

You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, for he trusts in You. Isaiah 26:3

Written by Lorraine

How good and merciful is the LORD who has provided for us great weapons to take up in the spiritual battle for our souls: The deep unrest and turmoil we feel in our soul that accompanies pain, the insecurity and instability at our very core as thoughts and fears assail our hearts and minds. Our very souls seem in peril of destruction as rejection and unworthiness are felt to be the deepest wounds known to the soul.

All of us, as Gods children, are designed for a union with our Father Creator and with each other. The fall into sin and all its sinful consequences has broken this union and perpetuates the distance between a Holy God and a fallen sinner. Our brokenness and the defences we have erected also cause wounds to our closest and dearest as we isolate ourselves to protect from pain, and this creates distance. The love and acceptance that we all crave has become a deep thirst for broken and abused souls. The very craving of love becomes our enemy as we reach out to every promise of love - only to find it turn to ashes as unfaithfulness and weakness send arrows of pain to our hearts. And so the gap widens.

Jesus prays for us in John 17, that His desire and prayer for all His children are that they would have union with each other and with Him and the Father: "The glory that You have given Me, I have given them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and You in Me that they may become perfectly one."

We are unstable and insecure until we find our rest in Christ. When we are called to find our rest in His work of love, the total sacrifice to unite us to God bringing peace and reconciliation, then our hearts thirst for a closer union with Him and with each other. The tenderness and sensitivity in our hearts and souls to the continual inflictions of pain that sin and brokenness brings in our deepest relationships, as we seek that union we know we are designed for, is a grieving that is only soothed by the peace and love bought by the blood of our Saviour, He was sent to bind up the broken hearted, to grant to those who mourn in Zion -to give them a beautiful head dress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61:3).

Yet it so often doesn't feel like it. As fears and doubts crowd in, and the darkness thickens, hang on to the life-line that these words can bring. Trust Him who can swear by no greater than Himself - a covenant keeping God who has kept His word since the Garden of Eden. Fix our eyes on Him "And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your heart and minds in Christ Jesus."