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Dear Friend,

I am writing because I believe you agree with me: hurting people around the world are in desperate need of God's grace and comfort.

From the financial crisis to the multitude of recent natural disasters, trials and hardships are everywhere. No one has escaped unscathed. Trouble and suffering have spilled over into each of our lives. Despite all the distress, Jesus promised us hope:

*"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart!
I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).*

Jesus came that we might have abundant life – no matter the circumstance. Through Him we are more than conquerors in all things. God promises to give us peace, joy, strength and hope! Because of His love and grace, we don't have to be overcome by our troubles.

Now – more than ever – hurting men and women need to be encouraged with God's Word and His promise to carry them through any affliction. They need someone to share God's comfort with them.

***"This is my comfort and consolation in my affliction:
that Your word has revived me and given me life."
Psalm 119:50***

Your partnership with Shades of Grace has meant that hurting people have felt the healing balm of God's presence. They have been revived as He spoke a fresh word into their circumstance. They have discovered the peace and joy – and promise – of existing by the life of Jesus and the power of God's Word!

Your partnership has also enabled us to give life-saving assistance to lost and hurting people at a time when they needed it most. Shades of Grace teams up with ministries around the world. This means you have shared the Gospel and provided disaster relief in Haiti...wheelchairs for the disabled in Africa...food for orphans in Cambodia – just to name a few of our missions.

Because you have been a loyal friend in this effort to help hurting men and women, I also believe you'll want to know about our circumstances this fall. I believe you will want to pray with us and, if you're able, help financially.

Right now we're facing a serious giving gap that threatens our ministry to the people

(over please)



that most need help. Income is down and our outreach is affected. We estimate that we need \$25,000 within the next few weeks in order to cover the gap and position us for another year of incredible impact.

I want to assure you that we're committed to good stewardship and living within our means, just as many families are. But, even so, the next 90 days are critical. They will affect our ministry going forward. I hope that with the help of friends like you, we'll be back on track by the close of our fiscal year on December 31 – ready to continue ministries in 2012 that will share the truth and power of God's Word with people at home and around the world.

That's why today I'm asking if you will prayerfully consider making a special 3-month pledge of support to help us finish out the year of ministry. If you can't make a pledge at this time, your single gift would be a big help.

I know things are tough financially right now, but I'm making a special appeal for your help because so many people are in need of God's comfort. Together, we have touched thousands of lives ... and together we will continue! Together, we will give hurting people hope in the midst of their circumstance. **And together, we will see lives eternally changed for His glory!**

Your very best gift today will literally transform the lives of hurting people in the hard times of life. Through your prayers and support, you can help take God's comfort to people who feel they have absolutely no hope for a better tomorrow.

Men and women all around us are brokenhearted and feeling like life will never get better. They see their trials as pure pain – when instead, trials can serve as an invitation to know God more fully. Suffering can help lead us to abundant life and joy! Jesus Christ can transform our afflictions by filling our hearts with His love and hope – with His grace and strength! This is the message that Shades of Grace is sharing around the world....

Please pray today about sending your very best gift of \$15, \$25 or more to share God's comfort for life's trials.

I write to you today because I need your help. **This ministry depends on the generosity of friends like you!** I will be waiting for your reply. Thank you in advance for your generous gift! *God "will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them" (Hebrews 6:10).*

Thanking God for You,



Natalie Nichols

P.S. I've enclosed three response forms and reply envelopes for you. **Simply return the first one now, and save the others for your November and December gifts.** When you write, please let us know how we can pray for you. It will be our privilege to pray daily for your needs. **You may also make a one-time donation or set up automatic giving online at our secure website: www.shadesofgrace.org.**

TESTIMONIES



FROM NORTH CAROLINA:

Natalie, I don't know when someone's testimony and Biblical words moved me the way yours just have. I was amazed. It brought me to tears and praising God.

FROM MISSOURI:

I watched your story with tears flowing and with many thanks to God for the renewed hope. Thank you for modeling faithfulness to God during the struggle.

FROM TEXAS:

Please thank your ministry prayer team for sending me a postcard saying you are praying for me. It means the world to me to know that you are praying, I have placed it where I see it every day and will commit the verse to memory.

