



Prisoners of Hope - Soul Food

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- A Weekly Insight into the Current Real Life Issues -

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PRAYER OF SALVATION

The Bible says if you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins and was raised from the dead; your soul shall be saved. Your decision to accept Jesus as your Savior is the most important decision you can make in your life. It's a decision that gives you assurance that your soul will find rest, when your body is buried.

If you can believe, please give your soul an assurance of rest and say this prayer from your mouth:

Dear Lord, I come to you now, just and I am. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. You know my life. You know how I've lived. Forgive me Lord. I repent of my sins. Lord Jesus, come into my heart and make me the person you want me to be. Live your life in me and through me from now on. I receive Jesus Christ as my new Lord and Savior. From this day forward, I belong to you. Thank you Lord, in Jesus Name. Amen!

If you said this prayer for the first time, I personally welcome you to the family of God. I would like to give you some information and pray with you to assist you in your new life.

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THERE'S ONLY ONE 'YOU'

"Then God saw everything that He made, and indeed it was very good..."

Genesis 1:31

God has made you very fearfully and wonderfully. The scripture says *"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..."* (Genesis 1:26). If you study the scriptures from **Genesis 1:3-25**; God created everything by just speaking a Word. But when He made you, He said *"Let Us..."* That means God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; worked together in creating an authentic, genuine, human being like you. You were made so that you were not to compare yourself with anybody. You were exclusively designed so that you can never be carbon-copied again.

The question that always comes to mind is that *'why do we often allow other people's opinion to define who we are?'* We tend to depend on other people's affirmation in order to assert our beauty or who are. Most people go as far as changing their image to imitate those seen on TV. We spend lots and lots of cash, trying to mend something that God saw as good; in order to be affirmed by society *"Then God saw everything that He made, and indeed it was very good..."* (Genesis 1:31).

I've learned that everyone is attractive in one way or another. Even though outer appearance is important, it's not always the issue as compared to inward appearance. In case you didn't know *'there is only one you!'* You are rare and unmatched. Your twin brother or sister might have some of your features; but they don't look exactly like you. You always have something to contribute. You do not have to pretend in order to seem more like someone else. You were not meant to be like someone else and you'll never be like them. You were meant to be different.

If someone doesn't love you the way you are; then they don't love you at all. You do not have to lie to conceal the parts of you that are not like what you see in anyone else. You don't want anybody to love your image or your makeup or your talent, etc. If you're attracting people who are not treating you well; you need to make introspection. The question is *'What kind of message are you sending out there?'* You need someone who'll be there when outward appearance fades away.

Treasure your uniqueness; it's a gift given only to you. Your presence is a present to the world. Did you know that if you did not exist, there would be a gap in creation, a gap in history, something missing from the plan for humankind? Nowhere ever in all of history will there ever be the same finger prints in anyone's fingers as yours. No one can reach out to others in the same way that you can. No one can speak your words. No one can convey your meanings. No one can comfort with your kind of comfort. No one can bring your kind of understanding to another person.

No one can smile your smile. No one else can bring the whole unique impact of you to another human being. It's got nothing to do with where or how you were born. You could've been born Black or White or Indian or Chinese, etc.; but God chose to make you like that for His own purpose. Don't put limits on yourself. There are so many dreams within you waiting to be realized. That gift of yourself was given you to enjoy and share. If God sees you as *"very good"*; just get it in your mind *'You are very good'*. And don't ever forget even for a day that *'there is only one you!'* Expect God to show up early in your life this week! Enjoy a fresh new beginning today, have a very Blessed week and **Continue to be a Prisoner of Hope.**

- Thabo S. Mogotlane -