

July 11, 2019

Dear friends in Christ,

As I set out on my run yesterday, I resolved to keep my eyes open for something that might serve as an inspiration for this week's Thought. And as I ran, I saw...nothing. Nothing out of the ordinary. Everything looked as it normally did. Nothing extraordinary suddenly appeared in a radiant, heavenly glow as I jogged along my usual route.

We often do that in our daily life with God. We look for Him in the extraordinary occurrence, seeking the miraculous intervention. We desire a burning bush, a transfigured presence, a blinding light along the road as God's guidance for us. We would be wise to learn from Elijah. Recall as he was on the mountain waiting for God to speak to him. God was not in the strong wind, the earthquake, or the fire. God was in the low whisper that came along (1 Kings 19:11-13).

While we are seeking the spectacular and miraculous, God is working through the "ordinary." He speaks through words written on the pages of Scripture. He brings His presence and touch through earthly elements of water, bread, and wine. He works through the efforts of regular Joes and Janes who make up the fellowship of the Christian Church.

What we often view as ordinary and lacking is the way the almighty works. It is as simple as waking up in the morning and recalling the Lord's promise that the "steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23, esv). His mercies are received as you inhale the oxygen He created, as you enjoy the food you eat daily, as you find companionship with the people in your life, as you read the message the Lord has for you in His Word.

God is present for you in the everyday blessings He showers upon you through His grace and mercy that are yours through Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor O.

God of grace and mercy, we thank You for the mercies You bestow upon us daily. Open our eyes, minds, ears, and hearts to behold Your goodness in creation and Your counsel in Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.