



HOPE Ministries Highlights

October 2016

Special points of interest:

- Nevin talks about the need to be right or have relationship p.1
- Announcement about HOPE Ministries happenings and some upcoming events p. 2
- Read several testimonials of people who have been to HOPE Ministries p.3
- Lynn Miller challenges us in how we speak to others p. 4

Mission Statement:

HOPE Ministries seeks to help individuals explore patterns that may have developed over their lifetime and provide opportunities to allow Jesus to bring healing and HOPE to their lives in fresh ways.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone:
620-259-9390

Office Hours:
Mondays: 9:00-1:00
Fridays: 9:00-1:00

Email:
hope4yourheart@gmail.com

Website:
nislshopeministries.com

Address:
HOPE Ministries
Box 103
Partridge, KS 67566

Is It Better to Be Right or Have Relationship? -by Nevin Nisly



Nevin and Joann Nisly

“Is It Better to Be Right or Have Relationship?”

At first glance, this would seem to be a no brainer. After all, are we not created for relationship?

Why then is it so easy to sacrifice relationship when my worth, security, or the validity of my opinions is attacked or maybe even just questioned? Why is it so important to be “right?” Why would I feel rejected just because someone doesn’t follow my suggestion? Is my way even necessarily the “right” way or the best way? Is there room and encouragement for those around me or under my care to explore, to challenge, or to fail in

their quest to learn? Am I threatened if they have or develop their own opinions and make their own decisions based on what they believe is right? Why would I even feel the need to put others down? Is it so I’m not put at the bottom of the “totem pole?” Let me discuss this further.

First, I believe we need to be aware that we have an enemy that is a master at stealing, killing, and destroying those things that are most precious to us (John 10:10), especially in relationship with those closest to us. Satan is very aware of our weaknesses and knows where to bring on the pressure. He also knows we are no match for him, and would like to entice us into battle with him in our own strength. However, as we link in with Jesus and allow

Him to do the fighting, we are on the winning side.

He has all the resources needed for our life and godliness, but we need to use them. He knows how to bring healing to our brokenness, how to bring us freedom, and restore our joy. Instead of it being all about *us* and *our* working hard to fight the enemy, it’s all about *Jesus* and *His* work.

Secondly, I believe that when we need to be right, the root of the problem is a lack of understanding our value. How would our lives change if our value would line up with the value that our Heavenly Father places on us as His precious children, knitted together by Him while still in our mother’s womb. Do we really believe that we were planned before the creation of time; and that He delights in us as a mother delights in the infant in her arms? What if we would ask Jesus for His view of us daily and allow Him to speak value into our hearts? What if

we respond each day to His invitation to come to Him as a little child, just as

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we are, being open and vulnerable, and allow Him to bring comfort to our troubled hearts as well as share our joys? If we are really secure in our Father’s love, the fear of what others say or think does not have to distress us, nor do we have to prove anything.

Lastly, I am so thankful for the Heavenly Father who sent the Messiah to save the sinner, to heal the broken-hearted, to release the captive, to set free those who are bound, and to open the eyes of the blind (compare Luke 4:18). Love motivated God to send His only begotten Son, and love motivated Jesus to come to this earth to expe-

rience in a physical way all the humanness we do, and to make the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Even now, He invites us to a very personal daily walk with Him.

Is it really so important to be “right?” If you find yourself getting caught in that trap, ask Jesus why it is so important and ask Him to lead you into relationship with those around you. We bless you on your journey with a personal Lord and Saviour.

*Jack Frost preached several very helpful sermons on this topic. I have also found his series on “Experiencing the Father’s Love” to be very insightful and helpful. These can be found at Shilohplaceministries.com.

What’s Been Happening?

Nevin and Joann were blessed to join Cornerstone Mennonite Church in Harrison, AR, to present a seminar. The interest of the community was an inspiration and encouragement.

They were also able to join John Regier for a Caring for the Heart Seminar in Kalona, IA, and assist as part of the counseling team.

The final night the team was treated to ice cream.



We are excited to have HOPE Ministries board member, Julian Nisly, join our counseling team. He is currently working on his internship and we hope he can join in the counseling part of the ministry in the next couple months. Please pray for him and his family as he ventures into this new endeavor.

Events

November 5-8, 2016

Nevin and Joann will attend the Caring For the Heart Annual Conference in Palm Bay, Florida. See their website or check out www.caringfortheheart.com for more information.

In January and February, Nevin and Joann have plans to do counseling in Albuquerque, NM. The HOPE Ministries Board has blessed them in this opportunity to continue to do counseling as well as spend some additional time with family.

HOPE Ministries office hours

**Mondays and Fridays:
9:00-1:00**

In the last 3 months HOPE Ministries has had:

- 2 new couple cases
- 6 new single cases
- 2 follow-up couple cases
- 3 follow-up single cases
- 1 Premarital case

Helping Overcome with Purpose and Encouragement

Testimonies of God's Work

Since I left Hutchinson I've felt temptation again but now I feel like I have more control over those passions and less oppression. I think it is like what I read in the book "To Kill A Lion." I feel the normal desires of my body, but now I don't feel an addiction that controls or dominates me. It's really amazing (and almost unbelievable) that without too many sacrifices or long prayers, I'm enjoying a new freedom in Christ.

