OPEN

How are you cleansed? You’re cleansed through the washing of the water of the Word of God. You can become a brand-new creature in Christ Jesus. And old things can pass away and all things can become new. Find out how to have life and how to know the love of God that will hold you and transform you and keep you and will never leave you and never forsake you. You are precious to God. Let Him show you how precious you are.

PART ONE

Kay: We’re going to talk to Dorie today because, Precious One, I want you to understand how important our words are. How they can change the course of a person’s life. How they can be set on fire of hell and burn and destroy or how they can actually give life to a person. And we’re going to find out, how you combat those lies that have been sown in your heart and sown in your mind by people that should have loved you and didn’t love you, people that should have accepted you and been proud of you and instead rejected you
and were so sorry that you were ever born. But Dorie, honey, I want to continue the story of your life just from the aspect of how you dealt with all the lies that were sown in your life. When did you meet your mother again after she put you in the orphanage?

Dorie: When did I meet her again? That was when I was living in this house that I call “the house of meanness”. And I tried to see her. They made it possible. But when she saw me she said, “I don’t want to have anything to do with you.” I tried to go up to her, Kay, and instead of that, she just pushed me away. Now, the first time that I found her was in a courtroom because I was living in the doctor’s home. I was in San Francisco and then I went to the doctor’s home and I found my father. But when I found my mother, I was in this terrible situation in San Francisco, when a teacher saw the abuse that had happened to me because I would be beaten, Kay. I would be slapped.

Kay: In the foster home?

Dorie: In the foster home. I would go to school with a bloody nose and a black eye. And when people tend to think, “Oh come on, you know that you’re adding it because of the story.” Kay, it was true. But they didn’t speak about abused children then.

Kay: Un huh. They just hid it and buried it.

Dorie: I know and buried it and then forgot. And if you walked and they saw you bleeding or hit, they thought well the kid probably deserved it. But I was in a courtroom when they called the woman to come stand by me. Now of course, you’ve heard this story. But when I saw her, I couldn’t believe it. I thought, “Oh, she’s found me.” And inside you want to believe, though everyone doesn’t want you, somehow or other, she was looking for you. Instead…

Kay: That your mother was looking for you.

Dorie: Yeah. When she saw me, she just turned away. And it was such a look of hate. She was asked by the judge if I was her child. She wouldn’t answer. Finally, the third time, she said, “I suppose so. But if I could have destroyed her before she was born I would have done it.” And Kay, when
people say, just forget all of your past, dear friend, there are things said to you, you can’t forget. But then they cause me to remember again God’s love for me. But I thought, “I heard her say it. I wish she’d never been born.” Later on when I found my father, that was a long, long story, which I won’t go into now. But when I found him, what were his words to me? “I didn’t love you then, nor do I love you now.” “But why did you send for me?” “Well,” he said, “I was just kind of curious to see what you looked like.”

Well Kay, those are statements that are made to let you know, in no way are you acceptable. There was another time I tried to find my mother after I had found my father.

Kay: Been in the courtroom and been rejected.

Dorie: Yeah. And then came back, lived in the doctor’s home. I stood there and I said to these people, “Will you just try to find her one more time?” They made an appointment one more time. Now I’m a big girl. I’m living in the doctor’s home.

Kay: How old are you about?

Dorie: I’m 17, going to be 18 before long, but I was 17. And I thought, if I can find her and ask her what it is about me that she can’t accept, maybe she will change her mind. And, Kay, when she said she’d meet me in San Francisco at the Golden Gate Park in under a tree, honey, I walked for way over two hours and couldn’t find her. Then I saw a woman sitting under a tree. “Oh, I’m over here.” But she had a little girl, a baby girl that she was hugging. I walked up. I’m saying the woman for a reason. I’ll tell you in a moment. And she looked at me and she said, “Oh!” And she was hugging the little girl and calling her beautiful and darling. And I stooped down. The little girl turned and looked at me, curly hair, brown eyes. I touched her and then I reached out to lift her up. And when I did, the woman said to me, “Isn’t she beautiful?” Yes. “Isn’t she darling?” Yes. And then I placed her in the woman’s arms. I thought, she knows the words to say. I’m standing there Kay waiting for her to call me, address me by my name. She didn’t. I waited. If I walk away, she’ll call me. I tuned my back to walk away to see if she would say, “Come back.” But she didn’t. I stood finally in that path and
looked at her, hugging the little girl and this is what I thought, “I will never hear her say my name. It’s all right.”

