



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,



I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you...On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. (John 14:18,20)

I've loved you the way my Father has loved Me. Make yourselves at home in my love. (John 15:9 - The Message)

...the word of God in its fullness - the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, is now disclosed to the saints...the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:25-27)

Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' (Galatians 4:6)



Every one of us is born into this world with the need to bond. We all need to make a connection to Life. That first life connection should be another person, usually our mother. Then that life connection extends to our father and any siblings and other family members, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. And as we grow, it expands to include friends, then community organizations such as school, church, the work place, etc. But this connection is not limited to only people, although they are primary. Other connections include pets, things, places, hobbies, etc.

Our need to connect to life and belong somewhere is God-given. **Ultimately, we are on the journey to awaken to the awesome truth that we already belong to the best family in the universe!** God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit is continually drawing us into relationship with Him. The Blessed Trinity longs to share life with us, for the kingdom of God is a sharing kingdom. As Baxter Kruger says, "This fellowship is not boring, joyless, sad, or empty, and certainly not religious. This is a living fellowship of passion and delight and love, of creativity and music and joy, of glory and oneness and life - zoe." The Lord invites us into community - a communion - with Him every day.

And it is out of this growing relationship with Him that we learn to engage in healthy relationships with others. Out of the abundance of living in His love, we find that we can connect in love to others. We find we are able to forgive others. We are empowered with a security that all our belongings are rooted in Him. Because we have become a part of His life in Him, we can grow - day by day - into our true selves, secure that we belong to Him. We find we can join Him in what He is doing - participating with Him in all aspects of living out His will for us.

"I know where I belong. I am in Jesus, and Jesus is in me. He is my safe place. He is my true home. He has NEVER left me. He has ALWAYS been with me. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I am learning how to live as His beloved. I am becoming who I really am. I know where I belong: in the love of God, following Jesus in real relationship."

His Cross speaks of nothing but love - a perfect love poured out for you and me. He is our Redeemer. He is our Revelation. He is our Hope. And the good news is that we belong to Him! We have been included in to the fellowship of the Blessed Trinity through the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even when we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. The Blessed Trinity has always had His eyes on you, drawing you with cords of loving-kindness. May we turn our eyes upon Jesus, upon Pappa, upon the Holy Spirit. May we come to abide in the shadow of the Almighty. May we hide ourselves in the cleft of the Rock of Ages. May we follow the Good Shepard all the days to come.

Maybe you are struggling right now. Where do I belong? Where do I fit in? Who am I? What is it that I'm to be about? Where is my place in this world? What is my purpose for being here? Spend time with the Blessed Trinity. Allow yourself to be filled up with the knowledge that you are His beloved. Soak up His healing presence in the ground of your being like a gentle spring rain. Abide in the life-flowing sap from the True Vine. Trust Him to speak to you, right where you are. Right now. Growing in His grace takes time. No need to hurry. Go gently with yourself. Live inside His grace of one day at a time.

Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Then come to Me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you'll discover that I'm gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in Me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear. (Matthew 11:28-30 - The Passion)





Home Again



1. You'll never swim in waters again
like you did in a summer gone by
That water's moved on to oceans beyond
or risen to clouds in the sky
But you can return to that river again
And stand in a memory's time
Remember the fun, be warmed in the sun
And laugh with your friends 'til you cry

*Chorus: They say you can never go home again
But I'm not so sure that it's true
For as long as a heart-gate is open wide
There'll be a welcome for you*


2. There's more to home than mortar and stone
or the house where your family lives
Home is a place they look for your face
and smile to see you walk in
Home is a balm, a comforting calm
a harbor from trouble and storm
You can let down your hair, forget every care
And rest in the welcoming arms

Repeat Chorus


3. Some roads you take damage and break
the tenderest places inside
You suffer alone, and never find home
blind from the pain that you hide
You close up your heart, sing in the dark
and try to be brave through the night
If only you knew the love waiting for you
at home in the Father's eyes

Repeat Chorus

*Bridge: Come home, come home
You who are weary, come home*



words and music by Lynn DeShazo / listen at [www.soundcloud.com](https://www.soundcloud.com/lynn-deshazo)
search: Lynn DeShazo/Home-Again



Closing Thoughts...

There is love waiting for you at home in the Father's eyes. There is forgiveness and healing and rest. There is joy and peace and strength. Life was never meant to be lived alone. True home is real, and waiting for you. Are you ready to come home?



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