

Connected 10/16/08

Rest For A Weary Soul Daily Devotional - Thursday, October 16, 2008

Praise the Lord and Good Evening,

Last night after writing the devotional, I thought about how I received the recipe for Pretzel Salad. The very first time I heard of it was in 1986. I was working at a company full time while completing my last semester of college when I met Shirley, who was simply wonderful. She worked in the Advertising Department. No, she was the Advertising Department! She took me under her wings spending time teaching me about her job, managing life as a single-parent and life in general.

She also introduced me to Pretzel Salad. Our department had some type of party and she talked about bringing this salad. My co-workers and I couldn't understand the concept, but this woman talked about it so much that we had to try it. The day came and sure enough she brought in pretzel salad! It was a hit and I asked for the recipe. Since 1986, I've made it many times. I've shared it with many people but every time I do, I think of Shirley. I guess you are asking what kind of devotional is this. Hold on, I haven't forgotten about the encouragement part of this email.

Shirley had some medical issues. She went to her physician early in the week. He gave her some directions as to how to handle the problems. She returned to work the following day. On Friday afternoon we left the office to enjoy the weekend. On Sunday afternoon I received a phone call that Shirley was dead! Monday morning we walked into the office stunned and deeply wounded by the sudden loss of such a gracious woman. No one knew anything about her job. She was the department. She had no backup and we were lost. She was the first co-worker I knew that died. It was the most horrific work-week I'd ever experienced. She was a single-parent of teenagers and a young adult. I hadn't known her long, but I was very much attached to her. It hurt for a long time. I miss her. The first time I made the salad, I cried thinking of Shirley.

That was at least 20 years ago and every time I've prepared that salad, I think of Shirley and it prompts me to pray for her family. I thank the Lord she shared so much with me. I'm especially grateful for the pretzel salad recipe...it's a reminder of how blessed I was to know Shirley.

I am in awe of how God connects people to one another. Is it possible that you've impacted someone just by being you? I pray so. Shirley had no idea how much she'd impacted me. To be honest, I didn't know the magnitude of her impact until she was gone. She exposed me to something I'd never had before

and to this day her children don't know that I've prayed for them all of those years because of their mother, my co-worker and friend, Shirley.

I smiled when I received an email tonight from a reader asking for the recipe. I will pass it on and whisper another prayer. What will be the connection between you and someone? I don't know, but it could be something as small as a recipe.

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. 37. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. 38. And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them. 39. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them. 40. But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed: and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. 41. And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. (Acts 9:37-41 KV)

In the Master's Service,

Pastor Michele D. Turner
Rehoboth Apostolic Ministries, Inc.
Author/Publisher of Rest For A Weary Soul Daily Devotional
Copyright 2005 - 2008
www.restforawearysoul.com
Email: restforwearysoul@aol.com

Matt 11:28-29 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.