

Letters to the Editor

Unconditional Strength

There is darkness everywhere. Gazing in all directions reveals nothing except ruins of a once powerful place. In desperation, I search for clues that might explain how such a place could be reduced to ashes. Could it be a surprise attack? Did the predator silently take it apart piece by piece until nothing was left? What is capable of such desolation? Horrified, I realized this place is not a country or even a city, but is my soul. I have been devoured by my own evil and have fallen prey to sin. Falling to my knees, I am alone and afraid because I have nowhere to turn.

Out in the distance, there is a faint flicker of light. What could it be? Focusing on the light, I concentrate every ounce of strength I have left, and stand. The light cuts through the darkness with a radiant glow. With each passing step the light continues to shine, revealing a path through the darkness. I continue forward, uncertain of where I am going, yet compelled to find what could possibly shine so brightly amidst such wickedness. With no strength left, I fall forward, but to my surprise I am caught.

Too weak to move, I look upward, being met by a smile. I have found the Light. The light is the only thing that can break the darkness. Jesus is the light that penetrates through the darkness of sin so that I might find a path to forgiveness. I plead, "Lord, forgive me because I have sinned against you." Jesus looks down, "My child, I love you and will always forgive you." Instantly, the darkness vanishes. With strength renewed, I stand in awe as the light once again purifies my soul. It becomes clear that God's love is unconditional and never-failing.

It is on this day that Jesus, through his mercy, reveals to me that I have nothing to fear, because through Him I have strength. His strength is unconditional, because even when I am surrounded by darkness with no hope, Jesus is there. His strength never leaves, but requires that I choose the path of light, the path of righteousness. I was lost, but through Jesus I found life.

Search for the Light, because YOU too, can choose the path of light and find strength, but more importantly you will find Jesus.

Aaron M. Ripley
Electrical Engineering 04



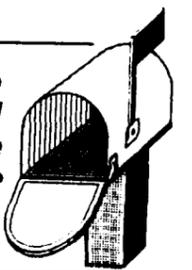
'... We'd love to help, but he's not insured ...'



MIGHTY ORPHAN POWER RANGERS



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Holly L. Beary
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Managing Editor
Janet M. Richman

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