

Drippings of Grace Ministries

Rev. Dr. Lisa Renee Sherman

“To Those Who Feel the Sting of Discrimination”

Dear Beloved,

If you've ever felt the sting of rejection because of your race, gender, background, abilities, disabilities, or beliefs — I want you to hear this clearly:

You are seen. You are loved. You are not alone.

Discrimination is a wound that goes deep. It tells us lies — that we are less than, not enough, not welcome. But those lies do not come from God, and they are not the final word over your life.

In **Galatians 3:28**, the Apostle Paul reminds us:

“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

This doesn't mean our differences are erased — it means our value is equal. In Christ, we all belong. I want to take a moment, because you may never hear this from those who have degraded and hurt you so I will say it, I am sorry.

- I am sorry that you have been made to feel less than others.
- I am sorry that you have been forced into an identity that you don't want and that God didn't give you.
- I'm sorry for a silent church that has sat by and overlooked your pain and injustice.
- I'm sorry that you have not experienced love like you should have.
- I'm sorry that you have been made to feel like a second-class citizen.
- I'm sorry that your needs have not been met, inside and outside of the church.

- I'm sorry that you have not been invited to contribute within the life of the church in a way that Jesus desires.
- I'm sorry that the words "I'm sorry" hold very little meaning anymore.
- I'm sorry that you have been rejected instead of embraced.

Jesus Himself was no stranger to rejection. He was misunderstood, mistreated, and ultimately crucified — not because He was wrong, but because the world couldn't handle the truth and grace He embodied. And yet, He never stopped loving. He never stopped inviting.

If you've been discriminated against, I want you to know: **your pain matters to God.** He weeps with you. But He also calls you to rise — not in bitterness, but in boldness. Not in shame, but in strength.

Our church is called to be a place of radical welcome — where differences are not just tolerated but **celebrated**. Where the hurting can heal. Where justice and mercy walk hand in hand.

To those who have been silenced: you have a voice here.

To those who have been pushed aside: you have a seat at the table.

To those who have been made to feel less than: you are made in the image of God.

Let's be a people who see each other through the eyes of Christ — with compassion, with courage, and with the deep conviction that **every person carries the imprint of God's glory.**