God's Evangelism

Isaiah 53:1-7, 10-12; Romans 8:28

We all wonder why things happen. We do not always know. We do not always see the hand of God working even in the instances we think most cruel of moments. These are the times when we clearly do not understand the purposes of God. It is not our job to know why God does what He does. It is our job to appreciate the fact that everything is done to bring about His purpose in our lives and in this world. There are those who speak of the cruelty of God and not look at all the blessings God has bestowed upon all of us. Some will say that God is a tyrant doing whatever He pleases to whomever he pleases. Yet when our prayers are answered, we are pleased that God has heard our prayer. We are happy that God restored that which we lost.

It is important that we know that Jesus is always about restoring the lost. Jesus is always about fixing that which is broken. Finding that which is lost. Sometimes we do not realize the length that God will go to save those He loves. Those who belong to Him should. It was Jesus who died on Calvary for you and me. It was Jesus who bore the stripes of the soldier's whips who nailed Him to the cross. It was Jesus who suffered and died and paid the ultimate price. Why would we think God would not go to those same lengths to save another? The parable of the lost sheep is real in the heart and mind of Jesus in Luke 15:1-7.

In the story below, what I hope does not go missing is the mindset of the little boy. The heart that he has for Jesus. The soft and determined way he continued pressing forward telling the surgeon who he belonged to. He would not side tracked. Pay attention to how the parents remained silent as the little boy evangelized. Pay attention to the reluctance of this surgeon who did not know Jesus. All he knew was his science, his medicine. This boy was a messenger. This boy had a message from the savior. And Jesus' message could be delivered the way it was delivered. It could be

understood in the context and in circumstances this story allows us to be privy to. The Christ we serve is good, beyond good, beyond awesome. He is God. For only God can love us the way Jesus does. Only Jesus can save the lost the way He does it, but *Jesus* needs us to do it.

"Tomorrow morning," the surgeon began, "I'll open up your heart..."

"You'll find Jesus there," the boy interrupted.

The surgeon looked up, annoyed "I'll cut your heart open," he continued, “to see how much damage has been done ..."

"But when you open up my heart, you'll find Jesus in there," said the boy.

The surgeon looked to the parents, who sat quietly.

"When I see how much damage has been done, I'll sew your heart and chest back up, and I'll plan what to do next."

"But you'll find Jesus in my heart. The Bible says He lives there. The hymns all say He lives there. You'll find Him in my heart."

The surgeon had had enough. "I'll tell you what I'll find in your heart. I'll find damaged muscle, low blood supply, and weakened vessels. And I'll find out if I can make you well."

"You'll find Jesus there too. He lives there."

The surgeon left.

The surgeon sat in his office, recording his notes from the surgery, "...damaged aorta, damaged pulmonary vein, widespread muscle degeneration. No hope for transplant, no hope for cure. Therapy: painkillers and bed rest. Prognosis: "... here he paused,... "death within one year."

He stopped the recorder, but there was more to be said. "Why?” he asked aloud. "Why did You do this? You've put him here; You've put him in this pain; and You've cursed him to an early death. Why?"

The Lord answered and said, "The boy, My lamb, was not meant for your flock for long, for he is part of My flock, and will forever be. Here, in My flock, he will feel no

pain, and will be comforted as you cannot imagine. His parents will one day join him here, and they will know peace, and My flock will continue to grow."

The surgeon's tears were hot, but his anger was hotter. "You created that boy, and You created that heart. He'll be dead in months. Why"?

The Lord answered, "The boy, My lamb, shall return to my flock, for he has Done his duty: I did not put My lamb with your flock to lose him, but to retrieve another lost lamb."

The surgeon wept.

The surgeon sat beside the boy's bed. The boy's parents sat across from him.

The boy awoke and whispered, "Did you cut open my heart?"

"Yes," said the surgeon.

"What did you find?" asked the boy.

"I found Jesus there," said the surgeon.

It is important that we understand that what Jesus wants more than anything is for the world to find Jesus.

Peace and Blessings to you all,

Pastor Gool