## THE SPIRIT&THE BRIDE

## "I, JESUS/YESHUA HAVE SENT MY ANGEL TO TESTIFY TO YOU THESE THINGS FOR THE CHURCHES. I AM THE ROOT AND THE OFFSPRING OF DAVID, THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR." AND THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY, "COME" AND LET THE ONE WHO HEARS SAY, "COME". AND LET THE ONE WHO IS THIRSTY COME, LET THE ONE WHO WISHES TAKE THE WATER OF LIFE WITHOUT COST." REVELATION 22: 16-17

I started my journey with the LORD seriously on 7/22/1996 when I asked HIM - as I was holding my Bible in my hands : *YOU gave me the song WHITE AS SNOW* and after I prayed for YOU to drop somebody I like and can love at my doorstep - YOU answered my prayer and dropped off *MR. WHITE.* YOU do not do anything without a purpose. I know somewhere *IN YOUR WORD* is the key - so where does it say *WHITE AS SNOW*? I checked the index in my Living Bible first - then I went to sleep after I said this rather frustrated prayer. That was also the first time I picked up this pink bible. I did not have to wait very long for the answer: That very night the LORD showed me the connection to WHITE AS SNOW AND MR. WHITE: PSALM 51:7. However, let us go back a little...

On Valentine's Day of 1996, the Lord gave me the song *WHITE AS SNOW, WHITE AS SNOW, LORD I KNOW, BY THE POWER OF YOUR BLOOD, BY THE WONDER OF YOUR LOVE, BY FAITH IN THEE - WE ARE WHITE AS SNOW.* Then the LORD said to me: "When I live in your heart and have *ALL YOUR HEART,* you'll get your Heart's desire, because it is not your desire but *MY DESIRE (the LORD's) (PSALM 37:4).* Great ... I finally figured out that mystery. In **1990,** I received a Study Bible and I taped the following verse - which I found in a Christian Bookstore in the front page: *MONIQUE - "Advisor" DELIGHT THYSELF ALSO IN THE LORD; AND HE SHALL GIVE THEE THE DESIRES OF THINE HEART (Psalm 37:4).* That was 6 years before the beginning of this story. I tried to read that Bible on several occasion, but did not understand the language or the meaning of the words. Early March 1996, a woman at my Church - Assembly of God - prophesied over me and said that I will have a great ministry. As the LORD had given me the song WHITE AS SNOW and since I just started to carry CHASTITY RINGS for young adults in my Jewelry Store, I thought, it might have something to do with the "TRUE LOVE WAITS" campaign many Teenagers are joining since 1996.

When my ex-husband went back to jail in March 1996 for his *12th DWI* - I said : "LORD, now you have to drop somebody at my doorstep" - He is the one who gave me that Study Bible, but obviously only preached the WORD. He had received 9 additional DWIs since I met him - I had been divorced from him for 5 years but hoped that the LORD would change him. The LORD's answer: the next day *I HAD A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL IN THE MAIL* (quite literal answer to my prayer, would you say?) - I thought that James was nuts - I did not know him - since I only had met this young man (31 years old) for 5 hours during a business trip, 2 1/2 years before I received that marriage proposal, but since I did say that "prayer" and the Lord answered immediately, I had to find out what was behind it. (Be careful, what you pray for) I sent him back to Louisiana. To this very day, James calls me periodically - still requesting to see me and his offer to marry me still stands. Our conversation when we met for the first time where: **POLITICS & RELIGION** - in that order - the two no, no's of the 90's! However, the LORD told me to drop POLITICS because nothing changes until the heart changes. So the flame for the truth of the Gospel was ignited and started to burn. So I said a new prayer: "LORD, YOU did what I said: now drop somebody off I like, who is like me..." being more specific."

