

I believe God to be a healer, a rescuer, the lover of my soul, an advocate, a restorer. I believe because of the Lord's mercy I was not consumed and in hoping against hope I have been able to live out a forgiven and resurrected life. His perfect plan for our lives includes hills and valley's that work to shape us for His will.

I remember being displaced as a child. I desired to be with my parents and could not understand why that was not possible...I could not understand why I had to go to the Islands and live with relatives in Trinidad. Although my family was lovely in Trinidad, I felt a longing for my parents. When I returned to America, it was to be placed with another relative. I became erratic and inconsolable. I grew progressively angrier and could not fill the bitter void in my heart and acted out in violent ways, that was until my dad finally brought me home.

I was enrolled in Catholic school and the nuns scared the 'bajesus' outta me they seemed so strict and mean...and likely what I needed at the time. Somehow, they seemed to have known my back story and one teacher not a nun, Mrs. Smith saw that I could not sound letters. She would drill me tirelessly and for any progress would give me a big creamy chocolate candy. At that time, it was the impetus to lead me towards a better place...but ultimately it was my introduction to God and my Salvation from all that had frightened and hurt me.

I grew up and found my freedom, my voice, my ministry in and through the performing arts. I have been a performing artist for over 30+ years on some amazing stages throughout the world. I've travelled and have met the most colorful, intriguing, breathtakingly gorgeous rainbow of people. Their mix represented my true diverse ethnicity and cultural heritage...kindred souls from Trinidad West Indies, London, Venezuela, Portugal, Brazil, Tortola, China, Puerto Rico, Japan, Germany, Italy, France, St. Thomas just to name a few.

And whether I was in Italy singing or in Germany doing slap stick semantics or anywhere in the world performing in Sister Act or singing "Oh Happy Day", the language of music and people unites. It is an ecumenical ministry through which I see the face of God.

When doing Sister Act, we were having a difficult time getting paid and all around the world people were feeling the pain of the recession and in times of economic duress, the first thing that typically gets cut is the budgets for entertainment. What used to be sold out shows with week venues could not even pack a modest space for a day.

Coming from America our company was at least paid in part and we renegotiated to get paid less so that we could stay working the 6 months that were initially contracted. It became progressively difficult to get paid and we had no

idea that while we were getting paid minimally, the Italian tech crew never got paid. They showed up at the venues on time, they smiled, they were professional, the stage was pristine and show ready every night. Unbeknownst to the American performers the techs were piecing their monies together just to get beans to eat and when we discovered this travesty many of us wanted to pool our monies to give to our Italian colleagues as a good will offering and instead the response was, “please we have worked the same as you and all of you have travelled very far from America to get paid fairly and this is why we did not walk off and protest to cause more discomfort for you our American family. We do not need charity we simply want to get paid for what we worked for just like everyone else”.

Lessons on God, Godliness and Grace were there in that space

SONG: IMAGINE JOHN LENNON

Imagine there's no heaven. It's easy if you try

No hell below us. Above us only sky

Imagine all the people. Living for today (ah ah ah)

Imagine there's no countries. It isn't hard to do

Nothing to kill or die for. And no religion, too

Imagine all the people. Living life in peace

You may say that I'm a dreamer. But I'm not the only one

I hope someday you'll join us. And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions. I wonder if you can

No need for greed or hunger. A brotherhood of man

Imagine all the people. Sharing all the world

You may say that I'm a dreamer. But I'm not the only one

I hope someday you'll join us. And the world will live as one