

Belated Happy New Year!

Oh my gosh! Here we are in mid-January already! There have been so many distractions over the last couple of weeks that my New Year's e-mail never got written. So...Belated Happy New Year!

This year started off with the funeral of a good friend, Cyndi. She passed on Christmas Eve morning. She knew the Lord, so I know I will see her again. Her mother, husband, three daughters and grandchildren remain on this earth mourning her loss far more than I. January 2, at the funeral service, I hugged them all. Little solace for what they will face in the days, weeks and months to come.

In Matthew 11, verse 28, Jesus says... "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." That pretty much includes each and every one of us. No matter your current position in life, we all carry burdens and labor to get through the days at times.

In attending the funeral services for Cyndi, it evoked the memory of losses I have had. The service was beautiful and included traditional hymns I have sung at too many such events. As the words of "How Great Thou Art" and "In the Garden" passed over my lips, the tears ran down my cheeks, feeling the loss of this good friend and more.

This whole being human thing can be overwhelming at times. Two human emotions that make us separate from other creatures are sympathy and empathy. Although scientists have studied various species of animals that seem to have similar traits and reactions, only humans remember and actually feel emotional pain. Sometimes to the point of being rendered incapable of moving forward. (Been there, done that!) However, "Time and tide wait for no man." and life goes on.

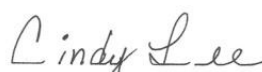
Often times the 23rd Psalm is read or used in some way for funeral services, but in this case, the 100th Psalm was chosen. I kind of thought that was odd. Then, as I listened to the reading and the comments following, I realized it was meant as an encouragement to all in attendance. An assurance that we are His. It also served as a reminder of what kind of a person Cyndi was on this earth. She was a loving, gentle, joyful person who embraced life. Opening her heart to all.

As I close this "Inspired Message" what I want to get across more than anything is that while we "labour and are heavy laden", there is rest waiting for us in the lap of our Lord and Savior, Jesus and that "*the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.*"

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Psalm 100

Wishing your burdens be light and your joys be many in 2019,


Cindy Lee Nonnemacher
Author of Connecting the Light

