



**Thy Word Is Truth Christian Ministries**



The Rose Of Sharon

## **A Journey Of Discovery**

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## Scaling The Peak

Each move I make is another step  
Along your special path,  
So many steps must still be made,  
And sometimes the climbing seems hard,  
But when I reach that shining peak  
Where I will meet my Lord,  
How tiny will those steps appear  
When compared with my reward!

Sylvia Darling

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Those of us who have been Blessed with a *wonderful, life-changing Revelation of God* are very often filled with a burning desire *to truly know Him* and to learn all we possibly can about Him and His Ways, but in our enthusiasm to *know* and also *to serve* our Heavenly Father many of us, (both old and new believers alike) *soon find ourselves completely immersed in “works”!* Suddenly it seems to be more important *to do things FOR Him* than to spend time **WITH HIM** *but this is a trap we MUST NOT fall into! RELATIONSHIP is SO much more important to God than service! He DELIGHTS in our loyal and loving hearts - He DELIGHTS in us – He sees us as INDIVIDUALS, not as ‘EMPLOYEES’ - our ‘work’, although important, will always be secondary to Him!*

## Awestruck

Oh Lord, I see Your Face in each glorious Sunrise,  
Feel Your Breath in each warm Summers' breeze,  
And savour as Your Sweet Presence  
The beauty and fragrance of the Rose!  
To think we're just a part of Your Creation,  
Yet we're all so special to You!  
Though so numerous we are never faceless,  
You see each individual come shining through!

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There are *very* many occasions during our walk with God when we must give ourselves *time to pause for a while*, time to 'rest' in His Presence and 'dwell' in the moment. We have to learn to *separate ourselves* from the hurly-burly of life and give ourselves time to mentally and spiritually 'digest' everything He has shown us, His thoughts are so very *different* from our thoughts and His Ways so very different from our ways. We must **ABSORB** all His wonderful spiritual truths and allow them to **BLOSSOM** and **GROW** and bring forth fruit in our lives.

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*True relationship* with God cannot be achieved without spending *time... genuine, unrushed time*, earnestly seeking His Face and *listening to Him*. Unfortunately, the greatest pressure on us to 'grow' *quickly* and start 'achieving' for God "*Building His Kingdom here on Earth*" generally comes from our new friends and peers in the Church, people we respect and look up to, but we need to stop and think for a moment here: our spiritual growth and development *must happen* according to *Gods' Will* and at *His* pace and time. Our enthusiastic and well-intentioned efforts as new believers to accommodate the requirements *of man* can actually become an *enormous STUMBLING BLOCK* for us *very early* in our Christian walk, our experiences can significantly *delay* and occasionally even *prevent* some of us from *ever* finding and following the path God intended us to take.

The following piece reflects some of the problems I experienced in the early days of my own Christian walk and I'm sure many of you will have had similar troubling setbacks, *but NO experience, however upsetting, should be allowed TO DETER US from following the path upon which The Lord Himself has set our feet. We have only to keep our eyes on HIM and HE WILL see us through!*



## The Moulding Machine



It seemed to be so simple,  
When I was first born again,  
I only needed to love You,  
Not meet the requirements of men!  
Now they've kneaded and moulded my childlike faith  
And taken what once was so real,  
And pummelled it into their pattern and creed,  
But now, Oh how empty I feel!  
Where once I called to You *naturally*  
I've adopted *their* ritual or form,  
Where before I always had faith to believe,  
“*Practicality*” must now be the norm.  
My God what has man done to me  
That my faith should sink so low,  
That I no longer feel that You're next to my heart  
Yet my 'knowledge' continues to grow?  
For Your disciples You chose the simplest of men,  
You wanted the pure in heart,  
But instead of drawing us *closer* to You  
*Man is pushing us further apart.*  
Your Church now revolves around Courses and Marks,  
“It's the degree that maketh the man!”  
But Lord – can I really not labour for You  
Just doing the best that I can?  
Can I really not draw on *relationship* and *faith*?  
Am I worthless without a degree?  
Your Word says that Your Holy Spirit  
Will work all Your changes in me.  
What I need in Your eyes is an open heart,  
Not to go through a sausage machine  
That religiously chops me to pieces  
Yet leaves an outside that's shiny and clean.  
I really have lost my direction,  
Must I try to conform if I can?  
Or do I heed the cries of my aching heart,  
“Where hast thou driven my God Oh man?”



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**Scripture clearly warns us that we cannot be pleasing both to God *and man* and this is a lesson we must learn VERY EARLY in our Christian walk! There comes a time *when we have to start BELIEVING IN OURSELVES, believing that we ARE called of God and TRUSTING that we do indeed HEAR that “still small voice” within, steadfastly guiding us along the path He would have us take. THAT is the moment our ‘journey’ REALLY begins!***

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