

Friday, March 6
God's Temple ~ I Corinthians 3:16-23

Reflecting on 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 is - shall I say - sobering, challenging, awesome: "Don't you know that you yourself are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?" God's temple is sacred and I am that temple! So much for the wisdom of this world.

What does that say about the way I lead my life, how I relate to others? Believers are unified in God. One of my favorite Scriptures is Isaiah 41:13: "For I am the Lord your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you."

So, God and I walk together, every step of the way - to Ingles, Walmart, Dollar Tree. And I am commissioned to reach out in love to all those with whom I come in contact every day of my life. Surely there are folks in need of cash to provide for their physical needs. Perhaps not as easy to identify are those in need of comfort, encouragement, companionship. May I be ever aware of the opportunities and reach out to satisfy the needs of those with whom I come in contact.

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1 Corinthians 3:16-23 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁶Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

¹⁸Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become "fools" so that you may become wise. ¹⁹For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"^[a]; ²⁰and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile."^[b] ²¹So then, no more boasting about human leaders! All things are yours, ²²whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas^[c] or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God.

Footnotes:

- a. **1 Corinthians 3:19** Job 5:13
- b. **1 Corinthians 3:20** Psalm 94:11
- c. **1 Corinthians 3:22** That is, Peter