



The Fusco Family

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Rapha House Newsletter  
December 2008  
Dr. Anthony Fusco, Founder

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# Praise

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is quickly coming upon us. As always, we reflect on what the Lord has done for us. Since our last newsletter, I have had the wonderful opportunity to minister to many people in several different churches. For the sake of anonymity, I cannot mention specific ministry blessings for each church

that I attend, but I can say that I have been blessed and used of the Lord to help people deal with hurtful events and forgive those who hurt them and then reach out in the attempt of rebuilding the relationship.

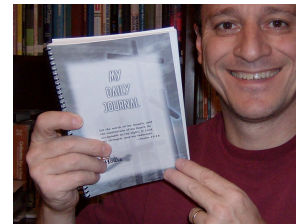
One woman made these statements, "Your message about forgiveness touched my heart in a profound way. I took the message to heart and called my mother that evening... we hadn't spoken since April and it was good to hear from her. Thanks again and God bless.

Another person responded this way. I have been listening to your CDs: what a gift!! I'm very much encouraged by your work. Just from my own experience (started drinking at 12, using drugs at 14, eating disorders since birth... you get the picture) I know this is a much needed work! I am looking forward to the building phase. I am hoping to organize a group from the church to come and help out.

Each time we get a chance to present our work and minister to God's people, somebody makes a major decision about the emotional baggage that they have been carrying. Praise the Lord for victory living.

Please continue to pray for my wife. We recently received news from her doctor. Because Beth has been experiencing pain in her hips as well as her back the doctor ordered an MRI to be done on her hips. The results showed that there is a problem with her sacroiliac joints. To most, this would be discouraging, but we are excited. Finally, we have located the injury that would warrant the pain she is experiencing. We are continually, by faith, plugging away and looking to the Lord for strength and healing.

Our journal books are in from the printer and are available on our display table. This tool is designed to help people have a dynamic walk with the Lord. They cost \$15. The proceeds from these go into our building fund. Pray that people take advantage of this great tool.



# Prayer

**Please pray...**

1. We need the Lord to guide us as we are presented with treatment options for Beth's condition.
2. The economy not only affects you, but also the work of missions. Please pray for us and other missionaries that you know.
3. We desire for the Lord to open doors of opportunity for us. This not only concerns meetings, but also working with individuals and families as pastors request.

Thank you and Merry Christmas,  
The Fusco Family

## Perfectionism (part 4)

As God continues to work in the hearts of people, he endeavors to establish them so that they may walk in truth. For those, overcome by perfectionism or even a negative view of themselves, who recognize the seven pillars of God's love can grow to believe that they are loveable.

**Pillar #3** – God demonstrates his love for me.

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

On a regular basis, God demonstrates love towards us. Sometimes his demonstrations are not even recognized. Those floundering in despair, fail to see the Lord's daily handiwork. Therefore, they will need to either reflect back on demonstrations of God's love in the past or glean from how others saw the works of God that he missed in his own life.

For most people, God's love has been demonstrated through provision or answered prayer. A good exercise to do is list as many answered prayers as you can remember. As you build or review the list, recognize that each one is a demonstration of God's love: from an empty seat on the bus or train to an unexpected check in the mail. The important thing to remember is that if the Lord directed his eternal power and purpose in your direction, then you must be important.

**Pillar #4** – God sacrificed to meet my need.

John 10:11 – I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

John 15:3 – Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Sacrifice is the surrendering of something desired, deserved or needed for the gain of something else. God surrendered many things in order to gain what you needed for salvation. Jesus surrendered the free expression of his deity as he subjected himself to the Father. He left the splendor of Heaven to become man. The Father forsook his beloved Son as he brutally punished him for your sin. With this being true, you and I must be people of great worth in the eyes of the Lord.

A good exercise is to consider a time that you may have sacrificed something in order to meet the need of another. As you recall the emotions and desires, describe how God must have felt when he sacrificed for you. Were your emotions and desires in vain? Were they worthless expressions directed towards people of whom you had no concern? No, they were quite the contrary. Because sacrificing is so costly, people only do so for great reasons. The Lord is no different. He performed all of his great sacrifices for a great reason: you.

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