

WORD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

GOD'S PATIENCE AND KINDNESS LEADS PEOPLE TO REPENTANCE. ROMANS 2:4

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Sometimes It Gets Messy

You know that closet?

Or maybe for you
it's a shelf
or a drawer
or a basket.

That one place,
that catch-all place,
where your extra stuff goes
and just sort of accumulates?

Well, there was a time in my life,
when it wasn't just a closet,
it was a room!
A whole room!

It didn't start out that way,
but soon enough,
it became that way.

You see, anytime I would receive something
I wasn't sure I really wanted
or I acquired something
I just didn't have a place for,
I'd put it in that room.

It started out fine:
a hand-me-down bureau from my parents,
a small sofa from my grandma.

But soon it was more than
just a few things here or there.

Soon it was the junk mail
I hadn't yet gone through
and the extra supplies for my vocation
I was sure I would some day use.

And things piled up.
And the room got full.

And eventually...I just stopped using it.

I simply closed the door
and the only time I opened it,
was to throw something else in.

Oh, yes, there were times I could've
actually used things from that room.

But it was so overwhelming,
such a burden to find anything in that mess,
that it was actually easier
to get along without the needed items,
than to try to wade through
the bags of mail and boxes of stuff
to get to those things I could actually use!

And today...I'm reminded that
there are areas in our lives,
that become just this same way.

It starts out fine:
a dream here,
a heart's desire there.

But things don't turn out
like we thought they would.

A few hurts.
A few disappointments.

A dream deferred.
A desire not yet found.

And bitterness grows.
And hopelessness sets in.

And pretty soon,
the only time we open the door
is to throw in one more hurt,
one more disappointment.

And the beauty of the room,
the beauty of the dream
or the heart's desire,
gets overwhelmed
and over shadowed
by all the junk.

So, we have a choice.

We can ignore the room,
with it's treasures
and it's junk,
and pretend none of it is there.

We can ignore the room,
with it's treasures
and it's junk,
and pretend none of it is there.

We can try to clean up
the mess all by ourselves,
fussing and toiling,
working and complaining,
trying to do a job
we were never meant
to accomplish on our own.

Or.

We can hear the call of Jesus,
as He says:

*Let Me in the room.
Let Me clean out the junk.
Let Me heal the hurt.
Let Me clean out the bitterness.*

*I'll remind you of the beauty
that was there before all this began.*

*Yes, you may not have gotten
what you wanted just yet.*

*Yes, the dream, the heart's desire
may be completely covered...
but it's there! It's there!*

*Allow Me to uncover it.
Allow Me to bring it back to the light of day.
Allow Me to do it.*

Might it be uncomfortable?
Might it get messy?

Yes. But, it will be worth it!
It will be worth it!

So, go ahead.
Open the door.
Just a little is all it takes.
Allow Jesus to heal your heart.

He's ready.
He's waiting.

He won't laugh at your mess.
He loves you in the mess.

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He loves you.

He. Loves. You.

*Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise His holy name.
Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all His benefits-
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103:1-5*

..for I am the LORD who heals you... from Exodus 15:26

Dates & Times to Remember

[Bible Study Series - Inner Healing:](#) Join us tonight at 7 pm for the next in our series on *Inner Healing*! If you missed any night's teaching, you can [get caught up online](#).

[Community Prayer Walk:](#) Our next *Community Prayer Walk* is October 7. Contact [Dawn C](#) for all the info!

[Thanksgiving Day Feast:](#) Our annual *Thanksgiving Day Feast* for those who are new to the area or don't have family close by to spend Thanksgiving Day with is coming on Thursday, November 28. [Find out more online](#). There's a place at our table for you!