

# Revolutionizing the culture at large, one heart at a time, through the means of music, ministry, multimedia and money given until everyone on earth knows and lives the love that is in Jesus Christ.

"While every one of you is trying desperately to get out of here, I on the other hand have been clamoring to get in. I could think of no better thing to do on this Friday night than come, and sing, and talk with you. That is how much I believe that these words I am about to share hold the power to revolutionize your lives, and I am so excited to be the bearer of this good news. Let me start by telling you why I am here. I am here...because, I love you..."

The intro to my talk with the boys at a high security detention facility last month.

# MtM 9<sup>th</sup> official newsletter:

Another year! Another opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ to a world so in need of the love, and hope that comes through Him! I'm elated that I get to be a part of His work!

### **Highlights:**

\*I have been hunkered down with my friend, co producer, and recording engineer Rick Harlow in his recording studio most nights these days working towards the completion of my highest level recording to date.

\*I have written 16 songs, and arranged a few as well since my last newsletter.

\*I sang in a couple local detention centers, through one of my favorite ministries, Youth for Christ, (handing out to the kids over 60 CDs), and performed a couple coffee house concerts as well.

\*I had an awesome time visiting Nashville this last month. I made some great contacts in Music City, and was refreshed by times of teaching through a Gospel Music Association Seminar. I received in depth advise on the direction of the music artistically and professionally speaking. God is continuing to open doors of relationship between More than Music and industry professionals there.

\*We were able to provide some financial assistance to the victims of the Tsunami in Indonesia through your gifts. Planting a small seed towards our ultimate goal of being able to send substantial amounts to fund social evangelism and world relief efforts.

\*We held our year-end board meeting. Setting next years goals, and reveling in the work God did through M.t.M. last year.

## From the Heart:

I would like to talk with you in this section about grace. I know for myself I have often found it difficult to give patience and mercy in certain areas of personal irritation. Whether it means me snapping unnecessarily at my son, or speaking with frustration to my husband, my lack of grace always means I have in some way set myself, and my, perhaps valid, desire above God's desire; that I live out the peace and character of Christ in me.

The key I have been discovering, to really having the center and grace within myself to love others around me as Christ has loved me is in recognizing that I cannot give what I haven't received. Before I can really love others, as Christ wants me to, I need to first allow myself to be loved by Christ; to really live the reality of His passionate pursuit of me as written in the Bible.

With that in mind, lately I've been actively giving myself grace. Not grace to choose wrongly, but grace to rest when the need presents itself. Grace to make mistakes when my best just wasn't good enough. I've found that the more merciful I am to myself, and the more I choose to trust in God's unconditional love, the more able, and apt I am to demonstrate His heart to those around me, and extend the same kind of grace.

I'm not talking about burying our heads in the sand and acting like our depravity, and wrongs aren't there. That's not God's grace. I'm talking about being honest, and real about issues while still remembering the tangible servitude of Christ, and how much He loves us despite our betrayals. THE ONE who could have judged, but who came not to judge, but instead chose to humbly love us back into truth. So tell me, who am I to speak with presumption, judgment, or harshness? I am that prostitute at Jesus feet that he pardoned. We all are the thief by his side on the cross that was invited to feast with him in paradise. We all are the trusted friend that denied Him and yet still was the rock on which Jesus chose to build His church. We all have fallen short of the glory of God. We all are without hope without God. And that should not be our despair, on the contrary, that should be our freedom and joy!

God loves us anyway! He wants us anyway, and He has worked to find A WAY to bring us into holiness and righteousness, (right-ness), which, you know, we all want! It's the love for which we've always been searching, made apparent through the very frailties that irk us about ourselves, and one another! So who are we to judge each other? We are all dust without God, and we all have strains of the same virus within us. Suddenly we **can** bear with one another in love, and extend that grace that we have, through Christ, **received**.

So today...choose to give yourself grace, and to lean a little more heavily on the mercy of God. I can tell you true, there is no stronger support on which to lean. With time, I know you will see His love pouring through you. That irritant suddenly won't be so irritating. That person, won't even look the same to you, and guess what, you won't look the same either. Transformed by grace...what a concept!

#### **Items for Prayer:**

\*Thanks to God for providing an awesome studio right here in town!

\*Thanks to God for bringing more and more supporters to this ministry; people who see and understand the mission of More than Music.

\*Thanks to God for the approval of the IRS on our affairs and goals.

\*Pray for more musicians, as unfortunately the ones I had weren't able to commit the time necessary to accomplish what God has set before us.

\*Pray for guidance and favor in my trip to Nashville in Feb.

\*Pray for an expansion of our territory in this next year.

#### In Conclusion:

As I look back on 2004 I am so pleased with the ministry's developments. Even though there were real stresses and strains it is so obvious that God was working in, around, and through everything that happened. We did some groundbreaking work! From 25 singing engagements and concerts, to becoming an official non-profit, from recordings, to new contacts! I am very excited to see what He will do in 2005.

Enraptured by Him,

Stephanie Jauline

Stephanie Pauline

Return the form below by e-mail (Stephanie@StephaniePauline.org) or fax to 651.460.2530, or send to More than Music Inc., P.O. Box 31, Farmington, MN. 55024

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