

# BECKY COMBEE MINISTRIES, INC.

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## Trusting Jesus

My Father was a church musician so we were raised with the Bible in one hand and the hymnal in the other. I love the hymns! They are a part of who I am, almost a part of my personality. I sing them everywhere I go. Frequently while I am teaching, I am reminded of a hymn that echoes our lesson, and I just stop and sing it.

Deep in the recesses of my inner man, yesterday's music is hidden. Stored there, the words emerge as if hours had been spent memorizing them. Every Sunday (and at our house also Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) a deposit was made in our spirit that would be a life-long blessing. Today, we sing!

It is the Holy Spirit that fills our heart with God's Word and spirit-inspired music. He "brings all things to [our] remembrance."<sup>1</sup> As we meditate in God's Word, He teaches us and guides us into truth. He stirs our spirit to remember God's words of life. He is God, the Holy Spirit, and He dwells in us. Through our spirit, He leads us to victory! What a wonderful

friend!

By His Spirit, God is always with us. In times of tragedy or triumph, He is our helper. The Word of the Lord to Joshua is true today. God said, "I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."<sup>2</sup> The writer of Hebrews quoted this Scripture, and counseled us to boldly say, "The Lord is my helper."

The goal of God's helping hand is outlined in the Scriptures. The prophet Jeremiah records that God's plans are "plans for GOOD and not

## "Praise works!"

for disaster, to give [us] a future and a hope."<sup>3</sup> The Psalmist proclaims, "Surely your GOODNESS and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life."<sup>4</sup> He also declares, "O taste and see that the Lord is GOOD,"<sup>5</sup> and writes, "They that seek the Lord shall not want any GOOD thing."<sup>6</sup> But my favorite must be, "You are GOOD and do only GOOD."<sup>7</sup> We cannot deny that our great and mighty Father is a GOOD God with GOOD plans for His people.

The New Testament reiterates the



The psalmist pondered this question. He asked, “Why are thou cast down, oh my soul?”<sup>14</sup> His conclusion was to hope in God! He knew “the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the day time, and in

## GOODNESS

of God declaring that our Father will “give GOOD things to them that ask him.”<sup>8</sup> Jesus repeats this to His disciples saying, “It is your Father’s GOOD pleasure to give you the kingdom.”<sup>9</sup> Of Himself, He testifies, “I am the GOOD shepherd.”<sup>10</sup>

Now, here is the question. If God is GOOD and Jesus is GOOD and God’s plan for my life is GOOD, why do I experience such difficulties? The answer is often sin. Sin honors wrong choices, ungodly influences, past experiences, evil imaginations, fleshly desires, fear, and so much more.

The answer is also ignorance. According to Hebrews, the high priest had compassion on “the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way.”<sup>11</sup> Through sin and ignorance, trouble comes. The solution, of course, is to repent of sin, to hear God’s Word, and obey His commands! There is great victory in our lives if we are “doers” and not “hearers only.”<sup>12</sup>

Yet even obedient, knowledgeable Christians experience difficulties. What is God’s advice? The apostle James said, “Count it all joy.”<sup>13</sup> This is the thought that so fills my heart. If God’s Word is true and His Spirit is working mightily on our behalf, do we have a reason to be depressed?

the night his song.”<sup>15</sup> This is why He said, “I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance.”<sup>16</sup>

Praise works! It lifts our hearts to our GOOD God and magnifies His victorious leadership for our lives. In times of distress, it is an important key. When Paul and Silas were arrested, beaten, and imprisoned, they sang praises unto God.<sup>17</sup> Judah was surrounded by an enemy they could not defeat, but they worshipped God and designated singers to praise Him.<sup>18</sup> Through praise, Paul and Silas were freed from prison and Judah’s enemy was defeated.

Praise loudly proclaims our expectation of God’s goodness. It declares that we are “more than conquerors through [Christ] that loved us.”<sup>19</sup> It shouts, “God is for me.”<sup>20</sup> Praise says, “I trust you, God.” The songwriter Edgar Page Stites captured this truth when he said, “Simply trusting every day, Trusting thro’ a stormy way.”<sup>21</sup> That is the song I am singing today! It is my declaration of victory!

<sup>1</sup>Jn14:26 <sup>2</sup>Jos1:5 <sup>3</sup>Jer29:11 NLT <sup>4</sup>Ps23:6 NLT <sup>5</sup>Ps34:8 <sup>6</sup>Ps34:10 <sup>7</sup>Ps 119:68 NLT <sup>8</sup>Mt7:11 <sup>9</sup>Lk12:32 <sup>10</sup>Jn 0:11,14 <sup>11</sup>Heb5:2 <sup>12</sup>Jas :22 <sup>13</sup>Jas1:2 <sup>14</sup>Ps 42:11 <sup>15</sup>Ps42:8 <sup>16</sup>Ps42:11;43:5 <sup>17</sup>Act16:25 <sup>18</sup>2Ch 20:12 <sup>19</sup>Rm8:37 <sup>20</sup>Ps 56:9 <sup>21</sup>“Trusting Jesus” by Edgar Page Stites, 1876. Tune, Ira D. Sankey, 1876.