The LORD answered that prayer also ... tall, handsome, conservative, good dad, hardworking, bargain shopper just like me, so we dated a few times - I liked him a lot, he was somewhat shy which I found attractive. After our 5th date (a 30-mile bike ride yet I felt that I went on a fitness interview instead of a date) he said: "How are your legs?" Now I am not forward, but my lips said that I was going to get a kiss and so I was somewhat disappointed at his question. The very next day, my daughter fell outside my house and she scraped her left cheek very badly - I blamed myself since I forgot to pray for her protection that particular day being preoccupied with thoughts about Jeff. So I took her to work with me to apply ointment to her cheek hourly and to give her lots of TLC. Her abrasion healed extremely fast - the LORD answered my prayer for a quick recovery.

So I said a new prayer: "LORD, YOU did again what I said, now drop somebody off I like and I can love ...." Well, the LORD being busy with answering my prayers had sent in a good-looking young man into my shop a few days before I said that prayer. TALL, DARK, HANDSOME, worked in the building where I had my Jewelry store. The Friday Night before my bike ride with Jeff, he stopped in – pretending that he was interested in a ring – we started to talk. I asked him where he was from and he said "L.A." (I thought - a liberal - go away) so I asked him what Church he went to and he said that he used to go to a Charismatic Church. Well, so did I! I told him about *SPEAK THE WORD CHURCH* 

in Golden Valley. However, in case he was looking for some young girls, he could find them at Fletcher's - a hot spot on Lake Minnetonka. He didn't know about it so I gave him directions - actually, that Restaurant/Bar is only about 5 minutes from my house. He thanked me and left.

The next day after I said my third prayer ("Now drop somebody off I like and can love ...") he stopped back into my shop and as I was surprised to see him again - he looked like he just wanted to talk - I said: "So, did you check out the Church?" Him: "Twe kind of fallen away from it..." Me: "So you are stuck in the SIN-CYCLE?!"- and I started to preach: "I have done it more than once my way, now I am doing it HIS WAY - call me LIZ if you wish. It looks like it worked my way (Jewelry store etc.) but between you and I - BOB - it hasn't worked - so I decided to follow the blueprint in the Bible (yet I was actually not reading THE BIBLE, just following a sermon a day by Chuck Swindoll and I went to Church). So I continued: *"I went back 2000 Years, walk where Jesus walked"* - no sex outside of marriage - Chastity rings for my kids - of course I can't just preach it but have to lead by example"... etc. After 10 minutes Bob leaves - totally convicted and I said: "GOD, I was too hard on that guy - well I don't want him anyway (too good-looking). And - what is his bag?" as I watched him cross the parking lot.

## The very next day, he stopped in again and said: "ARE YOU DATING SOMEBODY???"

I was so surprised he had to repeat his question. I answered: "I don't know how to answer that question."

"Yes" or "No" he replied with a cute smile. I said: "Well, you see, I have seen this friend 5 times, went on a 30 miles bike ride with him , but we never kissed, is that a date?" So he said: "Does he see anybody else?" Me: "Well, I don't know, I never asked, should I? I am kind of new at this (dating) ..." So he repeated his question: "What about going out with me?" I said: "No thanks!" He was surprised - and so was I - the answer just blurted out, kind of like the "So you are stuck in the SIN-CYCLE?" He looked at me with astonishment: "WHY WOULDN'T YOU GO OUT WITH ME?" I blurted out: "You look too dangerous to me ...." (I am shocked again - at my own answer. Embarrassed, I tum around so that he would not see that I was blushing. Now his great sales job: "I'm not dangerous - I am a nice guy" (big smile-gorgeous teeth) and my head said: "You're nuts, you're nuts, it's Friday night (I liked to go out on Friday nights), you had your hair done, your boat is sitting at the dock, your "friend" has not called ..." that did it  $\sim$  OK  $\sim$ "I am reconsidering if you answer a question." "Anything you want to ask me" he said. "I work upstairs, you are welcome to come and visit me anytime, I am a nice guy..." So here is my question: "Can you keep your hands to yourself?", I asked. "Absolutely, I'm a gentleman! Are you a little paranoid?" he answered. "No, I made all the mistakes I want to make, so I decided to do it HIS WAY now. And I can't introduce you to my children - I don't bring guys around the house. Besides, they just met Jeff for the first time," I said. Him: 'That's okay, I can play Cowboy and Indian...' so we made an arrangement for him to call me from a phone booth near my house to make sure that the kids were busy, so that I could just sneak out of the house, as I left them with my nanny. His timing was perfect - I had sent the kids to Dairy Queen with Rachel.

