



July 10, 2022

Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

What is Wisdom Worth?

Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she [Wisdom] is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. (Proverbs 9:10)

We turn to Scripture for comfort, of course, and for hope, absolutely, also for help and advice, firmly rooted in divine Wisdom, to help us with life's challenges. But, truth be told, we often may not often turn to Biblical Wisdom for answers in the Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Beatitudes. We have all asked "where do I go?" "How can I find an answer?" We are surrounded by "conventional wisdom," and we rely on conventional wisdom so much, we don't even think about it, we don't even realize it.



Commonly held and widely accepted ideas and beliefs make up conventional wisdom. But as Dilbert's colleague in the cartoon tells us conventional wisdom is a good news/bad news story. While sometimes conventional wisdom helps people understand problems quickly and reach conclusions speedily, sometimes conventional wisdom stifles creativity, "thinking outside the box," coming up with unique solutions to problems in situations where conventional wisdom didn't work.

Turning to Wisdom Scripture ... It has been said that 1 Corinthians gives us a more practical picture of applying the Wisdom behind Christian faith to the day-to-day issues of life than any other book in the New Testament. However, on our journey through Biblical Wisdom, we encounter Paul in 1 Corinthians who cautions us in no uncertain terms to be careful of worldly wisdom: "Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. [1 Cor 3:18-19] But all of this does not mean that conventional wisdom has no value; it often does because it is built on a solid foundation (see 1 Cor 3:10-15).

The work we do on earth and the way we live on earth—to the extent we do it according to the ways and Wisdom of Christ—survives into eternity—because it is built on the foundation of Christ and with the mind of Christ [see 1 Cor 2:16]. Our Wisdom-works are invaluable. As we apply our Christian faith to the day-to-day matter of life and work, we discover the way of Christ is true Wisdom. May it be so. AMEN.

Let us keep in our prayers: those awaiting results of medical tests, especially Jeff; those who are grieving, especially Jan; those suffering from extreme weather; victims of violence; an end to war in Ukraine and other hostilities around the world; those suffering from famine and hopelessness.