

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

HARBOR THE LOST

The name of the LORD is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.
Proverbs 18:10 NIV

Like most women who have gone through the trauma of an abortion I got lost. I lost myself in an emotional forest of feelings. I could not find my way out of despair and melancholy. It came to the point where I was lost in a world of depression. God found me and brought me out of the deep. He showed me the way through courage and my "ship" was destroyed. *But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost, only the ship will be destroyed.* Acts 27:22 NIV

We all have been "lost" at some point in our life. For me, I have been lost more times to count and God has always rescued me through His Word. *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.* Proverbs 6:23 AMP. He has a purpose for me as He does you. He wants you to rescue the "lost" and become a great harbor.

After an abortion it is easy to get lost. Finding your way back is even more difficult if you don't have guidance. A harbor gives shelter to those who are lost. It is a fortified tower. It is the LORD! You can become a harbor through your strength and courage.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. I Timothy 1:12 NIV

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9 NIV

He gave you strength: When you were "lost" God took your weakness and turned it into a great strength. Without the love of God, you could not find your way. He led the way, so you could lead the way for others who are lost. *The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my*

deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. Psalms 18:2 KJV. You have to become a rock, a fortress, and a deliverer of the lost. You have to become their strength and their high tower. You have to become their harbor.

He considers you trustworthy: After you were "found" God knew He could count on you. He knew that you would not "wander" away from His Word and become "lost" again. He gave you the opportunity to serve Him and be a person He could trust. *The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.* Nahum 1:7 NIV. Just as you trust in the Lord to be your refuge in times of trouble, He trusts you to become a lost soul's refuge in their time of trouble. He trusts you to become their safe harbor.

He appointed you to serve: One of your main purposes is to serve the Lord. When you commit your time and effort to serving Him you cannot become "lost". *"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning,"* Luke 12:35 NIV. He commands of you to be "dressed" and ready for service. He tells us to keep our lamps burning. We are to be dressed in faith and strength so we can serve others who are lost. Our lamps need to burn continuously. We must shine in love with a servant's heart if we are to be a harbor for the lost.

He commands you to be strong and courageous: To provide a safe haven for the lost you cannot falter or fail in your walk with God. You cannot be discouraged or afraid. When you are serving the lost you are serving the Lord. *Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.* I Corinthians 16:13 NIV. You are to never let your guard down if you are to help a "lost" soul.

Your faith has seen you through every situation that has come your way. A lost soul's faith may be faltering and waning. Show them the way. Let them know that you care and the Lord

loves them.

A lost soul looks to a courageous and strong person to help them find their way. They are going through despair and melancholy. They may already be depressed or on the brink of depression. God found you when you were "lost" and gave you courage and strength to get through it all because He never left you. He is everywhere you go. He knew when you were lost. He knows other people who have had a trauma in their lives are lost and He is there waiting to help them find their way.

Be on your guard, firm in faith, courageous and strong for the "lost" need a harbor from the storms of despair and the aftermath they will suffer. I believe the Lord has used me to help you find your way when you were broken, hurt and lost. It is His purpose for you to serve Him in all capacities in healing the broken, helping the hurting and harboring the lost. Never lose sight of your purpose. God is with you everywhere you go: He is a Beacon.

In conclusion, be strong in the Lord (be empowered through your union with Him); draw your strength from Him. Ephesians 6:10 AMP