As per my request, he just brought some Coke to drink - and we started on our boat ride - I let him drive the boat. When we were in the middle of the Lake, I said; **"Bob, do you know why I told you to keep your hands to yourself?"** He said; **"No why?"** My answer: **"Otherwise you swim home!"**... I was again embarrassed at myself and wondered why I was so rude. This is just not like me. Later his seat collapsed and I did not want him to stand the entire way back, so I allowed him to sit next to me as I was driving the boat. With his arms folded, he was a perfect Gentleman. I was intimidating and I realized later on that I was so attracted to him that I immediately had to build up my walls to protect myself, so I did not fall into the fleshly temptation - doing it *HIS WAY* now.

Anyways, to make a long story short, that night I found out that he was *JEWISH* - my favorite flavor - only the LORD could know that I deep down wanted a *completed Jew* for a husband), had given his life to the LORD when he was 19 years old (he was kicked out of his JEWISH PARENTS HOUSE) - married the Christian girl, had three children (all boys) His name is *BOB WHITE* - *HIS OLDEST SON'S NAME IS ADAM WHITE* ...(*ORTHODOX JEW from CORONA, CA*)\*. (FROM ADAM IN GENESIS TO WHITE IN REVELATION ...) The Lord told me that first night: "You judged the book by the cover, I am showing you his heart - He has a broken heart". From a spiritual sense: "You judged the Bible by its cover - I'm showing you the Heart of the Gospel".

Then I shared with Bob a book I was reading : "GOD'S WILL IS PROSPERITY" - by Gloria Copeland and I quoted a prophecy by Charles Capps: "As the Heavens are above the Earth, so are MY WAYS HIGHER than your ways, I never said you could not walk in MY WAYS, now learn to walk in MY WAYS..." BOB said: "Not only do I know the Author - I also met the person who gave this Prophecy" and my heart said: "IS THIS YOUR SOUL MATE?" In a small still voice. I said: "No way - TOO GOOD-LOOKING!" I was so scared. I had typed that prophecy into my computer and handed it out to many people at my store - yet nobody knew who Charles Capps was. And BOB had met him in

person ... "LORD, is this a coincidence, or are YOU trying to tell me something?" Is there a coincidence in life? The night ended at 3AM - I allowed him to give me a hug (a most heavenly hug) and we parted... After he said: "You mean I could live here?" when he found out that I had a 2 BR Apartment in the lower level of my house that I rented out to a couple. This was our very first night and I still have wonderful memories about his soft and considerate manners - also that night the LORD gave me a glimpse into his soul that was aching for true love.

The next day I dressed in a yellow dress as I had to be at work by 9AM - short night - and about 1PM Bob comes in with a **purple package containing a yellow rose**. So I joked about that: "Now I know you came to the window, so you could match the rose to my dress (deep down I was smitten: I never wear yellow). **Bob told me that I touched his heart like not many people had touched his heart** (he touched mine too) and after we chatted about boys & girls (he said that he had not found anybody he liked etc.) he parted. At the close of the day I saw him driving around in the parking lot - I knew that he was invited to a wedding by one of his office workers - he looked nice in a white shirt - all dressed up - but I did not go out there to meet him. That night, however, I went home with the yellow rose and took a picture of it in front of the Jesus Portrait in my Living room. When I developed the film, the LORD had over-exposed the blue sky over the face of Jesus and it looks like Jesus in the clouds. (I repeat like "JESUS IN THE CLOUDS" - although I did not realize the impact till **July 1997**....)

