

From Sharyn...

I'm in prison and doing my time as a fire fighter in camp. I often feel lonely and sad about my circumstance.

Lately during my prayers I've been asking God to reveal himself to me in a more significant way. Now, I do realize that God is revealed to me all the time, but, I often don't even recognize it or am "too busy" to see it. And, I also realize that I'm not anyone "special" to be asking for something like that. What I mean to say is that being a Christian is about FAITH, faith that Jesus paid my price and because of God's grace as well as Jesus' sacrifice I get to go to Heaven too! But, more than that lately I've been struggling with some issues.

One night while I was out fighting a fire my captain gave us a break for a few hours before daylight. As I was lying there on a mountaintop in northern California with my crew members scattered around me, I prayed ... "Lord, show yourself to me. Am I in the book of life? Am I going to be with you in Heaven?"

As I quickly drifted into sleep those were my last thoughts. But, while I was asleep I had a dream or a vision I suppose.

In my dream I saw my mother who has been dead now for over four years. She came to me and she was so beautiful. She appeared to be in her thirties and was surrounded by this brilliant light. She "was" the light I realized and I understood that the light was a part of her. She was smiling and looked so happy.

As she approached me she said "Sha Sha, this is the Body of Christ and I am so happy to share it with you". In her hand she held the Eucharist!!! She lifted it up very ceremoniously and then fed me a piece. She was smiling so beautifully as I began to cry tears of joy I realized that I, too, held in my hand the Body of Christ. I broke it in the same manner that she had and replied: ... "And I am happy to share it with you, too, Mom". And then I fed her a piece.

All the while we were face to face just engulfed by the light of the Lord. Although those were the only words we spoke, the moment communicated so very much more in my heart and spirit.

I awoke with a start and was immediately sad that I wasn't there with her anymore. However, as the realization of what had just occurred came to me, the feeling was replaced with enormous awe, peace, joy. Overwhelming Joy!!

I just lay there stunned, going over what just happened in my mind. I just shared the Eucharist with my mother!!!

It was so quiet all around me. Everyone else was asleep and the night sky was just covered with stars. Just then it was as if the stars were all "falling" from the sky. I was frozen, afraid to move for fear that I would lose the moment before me. I witnessed the most amazing shooting star show of my life.

I'm convinced that was the Lord confirming for me that what I had just dreamed was indeed "REAL"!!!! And now I am also convinced that I am indeed in the book of life. I now know without a doubt that my mother is there with him and we will be together again, someday.

It was, by far, the most intimate experience I have ever had. It left me feeling at peace and very much loved. I don't know why the Lord chose to do this because as I've said, I never thought I was anyone special or even deserving of such a special experience. But, I'll tell you this...if the Lord Himself thinks I'm special and loves me that much, then I can begin to see myself that way too. If I see what he sees in me then I'm sure I'll be alright when I return home.

Thank you my Lord and Savior for answering my prayers and showing yourself to me!

Love,  
Sharyn