FROM DELAWARE:

Your website is a blessing to the body of Christ. I pray that others like myself who, through surfing the internet, will come to this very blessed sight. It is so informative and has a lot of vital helpful information, and gives me hope.

FROM NEW ZEALAND:

I must commend you on the way you are carrying us through a 21 day fast. I have never ever seen something like this before. It takes us on a journey with God to profit the 21 days productively. I am so thrilled to have come across Pursuit 21. Your pathway to walk thru 21 days was spot on for me. Although I am not doing it at the beginning of the year – this is simply an amazing journey for me at this time as I am stepping into a new season in my life.

FROM THE PHILIPPINES:

- Thank you so much for the verses and prayers! I now claim them! I can already sense life coming into me again. Thank you! I will also be praying that you continue to be a blessing to many more!
- Your blog on Fasting Day 12 came up when I searched “reward for waiting” on my computer. Thank you so much for your generosity in accepting people's prayer requests. Thank you for responding and giving me verses to pray and claim. I believe that God is using your ministry to reach the nations. Thank You LORD for the Shades of Grace ministry. Thank You for using them to lift needy Christians' spirits in restoration to You!

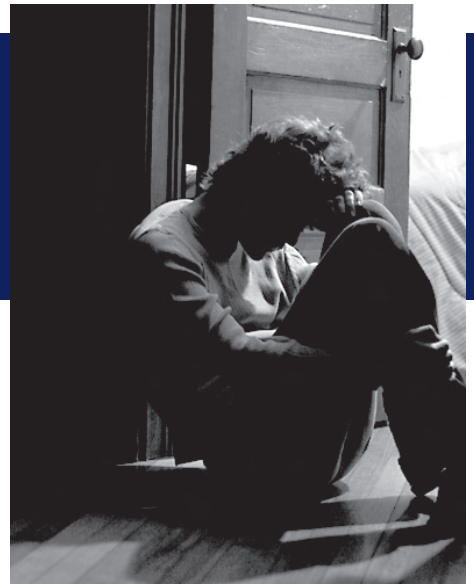
FROM KENTUCKY:

Natalie...God bless you richly for everything you have prayed and the scriptures you have made available to me. I don't know what else to say except that you are truly a giving servant of our Lord...and He is so beautiful in you.

FROM ARIZONA:

I love how the Lord led me to Natalie! I have been slowly declining in health...My doctor said a wheelchair may be needed. I was so discouraged and sad. I went home and was on YouTube listening to songs when I saw Natalie's name. Although I had never heard of her, I was drawn to her. As I listened to her video, she began to talk about the day when she had to use a wheelchair due to her weakness!! What a glorious God we serve. He began speaking to me through Natalie and her ministry. I really struggled with people not understanding my pain and seeing me in a wheelchair at 29. God knew exactly what I needed and led me right to Natalie!

Through Your Partnership, You Are Sharing God's Comfort with Men & Women Enduring Life's Trials



DEPRESSION

"I feel as though I am reverting to the depression I was just in a few months ago. I was already **suicidal**...I feel so tired juggling all the things I'm doing...I need endurance, faith, steadfastness, wisdom and JOY everyday. If you have any word, please do tell me..."

"I have been in a dark place with depression that has had me at times immobilized. It seems **I cannot sense God's presence** or hear Him speak. The Bible is a chore for me and my prayer life has dwindled down to a place where I don't know when the last time was I've been on my knees. I crave the Lord and I know that it is by His grace alone. I want to KNOW Jesus - to hear Him - to feel Him - to love and adore him - for Him to be real in my life. Yet He seems so distant. Do you have any thing you might speak into my life that might give me hope?"

"I've made bad decisions and hurt people around me...**I want to take my life...**"

SEEKING A BREAKTHROUGH

"My co-workers have made **false accusations** about me on the job..."

"I am **running out of perseverance** in praying for the salvation of a loved one..."

"I'm a single mom who works full time so **I really need to know how to manage my time** so that I put God first..."

"Please pray for me as I deeply feel led to fast to break the **yoke of bondage** that I have had in my Christian life for several years now..."

"I am fasting and praying for a **breakthrough** in my son's life..."

"I have been sexually assaulted...I need to **learn how to forgive** and move forward with my life..."

