

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Psalm 130, I John 1:5–10

“Look at what is happening to me!” the victim uttered as she took up contempt as her shield. She had a long list of charges against the people that had caused her pain. Neglect, humiliation, lies, betrayal and abandonment had routinely been her experience. In condemnation and unforgiveness she surrendered to her identity as a victim.

Giving in to self-pity and believing the lies of Satan sends us on a journey where we wander away from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We look for justice and peace on our own terms and thereby become a slave to false teachings of the Devil.

We need someone to share the true Gospel of Jesus Christ and the promises of God. Jesus came into the world, sacrificed for us, and was killed. He became a victim for us, but he conquered. He rose from the dead and will come a second time to judge the world. Followers of Jesus will be for eternity with Him in Heaven. Jesus offers us true healing and hope - turning our eyes and hearts to Jesus.

We must pray for forgiveness and acknowledge our lack of faith in Jesus and our lack of obedience to the Word of God. We must turn to Jesus and follow Him with a true heart of love. We need to reach out to a community of faithful and mature Christians with whom we may become friends and have fellowship. The graces of God are revealed to us day by day as we turn away from sins and toward Jesus. In this way we exchange our identity as victim and take on the identity of an obedient child of God.

Thanks be to Jesus who came into the world, who saves us and who offers us freedom in the Lord Jesus Christ for eternity.

***Valarie Seabrook**—Valarie lives in Boston and has been attending Park Street Church for two years. She is passionate about sharing the word of God and praying with folks. She is willing to listen to people's stories and pray with them because she knows for sure Jesus is faithful and will complete the work He began in us for His Glory because He loves us.*