**Cherise**

**Scene 1 (Basement of Command Center)**

*(Cherise and Pastor Mike are in a dark smoky, basement –like room. They are tied face to face to a steel pole) (Pastor Mike is beat up badly and are very weak)*

*(They are whispering)*

**Cherise:** Where do you think the others are?

**Pastor Mike**: I believe they’re in the next room over. I heard some talking a little while ago.

**Cherise:** How long have we been down here?

**Pastor Mike**: I don’t know probably a few weeks or so.

**Cherise:** I can’t do this anymore; being fed a handful of slop each day just to stay alive and avoid some mark.

**Pastor Mike**: So you believe now huh?

**Cherise**: I don’t know what I believe, but I know I gotta get out of here. *(Yells)* Somebody help! Let me out of here!!!!!!

**Pastor Mike**: Cherise, no one can hear you accept maybe them. Look I’m with you!

**Cherise:** I don’t need anyone with me!

**Pastor Mike**: Cherise honey, it’s okay to be scared and feel alone.

**Cherise**: I’m not scared and I’ve been alone most of my life. No dad, Mom gone, (*starts crying)* my brother and I fought so much about my lifestyle. My friend who I thought loved me. Loneliness is nothing new to me.

**Pastor Mike:** Cherise, again it’s okay to be scared!

**Cherise:** For the last time I told you…(*pauses, breaks down and cries)* I’m scared! I’m scared! Pastor I’m scared!! I don’t want to die. I don’t want to go to hell! I want my mother and my brother (*weeping bitterly)*

**Pastor Mike**: Cherise I’m scared to! But we’re gonna be okay! Can I tell you something? From the moment you walked into my church, I could see God’s Hand all over your life.

**Cherise**: How is that possible when I’m a sinner?

**Pastor Mike**: Cherise just because you have not chosen God yet doesn’t mean he hasn’t already chosen you.

**Cherise**: My brother used to tell me something similar.

**Pastor Mike**: I know he did! I told you he told me a lot about you. Cherise you come from a praying family and those prayers have kept you until now. You weren’t saved when the Rapture came, but those prayers are still working. God has given you a second chance; a second chance to give your heart to him.

**Cherise:** I’m sorry for what I said to you that day at the church.

**Pastor Mike**: Oh it’s okay.

**Cherise**: No it’s not. It’s not okay at all. I’m sorry for everything I said. You are a good person. I was just…

**Pastor Mike**: (*cuts Cherise off*) It’s okay really. Anyway, you weren’t totally wrong. I’m going to tell you something that I’ve never told anyone but God. The last two years of my ministry, I have compromised the word greatly! I stopped preaching and teaching messages that convicted the heart and soul of people to change their sinful ways.

**Cherise**: Well my brother loved you and your ministry.

**Pastor Mike**: I know, but I also know that he noticed the change as well. He was just so loving and humble that I’m sure he just kept praying for me, but the reason I stopped preaching convicting messages, was because I couldn’t preach them anymore*.*

**Cherise:** Why? Why couldn’t you?

**Pastor Mike**: Cherise I love the Lord with all my heart and all I’ve ever wanted to do was please him. It was hard for a man like me to preach on unrighteousness and sin when I struggled in it myself, so I deserve to be in this tribulation period. I knew my error, but stayed in it and kept going because I was making good money.

**Cherise**: So this is your second chance too huh?

**Pastor Mike**: You know what I guess it is! I guess it is, but I want you to make it! I want you to hold on to God!

**Cherise**: Why do you care about me so much? You hardly know me!

**Pastor Mike**: Yeah, but I know a child of God when I see one, and if there’s nothing else I can do on this earth, I just want…..(*Pause)*

**Cherise**: Pastor Mike, What can I do to be saved?

**Pastor Mike**: (*chuckles while wiping his tears)* What did you say?

**Cherise:** How can I be saved, right now!

**Pastor Mike**: Well Cherise you have to repent, accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior and go through this Tribulation without ever rejecting Christ! No matter what they do to you, you can’t give in. You have to keep on professing Jesus Christ as your Lord!

**Cherise**: *(Looking up*) Lord, please forgive me for all my sins. Forgive me for the time I spent with another young lady when I knew it was against your word. Forgive me for the years of selfishness and putting the blame on everyone for my failures. I accept your son Jesus into my heart forever! I will never reject you; never let you go! Please accept me too. In Jesus’ name! Amen!