Corona Virus Social Distancing Daily Devotion #9

Give God Glory

**1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB)** 31  *Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God*.

From the time our oldest son was six until just a few years ago, he and I would travel to a church camp in western North Carolina for a father-son weekend. As our other two sons got old enough, all four of us would go. It has been a trip we look forward to each year.

One of the things that has always struck me at the camp is mealtime. Not just because I like to eat and boys certainly like to eat, but because of the prayer before the meal. 1 Corinthians 10:31 is the camp verse for every meal. In fact, if I start to recite the verse, the boys can say it verbatim.

But when you think about what God is telling us through the Apostle Paul, we learn something staggering. We learn the purpose of life. Notice Paul said, whatever you do, even if it is sitting down to have a meal or just to take a drink of water, do everything for God’s glory.

When I think about that, two things come to mind. First, does that mean “everything”? The answer is, yes! Everything! No matter what we do in this life, it is to be done for the glory of God. That is a far different understanding that what our world teaches us and what our sinful nature teaches us. The sin in us teaches us to give glory to ourselves. But God wants us, His creation by the way, to give Him all the glory. Second, the statement about giving God glory must be followed with the question, what does it mean to give God glory?

The word “glory” is defined two different ways depending on the context. In this context it means, to praise or honor. That is the verb form of the word. But it can also mean “beauty” as the noun form. Paul is saying, in your daily life, in all of your liberties God gives you to just exist and have your living, give Him the honor for it all. Worship and ascribe value to God beyond all things or people that are valuable or have value. In all your action in this life, whether it be mental, physical or emotional, is to be given in honor of God.

The glory of God, in noun form, is to acknowledge God for all His perfections and the harmony of all His attributes in one God. In other words, to give God glory is to acknowledge that God is perfect and everything He is, is perfect, and everything He does is perfect. He is beautiful because all of His attributes come together in one being.

All that understanding of glory, helps us a lot with what is going on with the coronavirus. The coronavirus exists because God wills it to exist by His perfect nature. In other words, everything He does is perfect and right now He is using this virus for His purpose. That doesn’t mean we understand His reasons, to know that would be to be God. But what we do know is, all that He does is perfect and for His honor and for His praise and to display the beauty of Himself.

Could it be, that God has given this virus to the world, to turn the world to Him? To prove to the world that we are weak and without understanding? That doesn’t mean God is evil or has any evil intentions, but that He uses evil for His divine purposes. The book of Job gives us that understanding very clearly.

It would be wise of us all to remember that God is a God of infinite ability and an infinite mind. There is no way our finite minds can comprehend all God is doing. What we do know however, is that in all this, God wants us to give Him glory in everything, everything. We were created for this very purpose according to **Isaiah 43:7 (NASB)** *7  Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made."*

Pause and thank God for how He is sustaining you and your family through this crisis and give Him praise for loving you so much to care for you. Imagine, the God of all creation, infinite in wisdom and power and beauty, caring enough for you, to the point where He would make sure all your needs are met?