

Coffee Time

Adapted from the April issue: Coffee Time Post, The Important Things In Life

(Ingredients: Two jars, Two Rocks, Golf balls, Pebbles, Sand, Coffee)

Place a Rock into one of the jars and add the golf balls. Ask: Is it full?

Next add the pebbles and shake them into the gaps left by the Rock and golf balls. Ask: Is it full?

Now add the sand and again, shake it to fill the gaps left by the pebbles. Ask: Is it full?

The jar represents your life. The Rock represents God and His love. The golf balls represent food, clothing, your brethren, family, friends, your health and other equally important things in life, the most important of which though is God. "If everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full(filled)."

1Ti 6:8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

The pebbles are secondary to the Rock and golf balls but are the other things that matter in your life. They are such things as your job, your house, your car and things similar them. But again they are only secondary to the Rock and golf balls.

The sand represents the minor things in life that we often think we need or we think are important and can't do without but in the end they aren't really all that necessary. They are things like entertainment, television, worrying, making excuses or just being idle. They are all the "small stuff".

Fill the second jar with the same amount of sand that was intended for the first jar. Then attempt to add the pebbles and golf balls.

When filling the jar in reverse order we end up mostly with the "small stuff" and no room for, what should be considered, the most important things in life.

Now fill the first jar with the coffee.

The coffee shows that no matter how full you might think your life is there's always room for a couple cups of coffee (*a.k.a. time*) spent in the word of God. It should be what tops off our lives and what fills in for the emptiness that the other things in life cannot fill.

Luk 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and **shaken together**, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete (*Gk.3354- estimate*) withal it (*the same amount*) shall be measured to you again. (*Emp. added*)

What is it that we are filling our lives with? Are we wasting our time being angry, or allowing hate or vengeance to rule us? Are we wasting our time with judging others before looking in the mirror at our own reflections?

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it **empty**, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he,

and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself (*representing the sand*), and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state (condition)* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation. (*Emp. added*)

The empty jar represents an empty, idle and useless life. How we fill that jar will determine our happiness and the spiritual condition of our lives.

Psa 61:2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, **when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the Rock** *that is higher than I. (Emp. added)*

Once the Rock is in the jar we begin a fuller life by following Jesus' words to...

Luk 6:35 ... love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for He is kind unto the unthankful and *to the evil*. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. 37 Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: (*How we treat others is how we can **know in advance** the treatment we will receive at the judgement of God, which should motivate us, along with the giving of His Son, to, without prejudice or bias, treat others.*)

Luk 6:31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.

So what can we expect if the **first most important thing to us** is to fill our lives with God and His love? We will no longer be about "**self**" but will continue to live a fuller life for Christ.

2Co 5:14 For the love of Christ [should] constraineth (*Gk.4912- to **compel, preoccupy**: - **be taken with***) us; because we thus judge (*Gk.2919- decide*), that if One died for all, then were all dead (*in sin- Col 2:13*): 15 And *that* He died for all (*not willing that **any** should perish-2 Pet 3:9*), that they which live (*those who have been made alive through the blood of Christ*) should **not henceforth** (*Gk.3371- hereafter [from this time forward]*) **live unto themselves** (*no longer "I, me my"*), **but unto Him** Who died for them, and rose again.

If Jesus lived to die and save us shouldn't we be willing to die (*to the world*) to live to please Him?

Let's have a cup of coffee (let's spend time) living **for** Christ by first...

Eph 5:14 ... Awake thou that sleepest (*Did the smell of coffee brewing in the morning ever make you want to get up and have a cup?*), and arise from the dead (*which is the life that that sand in the jar has to offer a.k.a. the small stuff*), and Christ shall give thee light (*Gk.2017, 4671- shall illuminate you*). 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly (*Gk.199 form of 196- strait*), not as fools (*Gk.781- unwise*), but as wise, 16 **Redeeming** (*Gk.1805- buying up*) **the time**, because the days are evil.

