

**Subject: THANK YOU!!!**

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**From:** Mary Pearson <mary@ChristianGays.com>

**To:** "CGNewsletter@yahoogroups.com" <CGNewsletter@yahoogroups.com>, CG1 <ChristianGays1@yahoogroups.com>, CGChat <ChristianGaysChat@yahoogroups.com>

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## **THANK YOU! - UPDATE ON THE HOSTING SITUATION**

How do I thank you? I cannot express my gratitude sufficiently for what you have done for me by covering the cost of hosting Christian Gays for the next three years.

Perhaps it's the Canadian in me but for the first six years I had the website, it never dawned on me to ask for donations, and so I covered all the expenses myself because I believed that this was a ministry that God had called me to do, on my own.

Then someone recognized the hours and hours that I put into the website, and they sent me a very generous donation, and suggested that I put a donations page on the website so that others could express their appreciation in a tangible way, by contributing toward my time.

Three years ago I let it be known that the website was up for renewal and asked if anyone would like to help me get a better deal by purchasing a year in advance. Until then I had been paying monthly. Well you awesome people came through with enough money for us to pay for three years!

With our hosting coming up for renewal again, I asked for prayers regarding my decision to go back to paying monthly (\$50/mo) or whether I should go into debt to get three years of hosting at a much better discounted price. I just asked for prayers but your response was to pray, and in the case of many of you, to also send money.

I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. My budget (Widow's Pension) is so limited that \$50/mo was going to be a heavy burden for me. You have succeeded in lifting that burden completely, and I am so grateful!

Thank you to all who prayed about this matter, and to those who donated money to make it happen. You are all my special angels and I truly love each one of you like an old mother hen. (I am moved to tears as I write this.) THANK YOU SO VERY, VERY MUCH!

Christian Gays is no longer a "one woman show".

It is YOU who make the Social Group what it is.

Without those of you who are faithful in the Chat Rooms, they wouldn't exist for those who need them. It is essential that someone be there to greet new people! Bruce and Rev John especially have been vital in this ministry to get it started, and now we have several others to whom I am most grateful.

I am so blessed that where I was spending hours and hours out of my day counselling people, now we have several Volunteer Counsellors who have taken that aspect of the ministry to a much better place.

And what would our website be without those who do our Bible Studies! Thank you John, John and Derek!

Thank you to those who are looking after the Facebook page. Heather and Robert, your input has helped people find us and I think people are really having fun there!

Thanks to those of you spread the word to others about us at your churches, in other chat rooms, to your friends, etc.

Thanks to those who have shared their Personal Stories with us, and to those who have edited them for me.

Thanks to those who have written Articles and Blogged for us.

Thanks to those who send me news articles to post, and thank you most of

all to those who pray for this ministry. I do believe that God has blessed us because of your prayers and your willingness to be a part of this wonderful family called Christian Gays. We are more than community. I believe we truly are a Family of Choice!

PS: With this new host I believe I will be able to set up video chat for those of you who want it. More plans in the works. Gotta get it up and running first. ;-)

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## **BACK AGAIN - SHORT BIBLE STUDIES**

Short (15 min) Bible Studies are back again with John Moore (Socko691) leading them, starting next week, every Monday and Thursday at 9 pm ET.

This is just a few minutes of your time in the Bible Study Room of the Chat Rooms. Come and get a little inspiration and knowledge.

Don't forget that Rev John Brown does our regular (1 hr) Bible Studies on Sunday nights at 9 pm ET.

Our Chat Calendar is getting filled up now for every night of the week except Tue.

**Mondays: Short Bible Study** (15 minutes) in the Bible Study Room

**Wednesdays: Women's Night** in the Women Only Room

**Thursdays: Short Bible Study** (15 minutes) in the Bible Study Room

**Fridays: Women's Night** in the Women Only Room

**Saturdays: Regular Chat** Night for All in the Main Chat Room

**Sundays: Bible Study** (1 hr) with Rev John Brown in the Bible Study Room

All events take place at:

6 pm Pacific Time

7 pm Mountain Time

8 pm Central Time

9 pm Eastern Time.

All the rooms are open all the time so if you want to chat when it's Women's Night (for example), don't worry, just come into the Main Chat Rooms and there will probably be people there too. If you would like to chat during Bible Study, that's fine too. Bible Study will be taking place in a different room. If you're new to chatting, people will help you.

If you wish to get chat reminders you can subscribe here: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/christiangayschat/join> but don't subscribe if you're a member of the Social Group because they get the reminders automatically.