That night I was restless and could not sleep - the LORD gave me a dream :"I am to be your NUMBER ONE!" That had to be for Jeff since I asked him twice to come to church with me. I decided to call Bob and find out whether he would go to Church with me if I asked him : "Absolutely!!!" was his answer. I had decided unless he came to Church with me, I would not go out with him again - especially since the message in Church that particular Sunday was the same: "GOD HAS TO BE YOUR NUMBER ONE"!!! The LORD doubled up....

So when my "I like" friend came out to visit Sunday afternoon, I took him out on the boat and said point blank: "Jeff, I have to tell you something - I've asked you twice to go to Church with me, you have not come - I am not interested in dating you - I'll date you when you go to Church with me (all along my head said: "You're nuts, you're nuts, girls would kill for that guy..." good-looking - rugged - like the Marlboro man - made good money - not a playboy, good dad, hardworking etc. etc.) Jeff started to stutter, "But *GOD is Number One* in *my life*, I am just not like you - that is one of the things I like about you etc. etc." I felt sorry for him so I said to the LORD: "I like him, I am comfortable with him, he does not scare me". When I told Jeff that I was asked, whether I was dating somebody and since we never kissed, I did not know the status of our relationship ; he simply said: "I THOUGHT WE WERE! !!" Well, LORD, I guess I am happy with "I thought we were"... I'm still comfortable with Jeff - Bob scares me- too much of an attraction.

So the very next day, when Bob came into my shop, I told him: "Bob, you are out!!!" He was taken back: "Well, don't count me out..." I confirmed a second time: "You ARE out" as I threw some rubber bands at him. He said again: "Don't count me out..." Now he made it a point to come and visit me 3 times a day - always complementing me - how pretty I was etc. Finally, on the third day - we agreed on a lunch date. As we were waiting for the meal, he was suddenly so quiet, so I asked: "How come you are so quiet?" He said: <u>"IAM NOT READY TO PROPOSE YET!!! THE WORLD JUST HAS TO GO BACK TO THE VALUES OF OLD"...</u> I was very confused ... "LORD, he sounds like me .... I thought he was a liberal...." Besides that, I was speechless: "Not ready to propose yet..." that was definitely a better line than what I had... ... and it did not demand an answer...

After Lunch, he asked permission to walk me to the phone booth (I had a business call to make) and then he said: "CAN I GIVE YOUA KISS OR DOES THAT GO AGAINST YOUR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS?" Me: "No, kiss is okay" as I lifted my head... Right there I received the VERY BEST KISS I EVER HAD... I could not believe it, but I figured it must be because I had not been kissed for a long time. That afternoon Bob stopped in with a picture showing me his 3 boys, also his ex-wife and her little baby girl she had from somebody else outside of marriage - and when he asked how dessert was meaning the kiss, I said: "Great". So I invited him and his 3 boys to my house for a boat ride, if he brought the meat for sandwiches. He agreed and so we had our second date. He was very polite, his children were fun - that was on July 3rd 1996. The 4th of July was coming up the next day and I had not received a definite answer from Jeff. I knew that Bob & the Boys enjoyed the lake so I asked my children to pick the date for the next day. They both said: "We like BOB better, he is more fun!" so I told Bob that he was in for the 4th of July. (Nehemiah 7:3 : Do not let the gates of Jerusalem be opened ... let them shut and bolt the doors. Also, appoint guards from the inhabitants of Jerusalem ... each in front of his own house. The Gate was sealed with the first KISS 7-3-1996).

