

September 29, 2011
Covenant Presbyterian Church
124 Old Farms Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

Att: Bob Japenga

I want to thank you for offering me this wonderful place to be alone with my creator. You asked me for a couple of my thoughts as I am a widower as of last year and spend time alone a lot. You know He is the best company when you look for him and offer up communication. This trip was purposed to get closer to my loving creator and find what He had in mind for me at this juncture in my life.

I expected the first day to be a difficult adjustment - it wasn't - I enjoyed every minute I searched for him. He was in the grounds around me as I walked and sat on the small porch facing the woods - He was in the scripture I read - He was in the worship music I brought.

I had a struggle the first night as I lost my peace. I woke up about 1 AM and I spent an hour and 1/2 pacing and praying and crying out scripture to get help from Him. All of a sudden He showed up and whatever it was left quickly. My peace returned and stayed and I slept great the rest of my time there..

I had a few things to continue to pray over in case He didn't offer right away. I had struggled a year or so earlier with some damage done to me when I was very vulnerable. I followed scripture as I had done before and offered up forgiveness and as before I spent weeks until I felt I was OK. I heard late one evening a respected Christian Leader speak about an instance he had where the Lord came to him and said He had to offer up forgiveness again for a time He was attack until He got peace. He said God told him he was beginning to get a root of bitterness. He immediately went to prayer and did as directed and he was freed of it. I felt in my spirit agreement, when I got home I spent more time praying over it and I felt the attack was because there was an opening and it jumped in. This is a blessing that carries on. I have His peace and sleep and I'm feeling better in my health.

I loved my wife, Judy, and still miss her. God is pretty clear that He is working in me and has some things for me to do so I'm here. I pray I receive the directive and do it without hesitation as the Apostles did. As a result of my stay I am able to get closer to Him at home and find Him in my days.

So I thank you for this golden opportunity you offered me that I will never forget and will tell people about how wonderful it is to get alone with God whenever I get the chance.

I have to say there was not a minute of loneliness being in that beautiful lodge with no one there but the visits I had with you and Rick.

I'll do it again in a minute if He suggests it to me.
In our God we trust and obey,

Dick Whitbeck
Feura Bush, NY

Dick Whitbeck