Kay: I’m so sorry.

Dorie: And I walked out. I ran out. I ran down an alley. I leaned against another dumpster, but I’m a big girl now so I didn’t jump in. And I wept, and I thought, “Father, I will never hear my biological mother call me by my name. But long ago, You said, ‘Daughter, I love you.’” And Dorie took You as my personal Savior. I thought He said my name. He knows it. It’s all right. And, Kay, I mean that. I could walk away. Why would I keep pounding on a door for someone who would always reject me and keep hearing that and just kind of get down in the dumps over it? Wait a minute and I mean this with all my heart. He lifted me out of that pit of rejection. He lifted me out of that pit of not being loved. And if He loves me, I can go on. Lord, I can. Because Kay, in Matthew 10:27, it says, “The things you learned in the darkness speak in the light. What’s whispered in your ear, proclaim it on the housetops.” What did I hear while I’m running way? What did I hear when I’m trying to hide. What am I hearing when I’m trying to avoid the beatings? “I love you. I love you. I’m not going to leave you.” What did He keep whispering in my ear? “You’re mine. I’m not going to leave you.” And Kay, I’m going to remember that. It’s what I remembered then. It’s what I’m going to remember all the days of my life. He loves me. I’m accepted in the beloved.

Kay: I love that. Ephesians, chapter 1.

Dorie: Right. And then it reminds me again of in Psalms 27:10. It happened when your father and mother forget you, the Lord will take you up. Lord You love me. You’re the lover of my soul. You’re my best friend. I belong to You. I’m not going to forget it.

Kay: Dorie, other people that have been rejected, that have come to know Jesus Christ, know those truths, but it hasn’t healed them. Why? Will they not allow Him to heal?

Dorie: Now Kay, it isn’t something that happens over night. Any more than a very, very serious lifesaving surgery, you’re well overnight. You have to
stay awhile, recuperate, keep going back to the physician until he tells you, you’re better, you’re better. Then you’re well. I chose to believe God loves me, in spite of everything I heard, I’m going to believe He loves me. That’s why I came through it, because the Lord never left me. Kay, when I would walk the streets of San Francisco, when I would look at people holding hands and being friends, I mean this, there were no friends. There wasn’t anyone. So when I walked those streets I thought, Lord, Lord, I wish I had somebody with flesh and blood. And His Word told me, “I’m going to be everything to you. I’m going to be your father, your mother, your brother, your sister. I’ll be all you need. I’ll be closer than hands and feet.” How close is that? The Word tells you. “I will indwell you.” And when I, I’m laughing at this now, because I’m so old, they’re probably all dead. But they probably remember a crazy teenager walking the streets of San Francisco looking in those windows, talking to herself, “I wish I could look beautiful, Lord,” and having Him say, “You are to Me, daughter.” Seeing the food out in restaurants, I was so hungry, Kay, I stole food. I asked the Lord to forgive me. He did. But I stole food. I knew what it was to be hungry. But I also know another secret, what it is to be fed from His Word with something that satisfies even the hunger pains. I mean that. To be embraced in His love in ways that I cannot explain it, to just know that I know I know. He loved me and saw me through. Now if you want great technical explanations I can’t give them, just simplistic ones.

Kay: But they work.

Dorie: They work. God loves me.

Kay: You know, when I listen, I think about Hebrews 11:6, “Without faith it’s impossible to please God. Those who come to Him must believe that He is, that He is God and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.” And I know it sounds simplistic, but faith is simplistic. And He says if you don’t have the faith of a child, that’s the kind of faith. In other words, a child, you tell them something. You say that this is a fact and the child believes it. And so you found truth and you embraced truth and it seems to me that you’re healing has simply come because in any given situation you can believe a lie or you can believe the truth.
And so when they have rejected you, you’ve known that the Lord is there.

