

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall...



Bernadette Love

What

does the typical abused woman look like? She looks just like you and me. She has an education and has worked her way up the corporate ladder. She looks like a school teacher and referees little league football. She looks like a model and dresses like a superstar. She looks like an author and lecturer, world traveler and entrepreneur. She looks like

she has it going on, doesn't she.

I often asked myself why, why did I let the abuse go on year after year. It wasn't until after God had delivered me from it did I realize why I had stayed in it. For years I refused to believe that it was ok to love myself. I didn't think that I deserved God's best. Do you feel that way? Often abused women feel that they can't do better, they wouldn't know what to do without him and are too afraid to find out. The old people used to say that a piece of man was better than no man. I beg to differ. With the revelation that I am fearfully and wonderfully made, I know that I deserve God's best. That means the best home, the best health, the best car, the best career, and the best love. I am patiently waiting for the manifestation of the blessing that is on my life, but in the meantime, I am having the time of my life. I finally have given myself the permission to love me.

Where do you find the courage to make a change in your life? How do you finally say, enough is enough? Who do you run to when it's over? The answer

To all three questions is GOD. God never intended for you to be abused, tortured, tormented, misused, belittled or devalued by anyone. No one has the right to hurt you. See yourself as God sees you, fearfully and wonderfully made, in the very image of God. You must not allow another human being make you feel as though you don't matter, because you do!

The love that you need to turn your life around starts with God and ends with you! Ask God for the courage to see yourself as He does. You have a divine purpose on this earth and every day that you say good morning is evidence that God is not through with you yet.

Now, you may need help to start over. If you are in a dangerous situation, your safety is the first order of business. There is help available and now is not the time for you to keep silent. The abuse won't stop or go away just because you wish it to. And, no one can tell you when you have had enough. When you accept your value as a person, you will not be able to turn the other cheek and keep quiet. Again, there is help available. We have supplied a link to the Office of Justice Programs.

Don't keep silent!