

Amber's Article

Stuff

Well, it has been a whirl wind for the past couple of weeks for me friends! I have completely moved into my mom's house and have been unpacking boxes for what seems like a whole month! It's a good thing Harvest Fest is coming up because I am finding an abundance of un-needed STUFF to donate to the garage sale! It makes me feel burdened that I have so many things and STILL have the urge or "need more and more! (*Can I get an OUCH or an AMEN?!?!*)

In the midst of all this clutter, I have felt the presence of the Lord with me, and He is not condemning me like I am doing to myself. Rather, He is very gentle in His way of asking me, "Daughter, what if you looked to ME to satisfy you like you do all this STUFF?" Hmm...good point Lord. But...these are tangible things that I can see, feel, hear, taste & touch! I can't always FEEL You, even though I know You are there. How can You satisfy me like these things do? They are all temporary satisfactions and I KNOW Yours is eternal...but show me Lord! Show me how to make YOU be the thing I want to give me that "just bought something new" feeling!

Even then when I am begging Him to show up...there's just a stillness. So, I pour myself in the Word and in other books and bible studies, searching for something from Him to fill the anxious emptiness and discontentment that is overwhelming me! (Being still is hard sometimes) There are so many things that we run to for pleasure and contentment instead of Him: security, comfort, money, friends, work and the list goes on. Then my mind is captivated by a thought : Is the world and all it's stuff really making me a better offer? Is there something in the world that could actually be better than giving my life over to God for His purposes? Is God really better than all that?

I have asked myself all of these questions, and to sum them all up, the big, seemingly unspoken, unsettling question is this: Is all that this world has to offer really worth giving up to follow Christ? It seems when we choose to follow Christ, we focus on what we are losing instead of what we are receiving. We can't even imagine what it is we are receiving! I think the truth is that we forget how temporary life is and what scripture says about where our focus should be!

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18

"My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9

"Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?" "Isaiah 55:2

"Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill." Haggai 1:5-6

To wrap this article up, I want to share some lyrics from an old Caedmon's Call song (that hopefully Matt & I can learn and sing for special music during this wonderful ENOUGH series). It's called "THIS WORLD" and it's words ring OH so true!

Grace & Agape,

Amber

**This world has nothing for me and this world has everything
All that I could want and nothing that I need**

**This world is making me drunk on the spirits of fear.
So when He says who will go, I am nowhere near.**

**This world has held my hand and has led me into intolerance.
But now I'm waking up, but now I'm breaking up
But now I'm making up for lost time.**