



February 2018

## Connecting People, Nations and Continents for the Great Commission

### SEE YOURSELF FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

As we launch out into the New Year, God reminded me again of how He sees us. I never understood that God saw me differently than I saw myself until nineteen years ago, when I realized the truth of my identity in Christ. I'd received Christ as my savior when I was 27, but for many years I saw myself through eyes of hurt and rejection, and in turn was constantly striving for approval and perfection. Since that day when my eyes were opened to perceive and understand God's viewpoint of me, it has been a process to break off lies, strongholds, addictions, shame and everything that tried to hold me back from unlocking the door to a new life in Christ. I am aware that not everyone struggles as I did from the guilt I carried. Jane Ann had a totally different experience. But I felt much like the Apostle Paul when he said in Romans 7:15, "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do, I do not do, but what I hate I do." I absolutely know that God views each one of His children as righteous and accepted when we call on Jesus for salvation! For those of you who struggle, it is mine and Jane Ann's desire to help you see yourselves as God views you. We must believe, receive and apply what the Word of God says about who we are to Him in order to find true freedom and understand how He treasures us. Here is what He says about YOU:

### YOU ARE A MASTERPIECE – Ephesians 2:10

We must agree and accept that we are God's workmanship! We are created in the very image of God through Christ in order to walk in the good works He prepared specifically for us before we were born. In my travels I've seen amazingly beautiful paintings by famous artists, but they pale in comparison to the masterpieces God has created in you and me.

### YOU ARE CHOSEN – 1 Peter 2:9

God chose us! We did not choose God, but He first chose us and gave us the opportunity to become His sons and daughters through faith in Christ Jesus. We are seen holy and blameless in God's sight. Christ has paid the way for us not only to be forgiven but to be free from guilt and condemnation. (Romans 8:1)

### YOU ARE VALUABLE – 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

We are the temple of God. The Holy Spirit lives in us giving us authority to have dominion (POWER) to live in a way that honors Christ. We were bought with the price of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. We are no longer our own, but free to live for Christ. When we grasp how God views us our priorities change, our minds are transformed and the chains of performance are broken! (Romans 12:1-2)

### YOU ARE LOVED – John 3:16

God's love is steadfast and unchanging. Everyone desires to be loved and accepted. As we begin to unlock the truth about how God views us, we can begin to comprehend the vastness of His unending love and mercy. (Ephesians 3:14-21)

- God's love and forgiveness are revealed to us through Jesus Christ.
- God's love and forgiveness are poured into us through the Holy Spirit.
- God's love and forgiveness compel us to love ourselves and one another.

Jane Ann and I trust these truths from scripture will help you realize **How God Views You** and how precious you are to Him. Please feel free to email us your prayer requests. Anything you share with us is confidential.



The streets of old Camaguey, where I was last year, on a Saturday afternoon are full of people hustling here and there living their lives and going about their business. Despite Communism, paranoia and poverty, Christianity is growing. "Christ is in Cuba," is the new mantra of believers!

Pastors and church leaders move with caution, not fear, as they strive to keep small home churches strong. The courage and sacrifice demonstrated by the church is amazing! It is nothing short of a sovereign move of the Holy Spirit. That is why we will be back in Cuba this summer with a Pursue Missions Team. We need your prayers and financial support in order to train and encourage the church to be vigilant in the midst of these chaotic times. Cuba is on the precipice of ruin or blessing. The church holds the answer, found in Jesus Christ, to the great needs of this small nation caught in limbo. We are eager to go back to serve pastors and leaders in several different home churches.



Running the race to win,

Gary and Jane Ann Casey

#### 2018 Ministry Schedule

- Ecuador – Young Adult Youth Leaders
- Cuba – Pastors and Church Leaders
- Transnistria – Pastors and Church Leaders
- Colombia – Senior Pastors and Wives

Gateway Missions is having a dynamic **IMPACT** in developing nations. Thank you to our friends and partners who pray and give so that we can go in this critical time. We believe we have been very strategic in choosing where God would have us minister for maximum results. Persecutions and oppressions have failed to quench the fire of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the Cuban Christians. We cannot drop the ball in **CONNECTING PEOPLE, NATIONS and CONTINENTS** for the **GREAT COMMISSION** in a country that is only ninety miles off the coast of Florida!

*Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. All funds are used for designated projects and for the total ministry of Gateway Missions.*

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