESS and FAITHFULNESS and asked her to partake of these as reminders that He would be by her side at all times and would heal her broken body with His kind and gentle touch.

**Suffering indeed helps us to know God better.
We see Him more in our tough times - because we're looking for Him.**

Job said to God after his suffering...

**"My ears had heard of You, but now my eyes have seen You."
(in other words, 'I KNOW you now')**

It is consoling to know that nothing passes into the life of a Believer without first going through the nail-scarred hands of the Savior!!

**He FELT IT ALL...and more than we will ever feel.
He not only sympathizes with us....He empathizes!**

**I'd like to sing for you now, a song that is very special to me.
During one of my dad's extended hospital stays, I found a picture that I hung in his room. It showed a patient in bed, the doctor at the footboard, his wife on one side of the headboard, and Jesus by the other side. It was entitled, 'The Consultation'. During those days I spent with him, I felt the Lord's presence in a very powerful way. I heard this song at the bookstore where I found the picture. I changed the words a bit to fit my situation. It perfectly portrays our EMPATHIZING SAVIOR...**

**the One who laughs when we laugh...and cries when we cry...
The Savior who weeps..**

***** THE SAVIOR WHO WEEPS *** LENGTH: 4:15**

written by Vince Wilcox & Nancy Pederson-Groeneveld
Paragon Music Corp/ASCAP & Lifesong Music Press/BMI

VERSE 1:

*Our brother is gone - her words cut like a knife
Into the heart of the Lord
"If You had been there then he wouldn't have died."
She cried to the Light of the world.
So they went to where Lazarus slept
And realized as Jesus wept*

That...

CHORUS:

*He shares every heartache
He bears every grief
He is there when your heart breaks
And you can't find relief
When the pain is relentless
The darkness so deep
He is right there beside you
The Savior who weeps*

VERSE 2:

*What can you say when the prayers have been prayed
And no miracle comes along
How can you comfort a mother and dad
When the doctor says all hope is gone (modified by Sandbek)
But there in the darkest of hours
The tears of God mingle with ours*

Cause... (Repeat Chorus)

BRIDGE:

*One day every tear shall be dried
But till that day He cries when we cry
Cause... (Repeat Chorus)*

TAG:

Crying beside you...the Savior who weeps.

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P.O. Box 581 Fallston, MD 21047

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Join us again next time. Barbara will conclude her series on 'Intimacy with God'.

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