



To the Cemeteary

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Eternally Speaking Now

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As I talked with God about an emotional situation a few weeks ago while driving, I couldn't help but shed some **tears**, feeling helpless. In fact, I began to **cry** so much that I had to pull the car over to the side of the road. At some point in my conversation with the Lord, I came face to face yet again (for what seems like the thousandth time) with the fact that I'm not in control.

I
cannot
save
people.

This can be so difficult at times, that it moves me to **tears**.
Not because I think I should change the world single-handedly,
but because things don't always turn out the way I'd prefer.
Things don't necessarily happen on my desired timeline.

Can you relate?

Do you ever find yourself caring so much about a loved one, praying zealously for somebody, **weeping** for their situation, and passionately doing your part to contribute towards change, yet things don't end up improving?

In fact, things end up declining.

The loved one is still sick.
The grandparent is still struggling in life.
The adult child is still living carelessly.
The parents are still separating.
The teen is still bullied.
The relative is still unsaved.
The boss hasn't changed.
The job hasn't improved.
The news keeps getting worse.
It's enough to make anyone **cry**.

When all is said and done, you can't be at school with your kids
or at the staff meeting where you don't work
or at the party to which you weren't invited
or at the workplace with your husband
or on the plane with your anxious friend as she travels.

We simply can't be everywhere all at once,
and we can't make everything all right.

Only God can work His Holy Spirit in the midst of a situation or in the heart of another person. That doesn't mean we neglect to speak or serve or act when it's time to do so. And certainly we keep praying-- we're to do so all the time. The Lord promises in His Word that our Spirit-led prayers lifted up in obedience to Him are powerful and effective.

***Confess your trespasses to one another,
and pray for one another,
that you may be healed.
The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
James 5:16***

It's when we're done with our prayer and we stand up off our knees, that we must leave our issues and our **tears** there at God's feet. The results are His responsibility-- it's His promise to send His Holy Spirit to do the work of renewal in that person or situation. His Spirit is the One who does the work of sanctification, supernatural intervention, miraculous change, and answered prayer. Yes, He may choose to use a person-- even you or me-- to bring about that answer, but it is still by His Spirit that He will do so.

***"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,"
says the Lord of hosts.
Zechariah 4:6b***

Jesus says in Luke 18:27,
"The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

Have you shed **tears** like mine lately?
I understand.

We need to come to that place where we recognize afresh that we're to obediently do our part and then trust God to faithfully do His.

The following Scripture ties together our part and God's part in a beautiful and profound way. May this be our daily declaration.

*I have been crucified with Christ;
it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;
and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave Himself for me.
Galatians 2:20*

We need to 'die to self'.
What does that mean?

We must choose to **live** as people who are **dead** to our own will, dead to our own human understanding, and dead to our temporal perspective, choosing instead to **live** as **alive** to the Lord's will, the Lord's understanding, and the Lord's eternal perspective. As we do this by faith, the literal **life** of Christ is **lived** out through us-- His power, His strength, His grace, His love. *His very presence.*

Would you like to know where I found myself when I pulled off to the side of the road to **cry** and talk to the Jesus that day a few weeks ago?

After I exited the road,
I looked out the car window through **teary** eyes
and realized I was in a cemetery.

Yes, I found myself in the ceme**teary**.
Or shall I say, I found my... **SELF** ... in the ceme**teary**.
*And in that moment,
I made the choice to **die** to my self,
so that I could **live**.*

There you go.
That's it.
What a fitting picture, yes?

CHALLENGE

Now, will you go?
*Will you go to the ceme**teary** with me?*

Die to self.
Put your faith in Jesus, and let His **life live** through you.

Do all that God's Word tells you to do, and
then trust His Holy Spirit to do all the work only He can do.
Amen.

Scroll down for a 3-minute Video & More!

Would you like to literally join me in the cemeteary?

Tap the button below for the 3-minute video that birthed this blog and captures the emotional moments when I pulled the car aside and realized I was in a cemetery.

Join Me in the Ceme'teary': 3-minute Video

Want to hear more on the topics of Tears and Control?

Follow the links below to enjoy additional writings and podcasts.



Read Here: Tears Falling Raindrops

Listen Here: Tears Falling Raindrops

Have you learned about the power of your tears? Do you know what unholy vows are? Are you aware that some illnesses have spiritual roots? Read or listen above for all this and more.



Read Here: Control 50

Listen Here: Control 50

Do you like to be surprised? Do you want to be in the know? Catch this silly story of someone turning 50 who had to relearn the critical lesson of surrendering control to God. (*That certain someone had no idea she'd end up flying...*)

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