

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday September 16 2024 - Matthew 19: 25-36

25 When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?”

26 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Read Matthew 19 for meditation and inspiration.



Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

"How happy are you who are poor: yours is the Kingdom of God" (Luke 6:20).

There is a delightful little tale, a butterfly is flying through a golden, sunlit meadow. Examining the landscape below, it decides to land on a lush patch of yellow, red, purple, and pink flowers.

First, Mr. Butterfly lands on a beautiful yellow daisy. "Why don't you dart around as I do?" he asks. "Don't you get tired of sitting there all the time?" The daisy replied, "If I get tired during the heat of the day, I wait until night comes. Then I look up at the sky and watch the stars come out. I love the stars. I think they are the most beautiful things in the world, and I long to be like them." "That's amazing," says Mr. Butterfly. "You do look like the stars." The butterfly flew on until he saw a beautiful blue forget-me-not. "Why do you sit still all day long?" he asks. "Wouldn't you like to move all about as I do?" "Oh no, I don't get tired of it," says the forget-me-not. "I keep looking up at the sky. There is simply nothing as beautiful as the sky. I love the sky, and I yearn to be just like it."

"That's glorious," says Mr. Butterfly. "You are truly as brilliant as the blue in the sky."

The butterfly then flew next to a buttercup. "Why do you sit here all day long?" he asks. "Wouldn't you like to explore, moving from place to place as I do?" The buttercup shook her head, saying, "I never tire of looking up at the sun. I love the sun, and I wish I were like it."

"That's wonderful," says the butterfly. "You are round, yellow, and shining like the sun."

Next, Mr. Butterfly spoke to a violet. The violet told him that she patiently waited every day for the twilight. "I love the twilight, and I want to be just like it."

"That's truly inspiring," says the butterfly. "You are exactly like the purple that comes when the sun sets."

That night, when darkness came, all the little flowers folded their petals and swayed from side to side. They were as happy as they could be because they were just like the things they loved. Seeing this, the butterfly says to himself, "This is a life-changing discovery! To think that everyone grows to be like the thing they love most in this world. And that is awesome!"

A flower, a butterfly, a grain of sand, a single raindrop -- each serves a purpose in God's Creation. We cannot even begin to visualize all that exists in God's Plan and by God's Design! Why this grain of sand? Why this tiny flea? I don't know. But to think that in this world everyone can grow to be like the thing they love most – that's awesome!"

Who do you love and give your heart to? It says everything about who you are!

In Jesus love,



Roger

