

## I CAN BE BORING IN SOME WAYS

My wife shared with me recently that I can be boring at times. Thankfully she was not referring to my sermons when she said this (or I don't think she was). Her reference to me being boring had to do with my choice of eating cereal for breakfast each morning. I have Honey Nut Cheerios with a sprinkle of granola, topped with a handful of Frosted Flakes, a few raisins added to the top, followed by a small amount of honey. How this combination can be considered to be boring is beyond me.

My wife, on the other hand, prefers variety. Four mornings during a week I make her cereal for breakfast. On two of those mornings, I give her "Multi-grain Cheerios" with a handful of granola and a sprinkle of cinnamon, topped with a cut up banana and a dash of honey. The other two cereal mornings I give her "Shredded Wheat" with similar toppings. At least one morning a week, in order to provide her with some variety, I will make her poached eggs on toast, and on the other two days I will do up oatmeal with apples and cinnamon. I do not mind offering my wife variety when it comes to her breakfasts, but as for me I am content having my same "boring" cereal every morning.

Recently I watched a television show where an actor shared that he too eats the same cereal every morning. Naturally my ears perked up when I heard him reveal this. He then shared how he tries to spice his breakfast up one day a week by putting chocolate milk on his cereal. I thought about trying this variation in order to make my morning breakfast choice less boring but being lactose intolerant, and cheap too, I did not want to have to buy both vanilla and chocolate Soy Milk every week.

I admit to being boring when it comes to my breakfast choice. Some people thought I had a boring job when I used to work as an accountant. Naturally I have heard my share of jokes over the years about how boring accountants can be. I have had some people over the years also share with me how they consider the Christian life to be boring. These same people have told me this is why they are holding off on becoming a Christian because they want to enjoy life while they are still relatively young.

Another observation I have had is how some believers find the Christian life very exciting when they first give their heart to Christ but then lose that passion and consider this lifestyle to be boring after time. This was the case for some of the early believers in the church situated in southern Galatia. These believers

loved living in a state of perpetual excitement early into their faith journey seeing the amazing things being done through the Holy Spirit. As time passed, the apostle Paul could see these believers were becoming bored as they settled into the tedium of everyday living. When they became bored, they started focusing on some false teachings they found exciting even though they went against the Word of God.

Paul realized he needed to remind these believers that settling into the tedium and reality of everyday living does not mean that there is something wrong with the Christian life or that it is boring. He shares how part of the Holy Spirit's work is to keep us doing what is right in God's eyes even if society is encouraging new and exciting ideas that are not Christ-like. Then Paul encourages believers who have become bored with respect to their faith to stir up the excitement by asking the Holy Spirit for help in doing so.

**I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ. (Galatians 3:5)**

Sometimes we need a reminder like Paul provides here that if we find our spiritual life boring, we should ask for the Holy Spirit to stir passion and excitement back into it for us. By so doing we will once again be excited by:

- *seeing the miracles He brings about in our lives and those of others,*
- *seeing His hand providing blessings along the way,*
- *seeing His presence walking with us each day,*
- *seeing the many ways, He is speaking to us.*

We should never consider our faith boring as a result of the Holy Spirit's help in keeping us persistent in doing what God deems is right. If we do desire a bit more excitement when it comes to our faith, let's not hesitate to seek the Holy Spirit's help to stir it up in a blessed way.

When it comes to me, I enjoy my cereal so much in the morning that I am going to remain boring for some time to come. When it comes to my sermons, some parishioners may already consider them to be boring. I wonder if I should offer them some cereal while I preach.

***Keep Safe and God Bless,***

***Pastor Dean***