We cannot just go about our daily lives sweating the small stuff thinking all is well. Because all is **not** well. When we buy up the time we spend on the things that matter least in life, the sand **in** the jar, and then use that wasted time by turning it into what should matter most to us, each of our individual lives [jars] (*...no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourishes and cherishes it...Eph 5:29*), we then are able to fill our individual lives [jars] with God and His love. When we take all the wasted time and reinvest it into our lives we have taken sand and melted it into glass.

Glass comes from sand that is heated up to extreme temperatures until it melts. Once the sand has melted it is shaped into whatever desired shaped needed for the application from a pane of glass for a window or shaped into glasses for drinking or other objects. (*Ask.com*)

Col 4:5 Walk (*Gk.4043- deport oneself [conduct yourself]*) in wisdom toward them that are without (*those outside the protection of the blood of Christ*), **redeeming** the time.

Once again we are to “buy up” the time we spend on things that are trivial in order to be able to spend it on saving the lost through evangelism.

Excuses are the sand in the jar. “Is my jar filled with sand?”

Mat 8:21 And another of His disciples said unto Him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. 22 But Jesus said unto him, Follow Me; and let the dead bury their dead.

Jesus knew this was just an excuse used by this disciple to not follow Him. If the disciple's father was already dead he would have already been buried because of the traditional Jewish burial customs of that time. So the time to wait for his ill father to die would have been unknown thus giving him an excuse for delaying his service to Christ Who knew that his jar was already filled with sand, pebbles and golf balls.

“Jewish funeral practices have traditionally followed a strong set of customs and beliefs, which are based on the Torah (*Which was what the Jews of Jesus day followed.*).”

(*Both Christianity and Judaism are based on the Torah. The Koran was written after the Torah, in the late 7th century, while much of the Torah was written at least 3,000 years ago.*) [*Ask.com*]

“Jewish burials are to take place as soon as possible. ... There is no visitation by friends in the presence of the body before the funeral. The body is placed in a simple wood coffin so as not to disturb its natural decomposition.” (*Funeralwise.com – Jewish Funeral Customs*)

Luk 14:18 And they all with one *consent* began to **make excuse**. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. 19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. 20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. (*Emp. added*)

Luk 14:33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.

These things in and of themselves can be considered the golf balls and pebbles in the jar because they are considered important parts when “fulfilling” it [life]. But, when they are placed in the jar before the Rock they are no longer “fulfilling” but only “filling” the jar [life] just as the sand is. And once the sand begins to take over the space remaining the Rock [God and His love] has no room in that jar [life]. Then no matter how much coffee [time] is poured into the jar, the jar is empty without God and His love.

Mar 10:29 And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left **house**, or **brethren**, or **sisters**, or **father**, or **mother**, or **wife**, or **children**, or **lands**, for My sake, and the Gospel's, 30 **But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this**

time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. (Emp. added)

Mat 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a **rock**: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was **founded** (*Gk.2311- to lay a **basis** for*) **upon a rock**. (*If our lives are not based on God and on showing His love for others it is **baseless** and “filled” with the “small stuff” that won’t be “fulfilling” or ever get us to Heaven.*) 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. (*Emp. added*)

So again a life not based on the love of God and His righteousness, though “full” of the lesser important things of life, is not “fulfilled” and still empty. Even a jar “filled” with golf balls and pebbles is not “fulfilled” without the Rock as its base.

Php 2:1 If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. 3 *Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Won't you fill your jar, first with the Rock?

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

Have you heard?

Romans 10:14 ..."how shall they believe in Him **Whom they have not heard?**"

Do you believe?

Heb 11:6 ..."for he that commeth to God **must believe that He is...**"

Have you repented?

Act 3:19 ..."**Repent** ... be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

Have you lived in such a way as to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God?

Mat 10:32 "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father Who is in Heaven."

Have your sins been washed away?

1 Pet 3:21 "...baptism doth **also** now save us..."

If you've done all these things, have you remained faithful? Is your jar “fulfilled”?

Romans 6:4 "...we also should walk in newness of life."

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