



December 2008 from Kansas City

www.longing4you.com



DEBRA-LOUISE PRAYING FOR YOU.

Longing for You, the Journey from Intercession to Intimacy

It is Jesus who invited you personally to begin the journey into His heart, when you gave Him yours. As each page is turned, it is like the ground of your heart will be tilled because you will hear His Voice of Love. This adventure of learning how to pray will bring you face to face with the One who is the answer to every prayer ever prayed, even when tears were the only words. There are many books now written on intercession, which is simply a fancy word for prayer. Jesus has invited you to partner with Him on the earth to see His Kingdom come. This book only contains 3 chapters. Praying is as easy as one, two, three, and yet part of a mystery words can never explain. What you will find contained in these pages is not describing a plan or program, it's all about a Person. His Name is Jesus, and He is **LONGING FOR YOU**.

More information available on my web site WWW.LONGING4YOU.COM
OBTAIN COPIES AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS BLESSINGS OTHERS...AND ME

This summer the TWINS, Phoenix and Valerie went to Virginia for a visit. I remember growing up near the ocean and enjoying making castles in the sand. We are told a very important lesson from the gospels on how we are to build. Matthew 7:26 "Everyone who hears what I say but doesn't obey it will be like a foolish person who built a house on sand. Rain poured, and floods came. Winds blew and struck that house. It collapsed, and the result was a total disaster."



Build upon the rock the gospel story tells us.

We are all building something...choice by choice, and construction occurs even without our awareness at times. One of the definitions of build is to construct, rest or depend on as a foundation. Each day is like a building block of our lives taking us into the destiny we were created for...or not. Cracks can occur in the foundation of our lives over time we might not even be aware of. They can develop so subtly that even as we do begin to notice them, somehow they do not seem that big of a deal...until!

I am praying for the foundation of my life, and yours, in the year ahead to be built on the fruit of the spirit. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. 1 Corinthians 14:8 states, "For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?" This statement is just after the chapter on the excellence of love. Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly ; it does not seek its, own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered , does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

May the year ahead be built on love alone...love that will stand the test of time and never fail!

SUPPORT CAN BE MAILED TO 11112 Applewood Drive Kansas City, MO 64134
For Tax credit make payable to IHOP, if not needed, make payable to Debra Cossu.

MY OWN PRAYER REQUESTS

MY CHILDREN'S SALVATION *DAVID, DANIEL, ELIZABETH*

- INCREASING HEALING ANOINTING
- OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOING OUT TO SHARE ENCOUNTERING CHRIST WITHIN SESSIONS
- INVITATIONS TO GO OUT AND MINISTER IN GRIEF RECOVERY
- CONTINUING EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION FOR MY ROLE AS CHAPLAIN AND SERVING IN GRIEF RECOVERY AND COUNSELING

CURRENT SCRIPTURES I HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR YOU...

TO SEE THE POWER OF GOD
1 CORINTHIANS 4:20

HOPE FULFILLED
ROMANS 5:5

FRUIT THAT WILL REMAIN
JOHN 15:16

PLEASE THE LORD
2 CORINTHIANS 5:9

LEARN
ISAIAH 1:17

REWARD FOR YOUR WORK
RUTH 2:12

INHERITANCE
PSALM 47:4

I began teaching a contemplative class over three years ago, and now have two classes for encounter each week, have begun a life session for couples who want to become pregnant...and one of them is now expecting TWINS! I continue to lead and train in the Bethany healing room for the critically and chronically ill, and have developed a series on grief recovery, where I actually also help those in grief and sorrow encounter Christ within.

ENCOUNTERING CHRIST WITHIN SEMINARS

Encountering Christ Within, the Hope of Glory

Intimacy with Jesus is a private experience. His way of coming to us is defined by Him alone. He meets us according to who we are in relationship to Him already, and where we desire to be with Him after our encounter. Every experience with Him will be unique. Do not compare what happens in your heart to what anyone else has told you about. **Contemplative prayer cannot be taught.** It is not defined accurately by using any method, although there is more than one way to begin your journey inside, and into, His Presence.

Through the ages this devotional approach of fellowshiping with God has been called by various names. Madame Guyon called it, "The Inner Way." Brother Lawrence named this practice of contemplation and fellowship with God, "Practicing His Presence." Others have referred to this experience by such names as: "Waiting on God," "Basking in His Presence," "Centering Prayer," "Beholding the Christ Within," "Way of the Heart," and the "Prayer of Silence". These names and many others are as diverse and unique as the individuals who pursued communion with the Indwelling Christ through various ways and means.

In Contemplative Prayer, a silent waiting in faith on the Indwelling Christ is our beginning point. The intention is to focus our reality upon the Indwelling Christ, who really has taken up His abode at the very center of our being. **This devotional life begins with an opening up of our hearts to receive from Him.** Our first priority is not to give something to Him or even to love Him. We are simply responding to the hunger that He has put in our hearts, because He desires to fellowship with us. We are responding to this hunger by quieting ourselves in His Presence, and simply letting Him love us.

After receiving His love, we are able to return love back to Him like never before. Contemplative Prayer is not really about searching to "go" someplace to find Him. He is waiting for us to come apart in silence and really experience that He is already with us, dwelling on the inside. He works in behalf of those who are willing to wait for Him, and we are changed in the process!

This is an inner journey we all are invited to go on. Holy Spirit will escort us where we cannot get to on our own. There are depths of the Presence of God inside each of us, reserved for those who will stop and be still and know...Him. **This place of silence is our entrance into the glorious inner life that Christ died to give us. As we stop and be still, eternity has begun.** This journey of stillness will take us into the very depths of union with Christ, and perfect love will refresh and renew our hearts! In the days ahead, our history in the secret place is what will sustain us.