My ex-husband sent me a letter from Jail dated 7/3/1996 - informing me that the LORD told him that he had to let me go and that he had to ask the LORD to bless me. I felt relieved and was somewhat astonished at the coincidence as his letter

was written the same day I received that very FIRST KISS. Next Day: *INDEPENDENCE day – 4th of JULY.*'. As we were making stacks of sandwiches (4 boys, 1 girl, Bob & myself = 7) we chatted and I found out that he never drank, never smoked, never did drugs - he sounded too good to be true. I had a hard time believing it (since he is so handsome) - he also hinted about jealousy (his ex-wife?) and then he said: "How did you like the kiss from yesterday?" I had to admit that I liked it and so he asked whether I would like to get some more (kisses)? Yes...I felt like I was on Cloud Nine - His kisses came straight from heaven - We had a wonderful time on the boat that night watching the fireworks - I was leaving at 4AM to go on a 10-day- vacation to Florida with my children and an ex-student of the Teen Challenge Program in Minneapolis. But I really did not want to leave.... He was capturing my heart already.... So I started training my mind: when Bob came into my thoughts, I said: "Bob, no Jesus" since the LORD told me that JESUS had to be MY NUMBER ONE.

I called Bob for his address and sent him a card. Then he called me in Florida saying: "Now I know you think of me at least once today" to which I said: "Bob, I think of you a lot, but I have to think of **Jesus more**!" following the orders of my Boss. When we returned after the 10 days, we went to visit him at his apartment - I brought lunch for the boys and we had to eat it on the balcony on paper bags, since he did not have any furniture, only the bedroom was furnished. I was really nervous about seeing him again and the subject of **GOD** came up right away. He said: "You have GOD up here and I have HIM down here... but HE is still my Savior ...," he mumbled. So I said: "That is a decision that you make - you can be up there in a heartbeat - you said you would go to Church with me. Are you still going to do that...?" He said: "Yes, I said, I would". So I answered: "Well, then I am not going to worry about this for now..."

So we went back out on the boat that afternoon - 7/14/1996 - and my daughter said to him: "Bob, my Mom said she would marry you, if you asked her..." I was embarrassed and he was shocked ... so I tried to stay calm as I said: "But Angelique, I added something to that, do you remember...?" Of course, she did not. "I added, *ONLY IF JESUS SAYS* "YES", *THAT IS A MOST IMPORTANT IF*..." My daughter had never seen me kiss anybody, besides her dad when he lived with us, and so she jumped to conclusions and put me on the hot seat. That day he called me "Wonder Woman" and I could tell that he was intimidated... But we had a great day and enjoyed each other's company as well as the 5 kids. (Follow this story as you get to 7/14/1998 - also see ISAIAH 7:14).

The next day he came and visited me in the shop - I gave him a present - a sand dollar from Florida with the special meaning of it. By Wednesday of that week, he had given me a ride in his car and said to me: "I think you should play the field a little - Jeff sounds like a great guy "... I told him that *WHITE AS SNOW* was my song and *WHITE* is his name. His dream country to visit is *Switzerland* and I *was from Switzerland* -"So if you cannot read the signs, I cannot help you"... I said good-bye and called Jeff.

On Friday, after work, Bob stopped in to see me - I was busy with some customers, so I took him into my office and handed him 2 pictures of us taken on 7/4/1996 - with the words: "You can have these, I am not going to need them - You'll need them more than me ..." He said: "Well, you have duplicates, don't you?" "No, why would I need duplicates? You told me to play the field..." Him: "ButIdidn't think that you were going to do that..." Me: "Bob, don't be so wishywashy, you said it, you sound like a woman ..." So I told him: "Let's be friends!" Him: "I want more!" Me: "Well, we can be kissing cousins!" Him: "I want more..." I figured, I could not help him with "more" not knowing exactly what "more" meant and so I went back to my customers... The following day, Jeff came out for the afternoon, and then in the evening Bob's youngest son called for my nanny - which then gave him a good excuse to get me on the phone also. So I invited him out again for Sunday ... I enjoyed his company very much ... He came late because he took his children to lunch instead of bringing them hungry to my house (a nice gesture) - He complimented me again in a real sweet way, and we kissed without touching each other (too much temptation - since we only had bathing suits on).