In the office I didn't feel hidden. Today I am focused and take control in my work without performance pressure, thanks to Jesus. It's also amazing that for the first time in my life I feel like a 31 year old man taking control with joy and not acting like a scared boy worried about the future or money. I'm not acting to please the people and I'm seeing -after many years- the value I really have in Christ. Jesus is wonderful! Also, my insomnia problems are gone!

Jesus ministered to my heart this week opening my eyes to lies I have believed about myself and showing me truth in new ways and how much He loves me. He also opened my eyes to what true forgiveness looks like and how I need to live out of the heart Jesus gave me, being willing to love myself. Out of that, love for others will spring.

I was given tools to work with that I think will be helpful as I continue to process what I learned.

There were a lot of things to go through and hurts to talk about, but the freedom afterwards was definitely worth it! One thing I experienced was Jesus' love for me! I cannot find words to describe this feeling, but it was totally awesome!

Love is...the gift of the cross.

Love is...Jesus greeting me with a gentle smile on His face.

Love is...Jesus running to meet me with wide open arms.

Love is...Jesus being willing to hold me over and over again when I hurt.

Love is...having received Jesus' love and being able to use that love in loving those who've hurt me.

I now feel like I know Jesus in a whole new way!

Jesus told him,
"I am the way,
the truth and
the life. No
one can come
to the Father
except
through me."

John 14:6

The sessions were very good on my part. I found them more helpful and valuable the second time, maybe because it wasn't completely strange to me and I wasn't so afraid and nervous as the first time. Jesus told me that I am His little princess and that He will be my Daddy and cherish, love and care for me.

I was amazed at how quickly we found the core issue that directly affected my life and the decisions I made. I was relieved from the very start that I was finding help that would make my life better and possible to live without pain. I am in tears every time I realize how much Jesus really loves me. I am finding His care and comfort to be very special and the best I have ever known.

I praise God over and over that I had the opportunity to receive help through HOPE Ministries and I am looking forward to all that the Lord has already had available for me!

We felt like we experienced open heart surgery but were very tenderly comforted by Jesus. Our hearts were opened to Him like never before.

We were glad to know there is provision for follow-up sessions. We went deep, but there's more there.

FROM A BOARD MEMBER:



Lynn and Sandra Miller
Vanessa, Tanisha, and Courtney

What does my interaction with others look like? How does my interaction make them feel? Do others feel encouraged and valued when I walk away? Do people understand their value in Jesus Christ based on their communication with me? On a scale of 1 to 10, how often do I recognize the preciousness of others in my conversation?

Philippians 2:3-4 says, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” Too often, it

seems, I leave a conversation and realize that either I had done quite a bit of talking, or that I was answering questions about me and failed to take an interest in the other person’s life. Somehow I have subconsciously put myself and my interests above the person that I’m talking to. It happens at work. I rush away from a customer so that I can keep my schedule rather than hearing from their heart. It happens at home at the supper table as I talk about my list of things to do before I leave for a meeting rather than hearing about what happened at school that day. It might happen after church when I want to hear some good input from someone to fulfill my own desires and unintentionally walk around someone who wanted to hear from me.

This might happen at a youth activity when you exclude someone from a conversation by using body language and a hushed voice to tell them they aren’t welcome. It could happen on social media when you post pictures of your perfect life for all the world to envy, leaving those around you wondering why their life is so dull.

How can I remedy this? In 1 Corinthians 13 it says “love does not dishonor others”. How can I honor others? Lis-

ten to the questions that other people ask you. Often you can begin to understand them by actually listening to the type of questions they ask you. Learn to communicate the way the person you are talking to likes to communicate. You really do have something to offer! Help them to understand their precious value in Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:3-21 speaks of service to others in sincere love. We’ll always have those with whom we easily connect and that’s ok. When does that become dishonoring to others? When we become exclusive. Verse 16 says that we should be “willing to associate with people of low position”. This is really easy to apply when we interact with a homeless person. Sometimes we find it a little less glamorous to live this out among our fellow believers.

Do people understand their value in Jesus Christ based on their communication with me?

Lynn and Sandra have served on the HOPE Ministries Board 6 years. They have 3 girls: Vanessa-18, Tanisha-14, and Courtney-10. Their support and enthusiasm about HOPE Ministries has been an inspiration.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Our desire is that no one will be excluded from opportunity for sessions because of finances. All counseling is done on a donation basis, and this plus the gifts of God’s people, allow us to be full time in this ministry. We are grateful for all who have stood with us in so many ways and do trust in God’s continuing provision. As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are accountable to our board for the finances and the operation of HOPE Ministries. If you wish to know more details about our finances, please contact Julian Nisly, our treasurer, at 620-664-5304. As God leads you to think about HOPE Ministries, please pray for us, and if He prompts you to join in our financial support, donations can be made in several ways as stated below. Tax deductible receipts will automatically be issued for checks of \$50 or more.

Donations can be done in various ways:

Send to:
HOPE Ministries
Box 103
Partridge, KS 67566

Call 620-259-9390 to use Credit Card

Go to our website and use the donation button through Paypal.



HOPE Ministries Board Members:

Nevin & Joann Nisly—director
Lynn & Sandra Miller—Board Chairman
Julian & Bertha Nisly—Sec./Treasurer
Arlen & Gloria Mast—Vice Chairman
Ray & Gina Miller—Board Member
Gene Miller—Board Member