

Love...

“...Does Not Insist On Its Own Way,” ESV

“...Does Not Seek Its Own,” NASB

“...Is Not Self-Seeking,” NIV, CSB, & Amplified

1 Corinthians 13:5

“There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations - these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is with immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit - immortal horrors or everlasting splendors. This does not mean that we are to be perpetually solemn. We must play. But our merriment must be of that kind (and that is, in fact, the merriest of kind) which exists between people who have, from the outset, taken each other seriously - no flippancy, no superiority, no presumption.” C.S. Lewis

I. The OBJECTIVE is so much greater than our own very limited PERSPECTIVE
-Moses, Joseph, Abraham, David, Ruth, Esther, & Mary

A. Jesus, knowing the absolute agonizing sacrifice awaiting Him, chose to be obedient to the greater objective, still voicing His want, but still relinquishing to His Father’s will.
“If it is possible, let this cup pass from Me, yet not as I will, but You will.”
Matthew 26:38-42; Mark 14:34-39

II. “Drinking The Cup,” Jesus’s 7 Statements In His Sacrifice

1. “Forgive them.” Luke 23:24
2. “Today, you will be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:43
3. “‘Woman, here is your son,’ and to the disciple, Here is your mother.” John 19:26
4. “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me.” Matthew 27:46
5. “I thirst.” John 19:28
6. “It is finished.” John 19:30
7. “Into Your hands I commit My spirit.” Luke 23:47

Discussion

1. Do you have a story that comes to your mind of when you took a side street or a way that would have not been your will nor want, but that got you to an ultimate destination?
2. Is there a time you remember when your perspective was so limited in comparison to the objective? A time when what you could see looked so different than what was truth?
3. In C.S. Lewis' quote, he refers to "immortal horrors or everlasting splendors." Do you have an example of one of those immortals in your life? In *Practicing The Way*, John Mark Comer states, "Dallas Willard argued that death just seals the trajectory of the road, or 'way,' we chose in life. It is clear that some people are living in hell *now*, while others are in living in a kind of heaven on earth." Do you have an example of someone like that?
4. Out of Jesus' statements on the cross, which one most resonates with you?
5. Does this reality of "love not seeking its own way," or "not self-seeking," have any particular revelation for you today?