Again, we had a fabulous time on the lake; I really enjoyed the boys and the weather was great. Well, as I started to really like **BOB WHITE** - who promised that he would come to Church with me, but then got scared and never came - 7/22/1996 came around and he came to my shop saying that he still wants to buy a diamond pinkie ring from me. I said: "Why would you want a diamond ring on your pinkie - you'll look like a pimp!" (My mouth again!) He was offended (since he was so perfect) and in return he told me that a friend (who is a girl) was coming to visit on Labor day weekend. That really got to me ..." So, you love her?" "No!" "Is she staying with you?" "Yes!" "Do you sleep with her?" "I don't discuss woman with woman" was his answer. "Well, so you sleep with her, what do you think, I could not sleep with somebody 7 x a week??? It's the easiest thing to get these days ..."

"I CHOOSE TO REMAIN PURE FOR THE LORD! And being good-looking is not a plus in my eyes!"

"I had good-looking. (My son's dad was very good-looking & unfaithful) - I want somebody who is mine ... good-bye. See, here it says: "LET GO AND LET GOD", so, good-bye ... ' He walked out. convicted again and I grabbed a pink bible, I had at my shop - I handed out bibles to my customers but I never read the WORD unless I was in Church, because I listened to a sermon a day and I went to Church on Sundays and sometimes Wednesdays. Besides that, I talk to the LORD all the time. But that night, I took that pink bible home and I looked for White as Snow in the index but could not find it (Living Bible version). So finally I went to bed - at 3AM the Lord woke me up and as I grabbed the Bible again the Lord opened the page right to it - PSALM 51:7 - KING DAVID ... "Wash me and I shall be Whiter than Snow ... " Wow. That was exciting ... I also read Psalm 48, 49, 50 & all of 51 - there is great stuff in that book ... The next day when I saw BOB, I said :"You know, I am going to love you with AGAPE Love = GOD's Love. If I loved you with my love, you would drive me nuts .... So it's okay - you can be whoever you want to be - I'll love you anyways! (with GOD's love was my idea - safe love). That made me feel better - that burden I gave to the LORD Jesus Christ and I started to read the bible every night before I went to bed, then every morning when I got up, then during the day whenever I had some time. The LORD also gave me a special burden for Bob & his 3 Sons and every night HE woke me up around 3 AM for intense prayer - so I started praying, and praying and praying - sometimes in HIS language, sometimes my own, and I started to learn about HIS WORD. I realized a great peace coming over me whenever I read HIS Word - like a Valium. I felt closer to HIM than ever before. One big test came, when I had a date by myself with BOB (without his or my children) and I did not want to fall into temptation, so I prayed about it. The idea came to me that I could wash his feet in case it gets "too hot" on the boat - so I had the hot water all ready, but Bob was a gentleman and I did not find myself in a sticky situation - Praise the LORD. He respected me and I respected him.

So after that Friday night date (exactly one month from the first date) I had to have a serious talk with the LORD. After going to the Assembly of God Church in Mound as Pastor Rod talked about **Signs & Wonders**, I said to the LORD: "I am going to need a sign ... *If this is from you, LORD*, have me run into him in the *MALL OF AMERICA* in Bloomington." The Largest Mall in America! About 150, 000 people go there on a Summer Sunday. I walked in through the top floor (7th?) and there he was, about 15 feet away from me, walking towards me, with his 3 sons. I was speechless - and glad that he could not read my mind.... **'IF THIS IS FROM YOU LORD**, *HAVE ME RUN INTO HIM IN THE MALL"*. *I* would see his Nike's from behind ... We chatted for a few minutes, then we parted our own ways....

