

HEARTBEATS Staying Connected 12/13/2021

ONE AT ONE – *Every day this week beginning on Tuesday, December 14 you are encouraged to pray for one minute at one o'clock. This week, pray for those affected by the severe weather across our country. Ask God to provide favorable weather conditions for all. Pray that those who are suffering quickly receive help and comfort.*

A couple brought their newly-born son home to where their four-year-old waited with a sitter. Once the sitter had left, the four-year-old told his parents that he needed to talk to his new brother. He made it clear that he had to talk to him alone. The parents left the room but listened at the door, first of all, to make sure their older son had no malicious intentions or performed no actions of jealousy toward his brother. Second, they listened because they were curious about what he needed to talk to his baby brother.

The four-year-old, still clearly in his childhood, and not at a stage of being skeptical about the things of life, got very close to his brother and said, “I need you tell me. Quickly, you need to tell me right now. Where did you come from? Who made you? Because I’m beginning not to remember.”

The first two chapters of Genesis tell us very clearly of who made us and of the relationship desired. God created humankind and established a relationship that is intimate and based on trust. It is much more than just story about the creation of the world. It tells about where we come from and who made us.

There is something that happens as we get older. We seem to forget that important information about our relationship with God. We become more cynical and self-reliant. We forget about that close relationship we once felt toward God and focus more on ourselves and trying to control our situations and environments. God moves to the background, sometimes even as more of a wish or hope in our lives than as a reality.

At the beginning of Matthew 18, Jesus takes a child and places this young one in the midst of the disciples. He then says to them, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Perhaps part of that changing to “become like little children” begins with remembering where we came from and who made us. Perhaps it starts with trying to renew that childlike faith that knows and loves God and trust that God will always be there. Letting go of our adult agendas to a degree and placing ourselves more in the hands of God actually sounds kind of childlike. But Jesus says it is the way to the kingdom of heaven.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Jeffrey