

We Are All Murderers (October 2011)

The following testimony was received from a young man who is incarcerated for murder. I (Dan) go to the jail regularly to facilitate prayer ministry with him.

I am writing this as a testimony of the saving grace and power of the resurrected Christ and Holy Spirit. From as far back as I can remember I have lived in daily fear of everything from people, crowds, family, unknown environments, failure, or relationships and never knew why nor had any hope of change. I could be in a crowded room of people, at a movie theater or the mall and feel all alone and afraid. Estranged and enslaved, I chose a road of sin and addictions to numb the pain which only led me further down into a merry-go-round of chaos and drowning circumstances. I could see no way out as the shame, guilt and condemnation began to pile up higher and higher, weighing me down further and further with remorse, regret and pain.

Although I was raised in a loving family who attended church every time the doors were open, I did not truly know my identity in Christ. I began the process of secular, worldly rehabilitations: treatment centers, counseling, behavior modification centers, prayer, discipleship school and finally prison, but to no avail. I was still trapped in an emotional prison I could not escape.

Many times tragedy strikes, and with an immense pain we cry out to God and question why? *'And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.'* Romans 8:28

For me, tragedy did strike and I found myself sitting in jail wondering how this could have happened; why God would allow it to happen? Unable to live in my own skin I trembled in the fear of a wasted future with no hope. Yet, God had another plan to turn evil to good. Just as Christ spoke to Philip in Acts 8:26-40 and sent him on a divine appointment to preach and teach to the Ethiopian, God spoke to Dan Geroy at Mount Horeb House Ministries in Kerrville.

I first heard of Mount Horeb House when, by accident, I found a copy of Ann Geroy's book, Looking With New Eyes, on the jail book cart. It was about her healing journey through Christ. [Ann, it was no accident that your book reached my hands and I picked it up to read. So I thank you for having the courage to be obedient to Christ and sharing your testimony with others so they might be healed.] I knew then that it was through Him (Christ) that I would be healed. So when the Pastor of the Jail (the Chaplin) mentioned prayer ministry, I had no reservations whatsoever. I was desperate for Christ! Through divine appointments and divine favor, Dan Geroy was permitted to come into the jail once a week and walk alongside of me through my healing journey with Christ.

I cannot begin to express the gratitude to God, Dan and Ann Geroy, and all those who are associated with Mount Horeb House. The peace and freedom that I was searching for over 35 years, I have come to know. It is a peace which passes all understanding that the Apostle Paul describes in his letter to the Philippians. It is the same peace I have today no matter what the circumstances are around me or what my future holds. By going back to each painful memory and seeking Christ's truth in each and every circumstance, I have found freedom, forgiveness, peace and truth. This is allowing me to live with myself in my own skin, one day at a time, moment by moment. *'And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'* John 8:32. My hope and prayer for those who still suffer without answers is that they will find the peace that only Christ can give.

Thank you Dan and Ann! Thank you for pouring yourselves into the lives of others. Keep serving Christ's purpose for each person that God brings across your path. Thanks again for taking time each week to come walk with me through my healing journey!

P.S. Our nightly prayer circle (inmates on our cell block) pray for you and your ministry.

BKC