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## What Joy Divine

I was talking with a friend who is also in ministry. We were talking about how in our Life Is Full Of Choices class we have been looking at the difference between affection and attention. I shared how sad it was that people had a hard time naming the people in their lives who affirmed them for who they were.

She said, "I don't feel like I got that even from my family."

John and I define affection as "Anything someone says to us that makes us feel loved and cared for or valued for who we are."

Usually we get attention for what we do but affection for who we are.

As I ponder that - it seems to me that God has been the only one in my life who has been consistent at loving me for who I am. He made me to be a part of Himself. He designed me after His own likeness (even though I don't understand that). He knew me before I was born. He loved me enough to send His Son to die for me. He has filled me with His Spirit to live in me and be my mentor/teacher.

My only responsibility is to accept Him, walk in Him, allow Him to love me and help other people build that same relationship with Him.

I have been a witness to many individuals who have chosen to do that. Each one has grown in maturity and strength as they deal with life's tough circumstances.

One such person is "Linda" (a fictional name) who took the time to connect with and listen to God during weekly prayer times with me. I had the privilege of listening and watching the Lord transform her life from fear and pain to one of joy and delight.

What a miracle!!! What joy divine!! All I did was lift her to the Lord and walk the journey with her.

God's love and care for us - for who we are - is one of the best gifts we can give someone.

He changes us. He heals us. He transforms us. He gives us the power to over-come any circumstances we face. He let's us know that He loves us for who we are! He fills the void in the center of who we are and we become a new creation. Praise His Name Forever.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of walking with others and lifting them to Jesus. Your support and prayers make it all possible.

Bless you,

Sheryl Emra

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### Answers to Prayer

The Class is going well.  
Good group, good  
interaction with lots of  
questions.

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Praise God that the  
devastation from both  
hurricanes wasn't worse  
than it was.

### Prayer Requests

We have been under  
attack. Health and  
relationship issues.  
Pray that we would stay  
focused on God and  
let everything else  
flow away!

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Pray for the remaining  
five weeks of this class.  
That God will continue  
to speak to people.

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Pray for the recovery  
from the hurricanes in  
Texas, Luisiana and  
Florida. That God  
would continue to use  
this tragedy to soften  
hearts toward Him.

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Continue to pray for the  
politicians and everyone  
in our country. That we  
would seek Gods  
answer to the issues  
that face our country.