Here is a better one: I am the *doubting Thomas (and also a twin)*, so 3 days later, as I am driving on the freeway (perfect prayer time), petitioning the LORD for money and then I added: "And if this is from you, LORD, have this car follow me..." as I passed this nice looking man in this new big car and ....immediately he started to follow me... Now that is too funny.... So we changed Freeways, from 100 N to 394 W to 169 N ... He was behind me, or ahead of me, always watching which exit I would take... I said: "LORD, WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NOW, THIS GUY IS FOLLOWING ME???" Don't worry - red Light at Plymouth Ave Exit - He pulls up & rolls down his window: "ARE YOU MARRIED???" I am laughing - I think this is too hilarious - "No, I am not married ..." Him: "Well, you probably noticed, I saw your pretty face driving down the freeway ..." Me: "I noticed." Him: "I' m in the medical field - I sell pace makers ..." Me:" I'm going to need one" "Him: "How about going for lunch?" "I'm going to work." So he followed me in the parking lot and when I gave him my business card, he said: "HI, MY NAME IS PAUL... - I'M FROM IRELAND." Me: "Hi, I'm Monique, I'm from Switzerland". I had to laugh at the LORD's sense of humor...

Somehow, I did not feel right about this situation and so I turned his invitation for lunch down for that day, but told Paul to give me a call. I walked to my shop and said to the LORD: "If this his guy does not call back within the hour, (after he followed me for 15 miles), YOU were just kidding, because I was not serious". I was not serious about my prayer - it was kind of a joke prayer ... (Be careful what you pray for!)

The LORD said: "*I just wanted to show you that I have a sense of humor, and is your favorite name in the bible not SAUL = PAUL?*" Absolutely - besides that, Paul never called. (SAUL - a Pharisee - persecuted the early Messianic Jewish Believers - JEWS who had accepted JESUS/YESHUA as their SAVIOR - until the LORD appeared to him in a BRIGHT LIGHT and changed SAUL's heart - converted now to PAUL - preaching the GOSPEL.

(ACTS 22:7: And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me: "SAUL, SAUL, WHY ARE YOU PERSECUTING ME?" (Notice the numbers 22:7 - read from right to left 7:22 as the Hebrew is read from right to left) (8) And I answered "Who art THOU, LORD?" And HE said to me, "I AM YESHUA OF NAZARETH WHOM YOU ARE PERSECUTING." (9) And those who were with me BEHELD THE LIGHT, to be sure, but did not understand the voice of the ONE who was speaking to me." The beginning of my WALK with the WORD OF GOD started on 7/22.... Paul had never met Jesus alive, but HE appeared to him on the road to Damascus and after 3 days of blindness, Saul - now PAUL - accepted the MISSION the LORD JESUS gave him and became the author of many books in the New Testament - 1 CORINTHIANS 13 · the LOVE CHAPTER in the Bible - became my favorite - LOVE IS PATIENT

## AND KIND, LOVE IS NOT JEALOUS OR BOASTFUL; IT IS NOT ARROGANT OR RUDE, IT DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN, IS NOT EASILY ANGERED; LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS, BELIEVES ALL THINGS, HOPES ALL THINGS, ENDURES ALL THINGS ...LOVE NEVER FAILS! (Verses 4-8).

As I returned to my shop, the devil tried to trick me right away - "You don't know what you prayed - You prayed if this is NOT from you, have this car follow me!" (because then I need another candidate ...) So the devil comes in to steal, kill and destroy and it took me some time to figure all this out. Of course, I was so scared, that I would speak against the relationship myself; I still felt more comfortable with my friend Jeff (to this day Jeff & I have never kissed - nor have my lips been kissed by any other man - Bob's last Kiss is still on my lips - 11/11/1996 - why settle for second best, when the Lord says: "DO IT MY WAY AND YOU SHALL HAVE THE VERY BEST..."

