

Contentment

The chorus of a song we often sing speaks of this outward and the inward journey.

“May this journey bring a blessing,
May I rise on wings of faith:
And at the end of my heart’s testing,
With your likeness let me wake.”ⁱ

In many ways this short verse says it all. May our journeying on the Way bring a blessing to many, as it most surely will. May our trust in the heavenly Father be such that we rise above the circumstances that threaten to overcome us. At our journey’s end may we awake in heaven in the likeness of the Lord Jesus.

Yet if we are honest we must confess that often this most important of all journeys is the one that is farthest from our minds. The cares and worries of everyday overwhelm us. We bury ourselves in television to escape. Our computers fascinate us (sometimes!) We have heard several times recently about adults addicted to computer games or eBay. There can be a restless urge for more and more whether that is the latest mobile phone or clothes or new places to see. Instead of possessing possessions, they possess us. Restlessness is always a sign that we have lost our way. Those who are journeying with God have inner peace.

Rev Brian Galliers, a Methodist minister who influenced the formation of our community, spoke to us in the early days about contentment. “I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,”ⁱⁱ wrote St. Paul. This is not stoical acceptance but trust in the love of God. Contentment is in short supply humanly speaking but it is both gift and sign for those who travel with God.

ⁱ Margaret Becker & Keith Getty Songs of Fellowship 1382

ⁱⁱ Phil 4:12



Lord you are my peace as I
journey on through life