"My son is battling deep depression and is **addicted to alcohol and drugs...**"

ILLNESS

"My illness has progressed...**I struggle to stand and walk**...I can barely function enough to be there for my son. I am desperate for healing and deliverance..."

"**I am in a lot of pain** from Rheumatoid Arthritis..."

"I have been profoundly ill and getting worse for the past nine years. I am close to bed-ridden. Thankfully I'm receiving treatment now, but I have a long road ahead before I can see improvement. We have NO support system and **I am drowning in loneliness, pain, isolation** and soon to be homeless with my beautiful child...I cling to my faith and stay in prayer, but desperately need some fellowship, support and encouragement..."

"My father has **cancer**..."

MARRIAGE & FAMILY ISSUES

"My parents may be getting a **divorce** after 30+ years of marriage..."

"My husband is abusive... The devil is using him to destroy me, my job, marriage and everything around me...When I go home, **he is violent towards me and the children**. I want him to be freed of drunkenness, violence and hatred and come to know Jesus."

"My husband is **in prison**..."

"My marriage and family are **under attack**..."

FINANCIAL DEVASTATION

"We are facing **eviction** next week..."

"I have a newborn baby, but **no job**..."

"**The bank may foreclose** on my daughter and son-in-law's home. I plan to do an Ezra fast for them as well as for my own household..."

2011 GIVING GAP — please help now!

TODAY

- ☐ Yes, Natalie – I want to make a 3-month pledge commitment to help close the 2011 budget gap. Here's my first gift of \$_____. I'll fulfill my pledge by sending follow-up gifts in November and December.
- ☐ I can't make a pledge right now, but here's my single gift of \$_____ to help.
- ☐ *My gift by credit card is noted on the back.*
- ☐ *I'd like to begin automatic bank or credit card giving, please see the back.*



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Thank you for
your partnership
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Thank you for your generosity. All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make checks payable to Shades of Grace Ministries. Thank you!

2011 GIVING GAP — please help now!

November

- ☐ Natalie, enclosed is my November (second) gift to help with the 2011 budget gap: \$_____.
- ☐ *My gift by credit card is noted on the back.*
- ☐ *I'd like to begin automatic bank or credit card giving, please see the back.*



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2011 GIVING GAP — please help now!

December

- ☐ Natalie, enclosed is my December (third) gift to help with the 2011 budget gap: \$_____.
- ☐ *My gift by credit card is noted on the back.*
- ☐ *I'd like to begin automatic bank or credit card giving, please see the back.*



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USE GRACEDIRECT AND ENJOY ONE LESS THING TO REMEMBER

☐ Checking Account Withdrawal

Please withdraw my gift of \$_____ on the ☐ 5th or ☐ 20th of the month each month (check one).

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

I authorize Shades of Grace to charge my account listed below, starting on _____(mm/dd/yy) recurring each month on the _____(5th or 20th) of the month for the amount of _____\$. This authorization shall remain in effect until I notify Shades of Grace that I wish to end this agreement, which I may do at any time by visiting www.shadesofgrace.org or by calling 936-569-8741. A record of my payment will be included in my regular bank statement. I will receive a receipt from Shades of Grace for tax purposes.

Please enclose your check (as usual) for this month's contribution, or send a voided blank check using this return slip and the envelope provided. *Thank you for your continuing partnership!*

Bank Name _____

Account Type: ☐ Checking ☐ Savings ☐ Business Checking

Bank ABA Routing Number: _____

Bank Account Number: _____

Phone: () _____ *(in case we have questions)*

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

☐ Credit Card Giving

Please charge my gift in the amount of \$_____ to my:
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card Expires: / Card Number (below):

☐ One-time gift ☐ Monthly automatic gift transaction
on _____(5th or 20th) of each month.

I authorize Shades of Grace to charge my card in the amount indicated above. Authorization for automatic gift transaction shall remain in effect until I notify Shades of Grace that I wish to end this agreement. I may increase, decrease or suspend my monthly gift at any time by visiting www.shadesofgrace.org, or by calling Shades of Grace at 936-569-8741. I will receive a receipt from Shades of Grace for tax purposes. *Thank you for your continuing partnership!*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: () _____ *(in case we have questions)*

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

Comments / Prayer Request



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