

Mid-Week Devotional

Finding God's Fingerprints



Read Titus 1:15-16

To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure.

Mahatma Gandhi said, “Be the change you want to see in the world.” It never ceases to amaze me how some people can complain, find fault, and ridicule the world, never completely being satisfied with their lives. While others, who live in the same world mind you, see things differently. In fact, they find great joy and solace in their lives even though their lives are tormented by the same problems. Why is it that some can always find reason to give thanks?

The Apostle Paul, writing to Titus, claimed that the reason some are never happy is because their minds and consciences are corrupted. Have you ever had your computer stricken with a virus? The virus can cause all kinds of things to go wrong with your computer. Most viruses come with symptoms that corrupt critical operating system files. For those that are not computer literate, these files control how every program runs on the computer or operates. They bring order to what would otherwise be nothing more than a mass of electrons gone haywire. In people, this might be compared to our moral or spiritual compass, guiding and shaping our reactions to all we observe and experience in the world. Once these become infected, Paul claims, we are unable to see or find God’s fingerprints on our lives. When this happens, we tend to react by only seeing the negative. We see a world that has nothing to offer but more pain and suffering, dysfunctional families, and relationships that fail to fulfill our needs and appreciate us.

In response to this, our tendency is to try to cope by finding new friends who will listen and appreciate us, but want nothing from us in return; by replacing our dysfunctional families with new ones, and our failed relationships with ones in which we will never again be completely vulnerable. In doing these things however, we soon find that our problems only go with us, our vision is still blurred. This is because the problem lies not out there in the world, but rather inside us. It lies in our own guilt-ridden consciences and corrupt minds. You see, until we confess that the negative in the world is in us, we will remain like the virus stricken computer, and be unable to lead productive lives.

Finding joy in the world we live in is not a matter of perspective or even choice. It is a matter of gratitude. When we acknowledge what the Savior has done for us, we will be left with no other recourse than to be overjoyed and filled with gratitude. After accepting God’s grace in your own life, you will find it hard to be judgmental of the world around you. And if you live this way long enough and consistent enough for others around you to see, who knows, you may even become the change you wanted in the world all along.

Holy Father, help me to find Your fingerprints on my life and then being filled with Your grace, forgiveness, and gratitude, let me be a blessing to everyone I meet. In Jesus name, Amen.