



Hard Questions

Lord, it is easy to get comfortable with the status quo – to let ‘me and mine’ become the center of the universe and forget that there is a world out there which I am both responsible for and dependent on. . .

Lord, it is easy to look only at the people I can see; the ones who live next door, down the street, or in ‘my town’ when I feel the calling to serve and offer help to those in need. . .

Lord it is easy, when a disaster or tragedy occurs, to lament and pray and perhaps send a few dollars to help when the media is full of the story and the images of pain and suffering are fresh. . .

It is much harder to understand that if the status-quo is comfortable for me, someone else’s pain and suffering is probably paying for my comfort, and I am responsible for that pain and suffering – and for making changes to end it.

It is much harder to remember that helping those in need I can see is great because the needs are real and help is needed, yet also understand that helping only the needy in my own backyard can be selfish because I may be helping them because I want to control my help and maybe even those I help. . .

It is much harder to remember that people are still suffering and in need of support, love, and help days, weeks, years after a disaster or tragedy – just as I would be in their place. “Moving On” as the media does to the next big story is a luxury available only to those who view the situation from afar. Moving on can be a selfish act for “my” comfort only.

God calls me to love and care about and for people – all people. All people are God’s people and precious in the eyes of their Creator. All people have the same possibilities and needs.

Lord, remind me I am one of many and every person is special in your sight. Forgive me when I forget that. Remind me to check my motives. Help me to see through your eyes, and act as you would have me act.

This week pray for:

Those whose lives have been turned upside down by violence or natural disaster this week – victims of gun violence in Florida and Toronto; 3-year-old victim of an acid attack in England; victims of storms and flooding in the U.S., Japan, & Europe are among them.



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