

## ***Give Them to God***

Terri Hutchison

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life” (Luke 18:29-30).

As a chronic codependent, persistent people-pleaser, enduring enabler, I have trekked a long bumpy road as I attempted to carry with me the burdens of my children, my family, my friends, and more.

I thought it was by my power, perseverance and tenacity that this enabling thing would be conquered. Over and over, I found myself enabling, and again and again this technique succeeded in – well, didn’t succeed. My addicted daughter continued to use; eventually, the Lord got through my impenetrable skull.

The verse tells us that “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God will fail to receive many times as much in this age...” Face it – our safety net tactics haven’t been successful and they take a LOT of time, effort, worry, MONEY, and work. Why not try prayer; try walking with God, surrendering our loved one(s) into His capable hands! Let’s immerse ourselves in the Word; draw near to God through prayer and Bible study. It will take our minds off of our errant loved ones; it will allow us to learn what the Bible says about the situation, and it will afford much needed prayer for that son, daughter, brother, sister, husband, wife, and/or friend.

We need to let them go completely, pray for them, trusting the Lord to catch them. After all, why should they reach for Him when our safety net keeps catching them when they fall; our safety net offers money, food, shelter, support – concrete items, but reaching for the Lord requires an act of faith. “Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor 5:6,7). As long as we are making our loved ones “at home” in their bodies – meeting their every need – they will remain “away from the Lord” and have no need to reach out to Him to “live by faith, not by sight.”

Just a thought...