



Grow. Pray. Serve.

March 26, 2017

Children of the Light

1. "New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark." ~ Barbara Brown Taylor
2. Lent is a time of interior spiritual examination and we should not try to gloss over it and move too quickly to the promise of Easter. We must go through the darkness to come to the light.
3. "When I am in the world..... I am the light of the world," Jesus said. We must be the light now, too.
 - a. Paul wrote: Live as children of the light (Eph. 5:8)
 - b. During Lent, let your transformation come to light.
4. Transformation/Change
 - a. People may mock you or make you to feel like you are a nobody.
 - b. It's a dark place to be - very alone.
 - c. Just because night falls - and it does every single day - does not mean God clocks out for the night.
 - d. Change is disruptive: just as Jesus sought out and gave abundant life to the blind man, so does he seek you out to make your life fuller, richer, and more abundant
5. Children of the Light do the following:
 - a. trust in the transformation
 - b. are always in the process of believing
 - c. trust in the transformation of others
 - d. don't look for fault, but look with favor on others
6. Because of Lent, we are spiritually prepared to take on the world with the sounds of trumpets blaring in our ears and in our hearts on Easter morning!

Today's Scripture Reading

John 9, verses 1-9, 13-17, and 34-38:

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.



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