



# NightLight

A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

"take heed....as to a light that shines in a dark place." II Peter 1:19

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Dear Friends,

*Come boldly before the throne of grace that you might find grace to help in time of need....*

*Hebrews 4:16*



The word translated *boldness* is parrhesia (par-a-see-a). It means, among other things, to approach with such confidence of welcome that there is no working your way in to favor, but honest open unhindered expression. This boldness is warm, familiar, and affectionate. It will never be misinterpreted as presumptuous, arrogant, rude, or flippant. The very nature of the warm loving aspect automatically precludes any room for dishonor. Love can bow, or love can run and jump in the lap, either way, and the motive is not questioned by Father God. Relationship which is constant and secure has already answered all questions of motive.

When Kira was about four, I was pastoring. All the other children in the kids' program had been trained well enough to know that if the pastor is still speaking, they are to remain waiting at the double doors to my left. Kira had not been so trained. She burst into the sanctuary, jumped up on the front row, put her hands on her hips and said loud enough for all to hear, "Pawpaw, ain't you done yet?" The place erupted with laughter and joy. This illustrates the definition of *come boldly before the throne of grace*. Kira was a picture of how we are to be when we approach Father God. It is NOT honoring to Him to approach Him as if we do not belong to Him. It is not honoring to approach Him as if we may or may not be welcomed. It is not honoring to approach Him with a kind of fear and trembling that brings to mind the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion.

I have often used the illustration that a prince or princess, as children of the King, can laugh with the King and climb on him and roll in the floor behind closed doors together, but when the King is in

His court, even His own children need to show proper courtly respect. And there is some truth to that. But I have come to believe that illustration doesn't serve us well. We already have too much of a tendency to approach the Father as if He may NOT extend His scepter to us, which might mean we could be hauled out immediately and even executed if His mood is particularly bad. To project the very idea of the Lord having moods in which He may act towards us unjustly or unlovingly is totally wrong of us to do to Him. It is the goal of the enemy to keep you out of the kind of communion with your Father that makes for joy, peace, and powerful prayer. Kira was not being disrespectful to me at all. She was concerned that maybe I hadn't noticed that everybody else was finished and it was past time for me to finish also. It was unselfconscious, childlike, honest, and very loud. It was parrhesia. And it got immediate results.

Yes, I know this can be and often has been taken in a bad direction. For example, when the Almighty God has been treated as a big granddaddy in the sky, and worship has been reduced to an egocentric rock and roll show. I also know there are times when all the pomp and circumstance of more formal traditional worship dishonors Him just as badly in more conventional (sterile, passionless, formalistic) ways. The point is not the style of music but the heart. We are to come before the throne because the approach emerges out of a loving, faith filled, warm relationship with Father God. This kind of constancy in closeness and warmth produces confidence that we *might find grace to help in time of need.* The child who can romp into the throne room is the warrior who can romp on the serpent's head. Go run and see Father God for a few minutes, right now. **BOLDLY!**

**NOTICE:**

**We have several on our waiting list hoping for financial aid to attend the Black Mountain "His Healing Presence" Conference August 18-22. If you cannot come this year but would like to help scholarship someone, we welcome your gift. Just earmark your donation "Conf Scholarship." Thanks for your prayerful consideration!**



EAT AT CHICK-FIL-A EVERY  
CHANCE YOU GET!

## FORTY DAYS OF PRAYER SEPTEMBER 28-NOVEMBER 6

Many national leaders have been calling the church nationwide to set aside times of serious intercession, repentance, and prayer preceding the presidential election. We will be voting for the life or death of this country. Voting Republican may get us NOWHERE, but voting Democrat will certainly without any doubt, continue the murder of children, the destruction of marriage, the annihilation of the economy, the feminizing of the military, the overthrow of the constitution, the forcing of sodomy on our children, crony organized crime, and the official position of hatred against Israel and exaltation of Islam, which the Obama administration so delights in. Find time and like minded people with whom you can join on some regular basis, to seek the Lord with fasting and prayer over these forty days. How do we know whether God may hear us and turn the tide against the rising onslaught of debauchery? It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.

### *Comments from listeners about "God, a Man and a Woman"*

*"I was gonna just put it on and listen while doing other things. I had to stop and focus...It was telling a much larger story than background music..."*

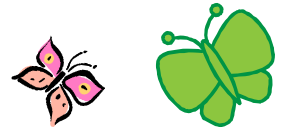
*D. from Iowa*

*"I don't cry easily. But there were moments this music was playing the story of my life, and the tears were unavoidable."*

*B. from North Carolina*



## Some Closing Thoughts...



Gene Mullenax is now with the Lord. Fifty six years ago, Gene underwent surgery for the removal of his lung and three ribs. Fifty five and a half years ago, God put his ribs and lung back in his body. Forty years ago, Gene trained me in Teen Challenge in ministry to street people, open air evangelism, and how to deal with the hardest and toughest in that world. Thirty year ago, Gene helped me through a very difficult and painful life transition. I could go on and on. But four days ago from this writing, Gene Mullenax stepped across into the Presence of the One he loved most. We pray for his family, that they will know the grace and keeping power of the Lord as they adjust into life without husband and father. I am having to learn to accept rather regularly the departing of mentors, friends, and even sons. It all makes me increasingly thankful for the Cross and the Empty Tomb. Thank you Lord Jesus for coming. Thank you Father for sending Him. Thank you Holy Spirit for being with us till we are all Home. May it be soon.

*With Love, Clay & Mary*



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