

HE'S GIVEN ME YOU

by: Carolann Rosenthal

I thank my God every time I remember you. Phil. 1:3

Praise the Lord O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord O my soul, and forget not all His benefits- who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion... Psalm 103:1-4



There is something about remembering where I've been and what the Lord has brought me through that can change my heart from discouragement or frustration to being overwhelmed with gratitude. Seeing with fresh eyes the depravity that I had sunk to and the Lord's great mercy on me, gives me more grace to forgive someone who has hurt me. Reflecting again on how God put my husband in my life at such a critical time and gave him the patience and gentleness that I so desperately needed, helps me in those times when my patience is running low. My life prior to that time was characterized by alcohol, abuse, anger, and hopeless despair even to the point of being suicidal. This man loved me when I was not an easy person to love. He saw what I could be and believed in me

when I didn't believe in myself.

God was the one who sent my husband to me. He uses people in our lives and wants to use us in the lives of others. He created us to need each other. Sometimes relationships are messy and painful. It would be safer to avoid them and stay wrapped up in the false security blanket of seclusion. We need God's love in us to truly be able to love those who are not easy to love. The Bible says that we love because He first loved us and that Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. He loved us before we loved Him.

How about you? Who can you thank God for in your life? What are some things you can be grateful to God for? Has God shown His love to you through a person? Is there someone whom God wants to show His love through you?

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