

Love Life Ministry

Touching People with the Healing Power of God's Love[©]



The Little Yellow Flower **Overcoming Sin-Consciousness**

by Sandra Crothers

It was one of those days when nothing went right, and I was feeling frustrated, discouraged, and angry with myself, as well as with my second husband, Norm. We had been married for eight years and there were lots of problems and issues between us that never seemed to be resolved. We were both Christians but came into the marriage with lots of baggage that had never been dealt with.

On this particular day, we got into a major argument and we both got angry and said things to each other that should not have been said. He stormed out of the house, got into his truck, and left, which was his usual way of handling confrontation. I went outside and sat down on the back porch step and started crying. A million thoughts were going through my mind..." Lord, I've failed one more time and I'm tired of going around the same mountain, and never getting it right. I do not want to be married to him. I do not love him, and we can never communicate. I feel like no one cares and the situation is hopeless. I know I should love him, but I do not. In a flash my eyes were drawn to a tiny, single yellow flower that was no bigger than my fingernail. I looked at it and thought how insignificant it was. No one knew it was there; it was just like me, insignificant and alone! Immediately I sensed the Lord's thoughts speaking to me and He was saying He created the little, yellow flower and it was not insignificant to Him. He knew it was there even if no one else knew and He made it to bloom just for me. He said He knew where I was and that I was not insignificant to Him, and I was not alone, that He created me and loved me just like I was. I knew I should come to Him, and let Him love me but I was afraid, and my heart condemned me, and I did not feel worthy, so I went back inside the house; however, I kept thinking about the yellow flower and His words to me. How could He love me when I keep on sinning? After all, I had promised Him I would not get angry and fight with my husband, but I always seemed powerless to stop. I did not know then that will power was not sufficient to overcome sin and the more I tried in my strength to stop the more I kept repeating the same sin. I had put myself under the Law. The Law demands that I stop sinning but will never help me to stop. Only God's grace, His underserved favor, can supply me with His strength to overcome.

About a month later, I was standing at the kitchen sink looking out the bay window, and the sun was coming up. It was a beautiful sight, and as I watched it, I heard the Lord say, "I love you as

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sure, as the dawn". Those words penetrated my heart that was so full of guilt and condemnation. I remembered the yellow flower and His love to me that day, and then I thought about the sun coming up, and how it rises every day without fail, and my actions and thoughts either good or bad do not stop the sun from rising. It is not dependent on my performance. God's love for me is as sure as the dawn of each new day, the rising of the sun. He loves me unconditionally just like I am. Like the sun never fails to rise, His love for me never fails. Tears of joy streamed down my face as I realized He is not condemning me; that He accepts me and loves me and has completely forgiven me. I do not have to be afraid to approach Him.

Perhaps you have had similar situations where you focused so much on your sin that you did not believe God could love and accept you. Please read the scriptures below and answer the questions. Allow the Lord to input His truth into your heart.

1. Hebrews 10:1-2 (NKJV) Under the Old Covenant, the Law demanded a sacrifice for sin.
 - a) What was the Law unable to accomplish?
 - b) How do you know the Law does not make you perfect?
 - c) How does it affect you?
2. Hebrews 10:12,14 What did Christ's sacrifice accomplish for you?
3. Hebrews 10:17 Does God remember your sins?
4. 1 John 4:18 Have you been so sin conscious that you refused to come to God to receive His love? Why?
5. 1 John 4:18-19 What did you learn or experience from these verses?
6. Romans 8:1 Have you felt guilty and condemned yourself? Why?
7. Romans 8:34-35, 38-39 According to these verses, no one can condemn or separate you from Christ's love. Why not?

I speak blessings over you that touches you with the healing power of God's love!

Shalom!!

Sandra Crothers