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Maturity In Prayer Life CD is Now Available!

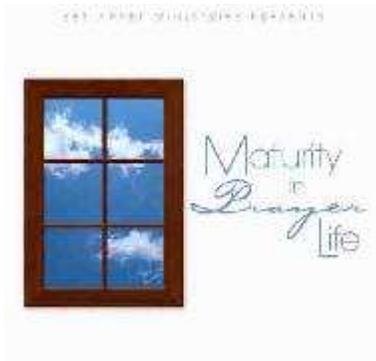
Personal Life Coaching

July 2007

Greetings!

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This month, we are delighted to release our new CD entitled *Maturity in Prayer Life*. This project came as somewhat of a surprise to us at Set Apart Ministries. We knew that prayer is our supply line for relationship with our Messiah, and we knew that we are called to grow up in every way into Him Who is our Head. Prayer is a personal endeavor and a corporate one; filled with praise and intercession, a way to receive His love as well as to bring His authority to bear in pressing circumstances. Over a short period of time last year, an awareness of the different "sounds" of prayer as it comes from the heart of a believer at various stages of faith development came into focus for us. We realized that the developmental steps of maturity in other areas such as emotional, intellectual, and physical growth have a parallel in our prayer life.

At first, it was an awareness of the differences in prayer language from one who is praying out of confidence and one who is praying out of fear. This led us to examine all that we have learned and teach about the different types of bonds that hold relationships together; love bonds and fear bonds in general, and what this looks--or sounds-- like in our relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Sometime later, it was made clear during one of our leadership prayer times that He does have standards in how we approach Him. His children are not to become lax in the prayer relationship anymore than we would in other relationships. The clearest

example is that of a small child with their parent: while the child is struggling to learn to walk or talk, the parent is tolerant and encouraging in every way possible. The parent celebrates the gains made with their child and graciously overlooks the frailties along the way. On some occasions, the child may fall back into "baby talk" or "Carry me, Daddy!" The wise parent knows when to go along with this step backwards and when to emphasize that the child is really more able than they *think* they are. So, too, do we understand that our Abba knows us and knows where we are in relationship with Him.

We saw a pattern in the development of prayer and the maturity model we use. To our surprise, almost before we knew it, we had an entire outline of these different stages and the types of language or expectations, and pitfalls, that seem to fit in the various levels. And, really, only a self assessment is in order here; this is **not** a pattern to hold up to see what **other** people's prayer life is like!

- Have you ever wondered about the balance between asking and receiving in prayer?
- How about recognition of when we are praying in His will vs. praying in our own?
- Or, "Help me to: *fill in the blank* " vs. "Just do in me What You will," prayer forms?
- Has there been a time in your life when the Father chose to carry you and yet another time when He has made you know that you need to walk this one out?
- These experiences seem to be universal and they do reflect our maturity!

This CD includes: Basic Outline of the Life Model of Maturity Stages and the normal tasks of each stage, a description of both love and fear bonds, and then a group discussion moving through the stages of belief. These stages move from that of New Believer through serious student of the Word, to servant and bond servant and beginning to touch on what it means to be His betrothed wife and pray from within that relationship. Approximately 2 hours in length.

We welcome your comments and observations and hope to add them to future editions. The CD is available for a limited time at the introductory price of \$15, later at \$20. We have copies available to mail out to you or we can provide you with the information to download the audio tracks and the liner notes straight to your home computer. Contact us at: info@setapartmingb.org or (920) 336-7005. It will soon be available through our website catalog at www.setapartmingb.org. Won't you join us in this journey of discovery of Maturity in Prayer Life?

We will not send an August issue of our newsletter as we will be involved in duplication of the CD, another project to be released soon, and on vacation!

Be strengthened in our Messiah until we meet again.

Barbara Klika & Marilyn Zierhart Guffey, Personal Life Coaches

Keeping Your Joy Full!



OH! It has happened again! Someone has said something about you that they shouldn't have said. Or maybe it is that you are dealing with

disillusionment over a broken promise with someone close to you.

- How does a believer cope with such disappointments and remain joyful?

It may seem obvious to observe that our thoughts and our hearts and our eyes are to be focused on our Messiah, because "the arm of flesh WILL fail you." Yet how often we struggle in ourselves to understand how that person could have done or said what they did!

*It is a prevailing truth that we need to be aware of the difference between **remorse** and **repentance** in order to keep our own balance and joy. A remorseful person is just saddened by what they have done, but a repentant person adds action to the remorse, and makes a positive, definitive change in direction.*

In one of his letters to the Believers at Corinth, Paul wrote that we need to be aware that a "little leaven can leaven the whole lump." He was speaking of the ease in which one person's fall can influence others. He may have seemed harsh to some people's ears, yet being aware of those who are not truly repentant and limiting contact with them is his recommendation in order to protect the integrity of the flock.

Prayerfully assessing the difference between true *repentance* and just *remorse* in a relationship will provide a greater stability for retaining your own balance and joy, no matter the inevitable disappointments that come.

ABOUT US

Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach is a licensed mental health professional and founder of Set Apart Ministries, Inc., who is trained to help people learn new skills and make significant behavior changes. She is a trained Bible Study teacher and has been mentoring people in their spiritual growth for many years. She has completed Life Coaching training through Mentor Coach, Inc. She is here to offer her skills in the areas of faith development, communication, problem-solving, and behavior change.

Marilyn T. Guffey, lay counselor, Personal Life Coach, worked in a church setting for ten years before joining Set Apart Ministries, Inc. in January 2003. She has received instruction through a variety of Christian lay counseling courses as well as working alongside pastors and professional mental health therapists. She has also completed Life Coaching training through Mentor Coach Inc. Marilyn has worked extensively supporting women --spiritually, emotionally and practically--through encouragement and prayer.

In Coaching, you come for help to make decisions and then implement them, in order to achieve goals that you have chosen for yourself. May we come alongside and encourage you along the way?

[What is Coaching all about?](#)

Check here for more Information!

- [What Should I Know about Coaching with Set Apart Ministries?](#)
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