

3-3-2023 - ON THE EDGE

Over the last few years "Be The One" has been actively emphasized what we all should be doing - Being the One for that ONE who really needs us, who needs to know that they are important, that there is HOPE for them, that they are NOT FORGOTTEN, that someone CARES about them. Obviously this is not something new but has been around for a long time. In the below message we see who the first "One" was, is, and will be forever. That "One", that while our faith in Him may slip or falter, His faith in US never will.

"Many followed Him, and He healed them all ... This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved with whom My soul is well pleased. I will put My Spirit upon Him ... He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets; a bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not quench ... and in His Name the Gentiles will hope." (Matthew 12:15b , 17a, 18a, 20a, 21)

Have you ever seen a candle about to go out? A thin long trail of smoke rises, and there is almost no orange left. In a minute it will be out.

Or think of a reed once someone has stepped on it and crushed it. "Well, that plant isn't coming back," we say. "Might as well get rid of it."

There are people like this too—people who are so harmed, so battered by the circumstances of their lives, that we are tempted to give up on them. "After surviving that hell, he'll never find love or friendship." "I could never live like those people." "Sick as she is, it would be better if God just took her home."

But God doesn't think so. Jesus doesn't think so. And in Isaiah's prophecy, God makes this gentle, long-suffering compassion a hallmark of the Messiah. Nobody is too far gone for Him. Nobody is past His mercy, His love, His attention. It doesn't matter who you are or what you have done. Jesus **is** here for you. His arms are waiting for you—those arms He once stretched out on a cross, for you." (by Dr. Kari Vo)

Here are the words of "Hope" that we all need, coming from the original "ONE", but especially for that ONE person that doesn't know where or who to turn to, for that ONE person that may be close to the "Edge". God has shown us all how to "Be The One" through His caring and Love! What did God do for us by His Love?

"For God so Loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that however believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

THAT is Love! Can we not show at least some of that same Love for someone? All we have to do is to **"BE THE ONE"** as God has been for us ALL.

WE PRAY: Dear Lord, help me to see and believe in Your love. Help me share that same Love to others that they may live. Amen.