

Commentary on the Gospel for Sat, Feb 2nd 2013

Hebrews is the scripture that jumps out at me today. Probably because it speaks of death and there seems to have been a lot of death in my life recently.

I teach junior high Sunday School. In a recent discussion a young lady asked the question, why did God allow our pastor to die? Our pastor had recently lost his battle with cancer. It was a striking question. And I would love to tell you I had a brilliant, theologically sound response. I did not. I was honored and humbled that this group of young people trusted me enough to ask the question. We talked about what we know. There is pain and suffering in the world. We are all going to die. And God loves us. It seems like such a disconnect. Yet we know these are all true. I would love a clear, clean, concise answer. Sometimes there simply is none. Sometimes there are questions in life that just cannot be answered. A mystery, if you will.

I recently lost my dad. The pain is still pretty raw. One morning when my wife and I got up, we knew this might be my dad's last day on earth. My wife asked if we could sing the song they sang at our pastor's funeral? We have never done anything like this before. The two of us sat in bed and sang. It was called, Give Me Jesus. The last refrain goes:

When I come to die,

When I come to die,

O, when I come to die,

Give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus,

Give me Jesus,

You can have all this world,

Just give me Jesus.

Pretty much sums it up. Jesus is the model for us on how to live. Jesus is the model to show us how much God loves us.

My prayer this day is for those of us grieving; that we will know and feel the love of Jesus.

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