CONTACT ME IF YOUR CHURCH OR GROUP ARE INTERESTED IN HOSTING A SEMINAR OR RETREAT TO EXPERIENCE CHRIST WITHIN THAT WILL BRING HEALING TO ALL

I am going to share from my personal journal an encounter during quiet listening prayer in hopes of stirring your longing for encounter. I have been totally transformed since practicing being still to know Him, that has now taken a place of priority in my life. This is who I am and what I do ... for the rest of my life. Even in the grief recovery class His still small voice resounded over the sorrow and anguish of life events in the hearts of those who attended. Take just 10 minuets and ask Him what is on His heart for you...and you will hear clearly His Voice of Love in reply.

I was very aware of His gaze of love causing me to blush. First scene..."Give Me a drink" I did not value what I had to offer Him...I wanted to play like when holding that lily and squirting Him with water...He was so somber and serious today. I handed Him what I had to offer in this old rough wooded cup...some was splashing over the edges, and I was just looking around after I gave it to Him. WOW, I happened to look in His direction, and now it appeared the cup I gave Him was transformed in His hands into this beautiful UNTARNISHED silver goblet...He was cherishing and holding with honor and love that which I had offered Him...He received it with so much joy and fulfillment...He was not distracted at all...that which I had handed Him seemed to be so important it had all of His attention...affection...heart. He was so tender...like what I offered was substantial and sufficient. He was so happy...savoring the flavor....the aroma and fragrance of what I had given Him that I did not even care about.

Now it was my turn to ask Him for a drink. He had been so serious with me, so I was a little nervous, especially after pouting because He did not want to play earlier...He was holding what He offered me in both hands...not placing it in mine, so I just bent over to take a drink...and as I did, He began to laugh out loud and splashed it all over me...my face...dumping it on my head ... we began having a water fight...He wanted me to play now...He was *playful with purpose*. He was so exuberant and full of joy in His giving...and there was such an endless supply that the extravagance and generosity in the seemingly waste, that was not wasted at all...I was so refreshed and renewed, like the living waters were running in my veins...then suddenly I noticed a Tsunami coming up behind Him...I was standing opened mouthed frozen in fear and He was still smiling, scooped me up and we 'rode the wave' and began to fly in the living waters....outrageous joy flooded not just over me but through my very veins. Then in the last segment I felt how holy silence is...and 'heard' *listening is a form of worship*...noted in Revelation 8:1 silence was heard in heaven for about half an hour.....in heaven where only worship occurs 24/7. Peace, peace to your hearts and homes in the year ahead.



**To love and be loved is
the greatest of all human joys.
Surly to love is the greatest of all...
no one can take that away from us...
we alone have say so over the
movements of our hearts
move in rhythm with
love**

COME UP HERE...YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION TO VISIT WITH THE LORD

There is a door standing open in heaven! This is the invitation in Revelation 4. Jesus stands at the door of our hearts knocking unrelentingly. He is faithful in His love and any moment we open to Him, there will be deep fellowship. He is longing to share His heart with all who care to listen, We discover what will be taking place after all is said and done...it will be WORSHIP! This is what Paul was shown in this chapter...continual worship and glory and honor begin given around the throne...but we do not have to wait. Today is the day he longs to hear your voice distinct from the 4 living creatures, the elders and all the myriads for heaven that never stop...your voice is what he bends down to listen to.

With my new home, I have two guest rooms, one with a single bed and one with a double bed and a full bath, as well as a finished basement with lots of carpeted floor space...so come visit me too!



LONGING4YOU.COM

SILENCE

IS

A

PLACE

CALLED

HOLY

Seminars and Retreats

These weekend retreats or a one day seminar will implement worship, teaching, and ministry times of personal prayer for all who desire. There will be true heart encounters for everyone as we Practice His Presence together.

The Lord desires to heal in every area of our brokenness. People have experienced physical healings as well as relief from deep inner wounds during these sessions. Jesus proclaimed His mission statement in Luke 4:18 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, preach deliverance to the captives, recovering sight to the blind, to set at liberty those that are bruised, and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord". I believe this is my mission statement in life, and it can be yours as well.

These seminars and retreats are for anyone who longs for a deeper, more intimate relationship with Him. Jesus said "Come to me all who are burdened and heavy laden, and I will give you rest". Attend a seminar, and experience true love, joy, and peace in His unfailing love.

God longs for encounter with each of us. When we are willing to be still and know Him...we will come to know who we are with new clarity. We love because He first loved us, and as we get to the place of putting first things first, everything else around us is put into proper perspective as well. These times of ministry will provide not just healing for your hearts, but cause you to go forth and bring healing to others as well!

PERSONAL BIO AND CONTACT INFORMATION



WWW.TRINITYPRINTS.COM

**JESUS LOVES
YOU
LOOK
AND YOU
WILL SEE**

Debra-Louise Cossu has been a full time intercessor with the **International House of Prayer in Kansas City** since June of 2002. She is native Virginian with three grown children, and twin grandbabies. Her web site holds valuable information, helps, and resources that will inspire and touch your heart. Since beginning her walk with Christ over 3 decades ago, Debra has ministered in various places, including other countries like the Philippines, England, Malta, and Romania.

She has spoken at churches, pastor's conferences, women's retreats and Aglow meetings. She is available for seminars and retreats where you can experience a personal heart encounter, and learn to Practice the Presence of the Indwelling Christ as a lifestyle.

She is currently teaching **Encountering Christ Within** on the Missions Base in Kansas City. This class is an onramp to beholding Christ in the secret place.

Debra also leads several healing room teams and helps to manage the prayer requests that come in from all over the world. Prayer is her full time passion and occupation.

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New web site for those
longing for encounter
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