Dorie: And we don’t want to think for a minute that the enemy still doesn’t try to tell you the lies. He does.

Kay: Right

Dorie: He does. But then you continually have to go back to the Word, to those words that say, “But you’re Mine. I love you with an everlasting love. I’m not going to leave you.” And when you believe that, you cling to it, Kay, like somebody that’s drowning and you’re grabbing a hold of the rope. I know people use this all the time. But it’s true. And He pulled me out of a pit of despair, of shame, of things that happened that you don’t want to talk about. And eventually, not right away, it took years, Kay, years. But the Lord brought you to a place where now, I can talk about it all because of what He’s done. He’s been that faithful friend. And when I said I stood in front of the woman who was my biological mother. I want to explain that. It takes more than giving birth, Kay, to make a woman a mother. It takes the caring, the tenderness, the showing that you’re there, which she never showed me. But God did. So He was my mother. A father to hold you, to caress you, to say, “Little girl, it’s all right.” He was never there. But the Lord was. And He let me know He loves me.

Kay: And see, this is what I hear is, that there was a constant communication with Him.

Dorie: Constant, constant.

Kay: There is a friend that sticks closer than a brother and Jesus loves you and, “Greater has no one than to lay down his life for his friends.” And He laid down His life for you.

PART TWO

Kay: Psychologists and psychiatrists would tell you that if you damage a child as much as Dorie has been damaged that there can be no healing, that there can be no health, no wholeness, that they really never can fully trust
another person. Dorie, God brought Lloyd into your life and God’s taken Lloyd home. How long were you married?

Dorie: Oh, 30 years.

Kay: 30 years, okay. When God brought him into your life, did you have trouble believing that he could really love you?

Dorie: Oh yes, Kay. I just felt, I’m going to wake up some morning and he’s going to be gone. Or he’s going to look at me and think, “what in the world have I gotten into?” When we’d go to bed at night, and he’d go to sleep, I would reach over and keep touching him. And then just to be sure he was still there. I just knew something was going to happen and he was going to decide this is it. And then one day, he came running in from his office in the church and he said, “Dorie, come here. Sit down a minute. I’ve got to tell you something.” Because he saw this uncertainty. “Dorie you are stuck with me honey. I love you. Do you believe that?” And I hung my head. “Dorie, I love you. Do you believe that?” And then he finally looked up at me. He pulled my face and made me look at him and he said, “Dorie, I am never, never going to leave you. I love you! Do you believe that? Do you believe it?” “Yes!” And Kay that began to change the relationship because I realized I am stuck with him. He’s stuck with me. Now it doesn’t mean we didn’t have to work on the relationship. Because when you’re not loved, you’re always, “Oh, oh, did I do that? Will that really make him not love me?” But we grew, we grew together. Lloyd was the only one that ever knew everything about me. Because of that, I was convinced He would never marry me. Well he did marry me, but I thought well, but you wait, he’ll find something out. He’s going to leave me. He never did. Because of that total acceptance of me, Kay, I believe with all my heart that was one of the ways God showed me His love through my husband.

Kay: That’s neat. Do you think that someone that’s been abused should tell the person that they’re going to marry before they marry them that they’ve been abused, especially if they’ve been abused sexually?

Dorie: I know different people will agree or disagree with me. But since I’ve come this far, I think, yes, Kay. So that, for this reason, then there will be no
secrets between you. When you don’t tell and I’ve talked to too many who have kept it a secret, they were scared to death that if they told something would happen to that marriage, when they had kept it a secret so long. That the spouse, whether the male or the female would turn around and say, “You mean you didn’t trust me enough to tell me?” So then there are no secrets. You never have to be afraid of someone else coming in to do something to ruin that relationship because there’s a bonding there. Nobody’s going to break it.

Kay: Did Lloyd have a lot of adjustments and did you have a lot of adjustments in your marriage do you think because of the past abuse physical and sexual abuse that you went through?

Dorie: I wanted so desperately, Kay. I wanted it so much, were hugs.

