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Day 9, Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Saved and Delivered

READ - Psalm 18:2; Psalm 16; Acts 16:31

Andrew was 17, from a strong Christian home, where he was loved and cared for. Close to graduating high school, he took a turn for the worse. Andrew was a smart kid, but academics were not his forte. His friends joked, "Andrew will work at McDonald's all his life." They thought it was funny. Andrew laughed on the outside, but grew more broken inside. Early in the school year, he began to use drugs. He kept it a secret from his family; he thought they would not understand. In the dark, his addictions grew.

His family tried every method to get through to him. They tried punishment, and Andrew would rebel more. They tried loving him in every way they could think of, and he rebelled more. His family was exhausted and confused. They came to a place where they finally realized that the situation was out of their hands - placing it entirely in God's hands. His family cannot explain it, nor can he really, but when things seemed most hopeless, God saved him. Andrew struggles to put it into words, but somehow, someway, he felt the love of God, and that altered the course of his life. It was almost as if a light went on inside him; the blinders were off.

He was saved and delivered into the love of God. His family counts all of their failed attempts and gives God the glory for doing in Andrew what human beings could not. It does not always happen ... but it can.

PRAY

Father, I pray for the hurting and lost of this world. I ask that You do what only You can in the life of _______ (insert name). Be their Rock, their Redeemer. Use me in effective ways to show Your love. Enter into the hearts of those far from You. Be their Savior; deliver them into a transforming relationship with You. I pray for any loved ones by name who do not know the Lord or have fallen away from You. I ask You to reveal Yourself to them as the awesome God that You are. I pray a hedge of protection around my family from all deception, temptation, and any plans of the enemy that would thwart the good plans God has for them. In Jesus name, amen!

REFLECT

Maybe you know an Andrew. Maybe you are the parent of an Andrew. God can save and deliver them and we are called to pray and believe.

Is there someone you know who your heart aches for and you long for them to saved and delivered?

Will you trust that God will do the impossible in their lives?

In this painful and confusing time, will you trust God to be your rock? Take refuge in Him.