

October 1, 2023

An amazing week... I have become dear friends with a woman named Theresa. About eight months ago, Brody called one morning and said "Mom, during one of my online events a destash customer named Theresa contacted me asking if she might be able to discuss some personal struggles she is having and get some advice. As she talked, I felt like she would benefit more from talking to you. Here is her number. Please call her. She is searching for peace."

I called her and what a blessing she has been in my life! I love her.

Our first conversation was getting to understand her situation. She was feeling deep sadness at her relationship with her children. She longs for a relationship with her grandchildren. She was consumed by anguish, despair and fear. She longed for peace in her life, which was full of contention.

Theresa said, "I watch your kids because it is the only moments that I feel peace in the week. I hear the boys talk about the Savior and the peace He can bring but I don't know how to bring Him into my life." I could feel Theresa's sadness as she struggled to tell me about her life. I asked questions to not only understand her situation, but to also understand her relationship with Heavenly father.

As I think back on that first day there was so much sadness in her life. I told her that the place to start is reading the scriptures and praying. Theresa felt she had done so many things wrong in her life that God wouldn't want her to pray. We talked about the scriptures and I said "Theresa reading the scriptures will change your life. I don't know how reading the scriptures works but if you will read the scriptures every day, life will change and get better. I suggested she start with the New Testament.

Theresa committed to reading each day. She struggled with the thought of praying but committed to pray, not for herself but for her kids. Theresa is a perfect example of the Gospel of Jesus Christ working in someone's life. She started! Over the first few days she got glimpses of peace. She started feeling calmer. She accepted the invitation to listen to the missionaries and Sister missionaries started teaching her about the Savior.

Amazingly Theresa's husband, Tony wanted to listen to the things she was learning. He wanted to have peace in their home instead of contention. He began reading the scriptures and praying as well. Life has changed drastically for both of them. Anger was replaced with patience and consideration. Anguish was replaced with trust in our Heavenly Father. Sadness was replaced with peace. Happiness and gratitude is now in their home.

This week we had the privilege to go to California to both Tony and Theresa's baptisms. It was beautiful. My grandchildren sang the song "Gethsemane." Rayden asked why he couldn't get baptized...lol



The scriptures teach us that everyone must be baptized by someone with the proper Priesthood Authority. I am grateful Tony and Theresa have followed this commandment.

New Testament

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and earth.

19 Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Book of Mormon

3 Nephi 19:13

13 And it came to pass when they were all baptized and had come up out of the water, the Hold Ghost did fall upon them, and they were filled with the Holy Ghost and with fire.

We left after the New Stash for California and drove a few hours in the motor homes. Kartor and Raymie decided to leave early in the morning because Kartor wasn't feeling well. By morning Kartor was really sick. He wasn't going to be able to come. Brody made a few calls and booked Raymie a flight which arrived just in time for the baptism. It was beautiful.

Theresa wanted to go out to dinner after the baptism but the girls and I thought if we cooked and had dinner in the parking lot, the kids would enjoy that more. It was lovely. We rolled out a rug, everyone made food, kids ran around... it was perfect... less Kartor...lol



This is my beautiful friend Theresa today. She has found the Savior and the peace He brings.





With Love,
Leslie

Joy is feeling much better and back to wrestling with the boys! No sign of the chicken pox for anyone else...