Kay: Yeah

Dorie: And he would come up and hug me, oh and I would just melt. And then sometimes he’s come up with no warning and just give me a sweet peck on the cheek. And I thought, oh my, isn’t that wonderful when you have been sexually abused, when you have been beaten and molested, and so misused by other people, you’re afraid of even a touch. It has to be the right kind of a touch. Because sometimes, we would just go like this and Lloyd would say, “Honey, why are you doing that?” Because when somebody hits us and touches us the wrong way, we react like this so that we’re going to be stronger the next time they touch us. His was gentle. And so I learned finally to accept that. And then long for it.

Kay: But it took a while.

Dorie: It took a while because I was a people-hater, Kay. The Lord changed me into becoming a people-lover. But that was the Lord’s doing, not mine. And then of course when children came along, I was praying, “Oh Lord, help me to love them as I wanted to be loved.”

Kay: were you ever afraid that you might abuse them?

Dorie: Yes, I was. And I would say,” Lord, please, just let me love them.” And I think my children will testify to that. “Boy, mom, you loved us and
loved us and loved us. I’m grateful for that.” I would hold them and squeeze them and kiss them and look at their little hands. And then I would think, did anyone ever take my hand when it was tiny and look at? Did anyone ever take that little arm and just kiss it? I don’t know.

Kay: Were you ever afraid that you might in anger abuse them?

Dorie: I was afraid. But then my love for them was so great that I knew that I could never hurt them. I knew that, Kay. I can’t explain how. Because so many times people with the abusive backgrounds are afraid they will lash out in the same way. I loved them so much, I was afraid I’d love them so much that they would just cling to me and I’d cling to them. And I didn’t want to do that.

Kay: We just have a few minutes left and I want you to share with the audience if they’ve been abused, what do they need to know? What do they need to do? Where do they need to begin?

Dorie: I would give them the Christian view, Kay. Because that’s where my real beginning came when I accepted the Lord in that orphanage. And as I said, not right away, but slowly He began to show me who He was and what He could become for me. And one of the most important things and you don’t learn it until later, but is to forgive the ones that abused you. And then to be able to realize everyone out there is not going to be your abuser. There are people out there who will be your friend. I found something else, Kay. You can’t have friends unless you’re willing to be a friend. And so I would ask the Lord, “Help me to be a friend, to reach out to the ones that have known the abuse. A little tender at first, because you’re not sure how they’re going to accept you, but to let them know they’re special.”

Kay: Is it hard for you to tell your story?

Dorie: Kay, I have to be very, very honest when I say this. When I began to tell the story, at first you told just parts because you’re going to go the mission field and you want people to send you, and support you, which they did. But wait a minute; people began to grab a hold of a truth. But wait a minute, what about this? But what about this? So I began to tell more and more of the story. And I have to be very honest, as you tell more and more
of it, sometimes I would go back to the hotel room and just weep because you’re living it all over again.

Kay: Were you afraid that they were going to reject you?

Dorie: Yes. And I was afraid well they might not accept me for this. But then they began asking for more and for more. And I thought, “Lord, I’ll do it if You’ll be my helper.” Now let me tell another secret.

Kay: Yes.

Dorie: Because I could only take a bath in this “house of meanness,” Kay, as unbelievable as it sounds, it’s true, I was only allowed to take a bath one day a week. So I was dirty filthy little girl. I loved the Lord. But there were those abusive things that took place where they’re going to punish me to show me how unacceptable and unloved and not nice I was. So I couldn’t take the bath. All right, now, do you know what I used to do a number of years ago? In fact, it didn’t really stop until a few years ago. It’d be real late at night and I’d get up and take another bath. I know I’ve been cleansed by the blood of Christ. I know that. But there’s something about the physical body being dirty and I can cleanse it again no one’s going to tell me I can’t take a bath.

Kay: That’s right. Precious One, you can be cleansed too. How are you cleansed? You’re cleansed through the washing of the water of the Word of God. You can become a brand-new creature in Christ Jesus. And old things can pass away and all things can become new. Let me tell you what to do. Go to the Gospel of John and begin to read. Mark every occurrence of the word “love”. Put a heart on it. Every occurrence of the word “life” and then list what you learn. And you’ll find out how to have life and how to know the love of God that will hold you and transform you and keep you and will never leave you and never forsake you. You are precious to God. Let Him show you how precious you are.