The following Friday night, Bob stopped in again after work, and told me that he would go back to California very soon - 1-3 months - that his assignment was over for the company etc. So I quoted from **Romans 8:28** "*ALL THINGS WORK OUT FOR GOOD FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THE LORD* and are called according to HIS purpose ...." He also told me that he did not trust the LORD, the way I trusted the LORD and that his hole was too big for the LORD to fix. He said that he "cannot make another Christian fall..." somehow it seemed, he blamed himself for the failure of his marriage. Yet his ex-wife is the one who has a child by another man after they got divorced. I told him that nobody's hole is too big for the LORD to fix - that is why *HE IS GOD ALMIGHTY !!!* I called Bob that night, and read him a "bed time story" from the bible - I also told him that I would call him the next day, Saturday night - after my return from a Swiss Party - but his line was busy... I did not try again ... His children told me later that they were just at home that Sunday - waiting for my call... You see, Bob showed me his interest, by visiting me at the shop almost daily, and somehow expected me to call him in return like most women would - I was however too proud and felt that I needed to give him his space.. I was old-fashioned ...He was used to more aggressive women and could not figure out whether I liked him or whether I wanted to convert him back to Christianity in which case he had his guard up - been there, done that...

When I struggled with finances, I decided for the first time to **FAST** & **PRAY** - The LORD gave me \$ 8,000 in sales – totally unexpected that same day - one for \$ 6000 coming from Virginia. So then, I said: "It would be nice if YOU brought Bob in for a hug..." Here he comes ... at that exact moment and I got my hug. I told Bob about my prayer for provision and he said: *"You know why the LORD answers your prayers?"* I said: "No, why?" **"Because you are willing and obedient".** Well, I had to admit, that I wanted to do the LORD's will before mine since I had not done a very good job running my life (even so to the outside world it looked like everything was fine...) Somehow, he knew that my heart's desire was to please MY LORD - JESUS/YESHUA ....

Every night the LORD would wake me up around 3-4AM and I would spend 1-2 hours in prayer for Bob White and his 3 sons - ADAM, JUSTIN & ROBERT JR. besides studying HIS WORD every day. Then the LORD put on my heart to spend time with his children. So I took time off from work and brought them to my house, where I taught them how to water-ski - we did some gardening - swam - went for bike rides etc. and all along I showed them that I was a Christian - I loved the LORD - I had a great time with them. Of the last 2 weeks, I spent 8-10 days with them - more time than they had with their own Dad. He only had Saturdays & Sundays off. They told him that I was awesome. But I always somehow managed to talk about the LORD with them, which was my favorite thing to do.

One day I took Robert Jr. with me to buy some food - I had some money in a pouch and had to feed 5 children - so I go shopping with the LORD - and I was very careful, what I picked because I did not have much money... So when I got to the cashier, I said: "Don't put the Blueberries in, I am not sure I have enough money - well, OK, add it ..." and the amount was \$ 13.21 - and I had exactly the right amount of money – I had no clue where the penny came from, because I did not think I put a penny in that pouch. But I got all excited and told Robert Jr.:"See how good the LORD is - I had exactly the right amount of money to the last penny - and I quoted from the bible, "Be either hot or cold, if you are lukewarm, I'll spit you out of my mouth!" Also I did not know where it said that in the Bible; I had heard a sermon on it... 2 days later the Lord showed it to me in Revelation 3:15 "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I would that you were cold or hot. (16) so because you are LUKEWARM, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of MY MOUTH." (Matthew 21:13 – MY HOUSE shall be called a house of PRAYER; but you are making it a robber's den.")

The boys were fun and appreciated me - I would bring them back to my shop in the evening - to get some work done - and Bob would pick them up to take them to his apartment. I noticed a couple of times that Bob wanted to talk to me in private, but then we always got disturbed by customers and I just kept giving it all to the LORD. On **8/16/1996**, we had our last boat ride with his boys, and since Justin turned 16 that year, I had a cake for him and some gifts (mostly pictures with Dad). We discussed marriage that last night - Him: "People get married for sex or money". Me: "I don't believe