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*"Christ caring for People
through People"*

February 27 Matthew 6 (The Message) A Life of God-Worship (part 1)

22 -23"Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light. If you live squinty-eyed in greed and distrust, your body is a dank cellar. If you pull the blinds on your windows, what a dark life you will have!"

Can you think of a time in your life when you felt truly wonder-struck in awe and belief? Sometimes these moments are referred to as ‘mountain-top’ moments. They are times that we can look back on and still feel something of the thrill we felt in the moment. One such moment is often the birth of an infant. A true miracle. My wife and I have been blessed to have experienced this special joy twice in our lives and we never cease to praise and thank God for our children.

For me another such moment happened each time I had the privilege of holding a little one in my arms as a minister at a celebration of baptism. I still remember the first time I spoke the words “I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.” A tingle of joy ran up my spine as I realized that God had indeed called me in that moment to be a channel of His special blessing to that little one and the family.

This the kind of blessing God has promised to each of us when we open wide our eyes in faith, wonder and belief. We can be filled up with light and joy if we can still wonder. Too often we live lives without wonder. Our rational brains take over and we search for and think it possible to find natural explanations for everything. We are the losers when we cease to allow wonder in our lives.

Of course taking time to wonder does indeed take time. As we race from task to task we often forget to slow down and enjoy our surroundings. May I dare to suggest that we can even learn from other creatures how to wonder and enjoy the creation God has placed all around us. One of my present joys is our pet, a golden retriever, Misty. Misty loves the snow. She lifts her head to look at it descending; she licks at the snow flakes; eats it after it has landed; rolls in it in sheer delight and then comes in and shakes it all over me in absolute joy. But she also enjoys other beautiful things. She finds it impossible to walk past a flower in bloom without stopping to savour its aroma. Occasionally she even tries a nibble. And she certainly can’t ever get past a water puddle without a splash. She totally enjoys life and the world around her. Do you remember a time when you used to splash in the puddles; or to marvel at the beautiful and complex pattern of a single snowflake? Or do you recall some other simple experience you haven’t taken the time to enjoy recently? Remember ... ***"If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light."***

Let’s resolve this week to each day take the time to stop and wonder, to appreciate the marvellous things in the world around us. And let’s also give God thanks for all His wondrous gifts.

Amen.

(Rev.) John McGurrin