

May 19, 2020 Tuesday Reflection

Be the Change You Want!

*Ephesians 2:8*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God*

If anyone went to or remembers the 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston the theme was This Changes Everything! We are all saved through faith, a pure gift of God. Once you understand that it is all from God, a pure gift, well that changes everything. I had the honor to attend the gathering with several of our youth and another adult chaperone. Even for adults, the gathering is a life changing experience. As I was reflecting on the pandemic and its effects, I realized that we are now in a life changing situation. Life will never be the same for us, COVID-19 will always be around although hopefully so will vaccines and cures. I do not know how long we will need to social distance or wear masks. What I have been observing lately is the societal fatigue that comes from being forced to stay apart.

I noticed the increase in the number of vehicles on the road, suggesting we are not staying home as much as our governor would like. I also noticed that tempers seem to flare easier. I attribute that to the length of time we have been staying home, to the stress of not knowing when it will end, and the way our usual routines have been taken from us. Perhaps the stress is wearing on all of us. I feel it too.

What are we to do? It seems to me that if we want things to change it must come from each of us. At the gathering many talked about being the change you want so see. If I want society to be more loving, I must be more loving. If I want society to be more forgiving, I must be more forgiving. If I want society to be more just, I must be more just. Whatever changes we want to see must come first from us. I know that it is not easy, and I know that some will say what change can one person possibly make? I do know that Jesus' death and resurrection changed everything for you and for me. So yes, one person can change everything!

We have talked a lot about the "new normal" and I believe we have a great opportunity at this time to create our new normal. Will we step up and be the change we want? Will we sit idly by and let others define the new normal for us? Certainly not my plan! God has blessed us with the gifts and talents we need. Will you join me in becoming the change we want?

In Peace,

Pastor Suzanne