

Searching Together

Where are you in your search for God? Through what means have you tried to find God? You could look in various religions, there are many. Some are quite old, while others have only been around a few decades. Some have millions of adherents, and others have maybe a few hundred. Some have “official” written materials, and others do not.

Maybe you are looking through experiences. These might be experiences of nature, spending time hiking, marveling at the giant wonders of nature like the Grand Canyon, mountains, oceans, etc. Do you get a sense of the creator by spending time in the creation?

Maybe you are looking through other kinds of experiences. Prayer, meditation, fasting, flagellation, and religious rituals are all popular even today by people in their search for God.

It would appear that there are many on this planet who are searching for God. I think. Or maybe they are not. I have found that I do a lot of religious things that are not always part of my search for God. They are instead simply religious activities that are performed (if that’s the right word) for other reasons. As a pastor I get paid to do some of them. Sometimes I find it is other’s expectations that involve me in them. Sometimes it is a vain attempt on my part to add some missing quality to my life.

The point is that I do not always involve myself in a particular religious activity in order to meet God. And in those times, I have missed the point entirely. I may easily fool myself into thinking that I am pursuing God, when in reality I am pursuing other goals.

Do you ever sense such things about yourself? One of the benefits of meeting together as a group of believers is that most Sundays at least one of us is really focused on meeting God. And the rest of us may notice and be lifted out of our false motivation and reminded to focus on God too.

Let us keep in mind that the church is a spiritual hospital for people seeking God. Too often we want the church to be perfect, perfect in love, in faith, in hope. But although the church may improve over its current state, and I am certainly working towards that, let us not expect it (a group of people) at any time to actually BE perfect. We will only be disappointed.

But come, let us seek God together, and share with each other how God is revealing Himself to each of us.

- pastor Robin