O God! Help me to be real!

# Introduction: Hi! My name is Norita Priester (Rita). Today I stand before you to give my testimony on how I know God to be a Healer. But not just any healer, I know God to be a mind regulator, because there was a time I would have lost my mind from all the mental, and emotional anguish that I endured. I also know God to be a heart fixer, and when I say that He’s a heart fixer I truly mean he specializes in taking broken hearts and making them new again.

You see all throughout my life pain has been inevitable and hurt seemed to be normal. Feelings of sadness for me was something that came with the territory and I learned to deal with it over the years by masking my hurts.

I wore masks of sadness, abandonment, rejection, loneliness, failure, shame, fear, anger, etc. I wore these masks to disguise the hurts that I couldn’t or didn’t even want to talk about. And I wore a mask to hide the pain of betrayal.

Well in 2015 my dad passed, and then that following year on the anniversary of his death my marriage ended….Wow!! What a blow!

I’m here to tell you that dealing with a loss on any level is difficult, but the loss of a significant relationship, especially through divorce is emotionally devastating. Divorce is a death and a dying. It’s a death with no closure, and a dying that seems to go on and on.

While dealing with the ending of my marriage I began to experience all of these emotions that I didn’t know how to handle and I felt so alone, ashamed, abandoned, rejected, fearful, and the list goes on. But God!

# Proverbs 18:10 (MSG) states “God’s name is a place of protection good people can run there and be safe”

Is.61:3-4; 7To All those who mourn in Israel, “’He will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, praise instead of despair. For the Lord has planted them like strong and graceful oaks for His own glory.”

And they shall rebuild the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former desolations and renew the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Instead of your [former] shame you shall have a twofold recompense; instead of dishonor *and* reproach [your people] shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double [what they had forfeited]; everlasting joy shall be theirs.