OUT OF THE SHADOWS AND INTO THE LIGHT

 A young mother and wife in our church stepped forward Friday morning in the revival service and sang a hymn. I was so surprised I could not say anything at the start but later was flooded with emotion and could do nothing but cry for I knew that she was very shy and this was not something that she could easily do. Her voice was lovely but more beautiful was her spirit. It was very evident that she was there by the will of God and standing and singing by the strength of God.

 Many good things took place in that Friday morning service but I want to dwell for a moment on this one thing. I wander how many times she may have sung that old hymn in private? How many times God had already blessed her as she sang just to Him? I wander how many times she may have prayed and asked the Lord if she could sing in church someday? Do you think there may have been some times when she wanted to get up in a church service and sing a song but was afraid that her voice might crack or she might forget the words or she might freeze and not be able to do anything? All these things happen in the shadows.

 There is a wondrous release and relief when we step out of the shadows and into his wonderful light. We take his hand and he leads us into service for Him. We know we are doing the right thing for the right reason and it is not about us but it is all about Him. Sometimes it is like looking down from somewhere up above and seeing ourselves doing something and we know it must be God at work because we are not really capable of doing this on our own. We see and hear this person singing and it even blesses the one who is singing. We hear it and we say where did this come from? It dawns on us that it did not come from ourselves it came from God. In this glorious light we realize HE USED ME! Our heart breaks out in praise for he chose to use us. We were only dreaming of getting through this and when the song was finished we not only got through it but so many people were blessed! In the shadows I was blessed. In the light many were blessed. Oh that people would step out of shadows and into the light.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram