

RADICAL REPORT

CHRISTMASTIME

We are getting ready for our second Christmas without Donnie. According to urban myth, after one year it should be easier. It's not. For many people the second year is harder. Part of me wonders if it is because we grit our teeth and barrel through the first Christmas and now the numbness has worn off.

The other day I was walking through the kitchen and caught a glimpse of Donnie's picture. As I looked at it I thought, "You would be happy and celebrating the Christmas season right now. You would want me to not be sad, but to celebrate Christmas, too." So, I turned the radio to the holiday music channel and got busy in the kitchen. The music actually lifted my spirits.

Some days I lean into the pain and go at the pace the grief allows. On other days I want to enjoy the season, so I do. We hung lights again. Not extravagantly, like in years past, but simple lights on the house. Lights are happy. And when I get around to decorating the tree, that will be happy, too. And we will build Christmas beauty one step at a time.

And I'll remember that God came down. He came to Zechariah the priest. He came to an unknown virgin and a simple carpenter. He appeared to

shepherds. He came to us. He stooped down low to our broken humanity and lifted us up.

He came down to bind up the brokenhearted, to comfort those who are mourning and build beauty out of ashes. And he came to rebuild what was devastated. -Isaiah 61.

He came to give us hope. Jesus gives us hope that he will rebuild the beauty. When I'm sad I remember that God knows: it's going to be ok, and this will not last forever. We are going to make it because God came down to us.

As I decorate my tree this year and see the twinkling Christmas lights when I pull into my driveway, I will be reminded of the beauty of His promises to me and I will be comforted. God is the God of HOPE.

~ Cindy

MINISTERING IN LAS VEGAS

I want to thank everyone who prayed for me for my time in Las Vegas. It was a good weekend of ministry to the wonderful people at Trinity Life Center and encouraging fellowship with dear friends, Pastor Randy and Pam Greer. I found out Sunday morning before I was supposed to speak on the topic of Mental Health that it was International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. Made for a very impactful service.

Please pray for me as I prepare to speak at a Women's Conference in Yuba City in February.
Thank you!



**SAVE THE DATE!!!
JULY 13-17**



YEAR END GIVING!

Thank you to everyone who has prayed for us and continued to support us. As the year comes to a conclusion, if you would like to make an end of the year gift please be sure it is dated and postmarked no later than December 31st. Giving may also be done online at www.donniemooreministries.org. We want to give you big thank you and say, Merry Christmas!