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### **NEW ON THE FORUM - BIPOLAR SUPPORT**

Henry Willey has posted a notice about Depression and Bipolar Support.

*If this is something you'd like to talk about, please see the **Message Boards** at <http://christiangays.com/boards/>*

Remember that your questions and answers may be a benefit to someone else many years from now.

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### **ATTITUDE**

John is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, 'If I were any better, I would be twins!'

He was a natural motivator.

If an employee was having a bad day, John was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up and asked him, 'I don't get it!' 'You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?'

He replied, 'Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or...you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood.'

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or...I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it.

Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or...I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

'Yeah, right, it's not that easy,' I protested.

'Yes, it is,' he said. 'Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live your life.'

I reflected on what he said. Soon after, I left the Tower Industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that he was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower.

After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, he was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back.

I saw him about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, 'If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?'

I declined to see his wounds, but I did ask him what had gone through his

mind as the accident took place.

'The first thing that went through my mind was the well-being of my soon-to-be born daughter,' he replied. 'Then, as I lay on the ground, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or...I could choose to die. I chose to live.'

'Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?' I asked.

He continued, '...the paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read 'he's a dead man'. I knew I needed to take action.'

'What did you do?' I asked.

'Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me,' said John. 'She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes, I replied.' The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Gravity'.

Over their laughter, I told them, 'I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead.'

He lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully.

Attitude, after all, is everything!

*"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34*

*(Thanks John and Stephen!)*

## INSTALLING LOVE ON THE HUMAN COMPUTER

**Tech Support:** Yes, how can I help you?

**Customer:** Well, after much consideration, I've decided to install Love. Can you guide me through the process?

**Tech Support:** Yes. I can help you. Are you ready to proceed?

**Customer:** Well, I'm not very technical, but I think I'm ready. What do I do first?

**Tech Support:** The first step is to open your Heart. Have you located your Heart?

**Customer:** Yes, but there are several other programs running now. Is it okay to install Love while they are running?

**Tech Support:** What programs are running ?

**Customer:** Let's see, I have Past Hurt, Low Self-Esteem, Grudge and Resentment running right now.

**Tech Support:** No problem, Love will gradually erase Past Hurt from your current operating system. It may remain in your permanent memory but it will no longer disrupt other programs. Love will eventually override Low Self-Esteem with a module of its own called High Self-Esteem. However, you have to completely turn off Grudge and Resentment. Those programs prevent Love from being properly installed. Can you turn those off ?

**Customer:** I don't know how to turn them off. Can you tell me how?

**Tech Support:** With pleasure. Go to your start menu and invoke Forgiveness. Do this as many times as necessary until Grudge and Resentment have been completely erased.

**Customer:** Okay, done! Love has started installing itself. Is that normal?

**Tech Support:** Yes, but remember that you have only the base program. You need to begin connecting to other Hearts in order to get the upgrades.

**Customer:** Oops! I have an error message already. It says, "Error - Program not run on external components." What should I do?

**Tech Support:** Don't worry. It means that the Love program is set up to run on Internal Hearts, but has not yet been run on your Heart. In non-technical terms, it simply means you have to Love yourself before you can Love others.

**Customer:** So, what should I do?

**Tech Support:** Pull down Self-Acceptance; then click on the following files: Forgive-Self; Realize Your Worth; and Acknowledge your Limitations.

**Customer:** Okay, done.

**Tech Support:** Now, copy them to the "My Heart" directory. The system will overwrite any conflicting files and begin patching faulty programming. Also, you need to delete Verbose Self-Criticism from all directories and empty your Recycle Bin to make sure it is completely gone and never comes back.

**Customer:** Got it. Hey! My heart is filling up with new files. Smile is playing on my monitor and Peace and Contentment are copying themselves all over My Heart. Is this normal?

**Tech Support:** Sometimes. For others it takes awhile, but eventually everything gets it at the proper time. So Love is installed and running. One more thing before we hang up. Love is Freeware. Be sure to give it and its various modules to everyone you meet. They will in turn share it with others and return some cool modules back to you.

**Customer:** Thank you, God.

**God/Tech Support:** You're Welcome, Anytime.

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## **JOKE**

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son: 'You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car.'

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, 'Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut.'

The boy said, 'You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair...and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair.'

*You're going to love the Dad's reply:*

'Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?'

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God bless,  
Mary

**Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!**

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

**Gay by God. Proud by choice!**



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Subscribe from the Join Our Family page at <http://christiangays.com/subscribe.shtml>**

**Please check out our ALL FREE Dating Service at <http://christiangays.com/osdate/>**

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