



WITH CERTAINTY

April 2016

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

I find such comfort in this scripture. What I love about it is the statement that God is “faithful and just and will forgive,” written with such absolute certainty. Aren’t all things in the Bible written with truth and certainty? But we might not always recognize it as such. Our moods sometimes make our understanding foggy. But, once we get it and it fully sinks in, it can tell us amazing things.

And this morning I *was* amazed.

Sometimes I’m overwhelmed with disappointment in myself. I forget that God forgives. I forget that Jesus died for me. I forget that I’m free—that He has forgiven all the things I’ve done and am sorry for. He even forgives my shortcomings that nag at me, often making me feel like a misfit. But He is a gracious God who accepts me and loves me the way I am. That, I have learned during my good times, is a certainty.

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Raymond Edman coined the saying: “Never doubt in the dark what God told you in the light.”

Why, when we’re in darkness, do we keep forgetting the certainty of the truths we learned when we were well and in the light? Why do our moods so often make us forget the many promises in our Bibles?

The joy is waiting for us in the light that’s still there, just beyond that darkness. All that God promised in the Bible is still available for us. Our darkness may temporarily hide it, but it’s a certainty, nevertheless.

When we’re sorry about what we’ve done wrong and tell God about it, He *is* “faithful and just and will forgive us.” Do you hear the certainty in those words? Can you grasp the wonders of God’s everlasting love for us?

When you think of it, it truly *is* amazing, isn’t it?

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