

Thoughts and Smiles – Monday, April 12, 2021

As of this edition, the provincial pandemic shutdown for the month continues. Everyone is tired of the restraints and being slowed down in all that we want to do. But it is also a continuation of a (prolonged) time of experiencing things in new ways. The past Monday offerings have followed a theme of **finding grace in what is mundane and ordinary**. I came across some interesting things last week....



*If you are searching,
You must not stop until you find.
When you find, however,
You will become troubled.
Your confusion will give way to
wonder.
In wonder you will reign over all
things.
Your sovereignty will be your rest.*

The words above are from the Gospel of Thomas, discovered in 1945 amid the Nag Hammadi scrolls in the Egyptian desert and now largely accepted as an authentic teaching of

Jesus. The quotation in this version is probably longer than most of us are familiar with from the Bible; the other gospels stop with “*seek and you shall find.*” But here Jesus lays out several additional steps to tell us what the search *really* like. Seeking leads to finding, yes, but the result of that finding is often to plunge you into confusion and disorientation as the new information rattles the cage of your old paradigm. Only gradually as you can make room for what this gospel calls “wonder,” does a new universe begin to knit itself together around you, and you come to rest on a new foundation. Until the next go-round, that is.

- From: The Wisdom of Jesus – Cynthia Bourgeault

Prayer – On Finding Purpose

Dear God. I humbly ask for your most blessed grace to fill me with a renewed sense of purpose, as I have been wasting my time on things that are not fulfilling my spirit. This has left me feeling discouraged and dissatisfied. Please guide me back to what fulfills my soul and helps me utilize my unique gifts and skills in a way

that serves my highest good and will make this a better world. Help me release all fear and confusion over how this will unfold, and let my intuition lead me to the right path. I pray for you to send in your angels to clear my way as I gracefully move towards my soul's true callings, even if only with baby steps. I thank you in advance, with my whole heart and soul, for answering my prayer, and I confidently await clear direction. Amen and with infinite gratitude.

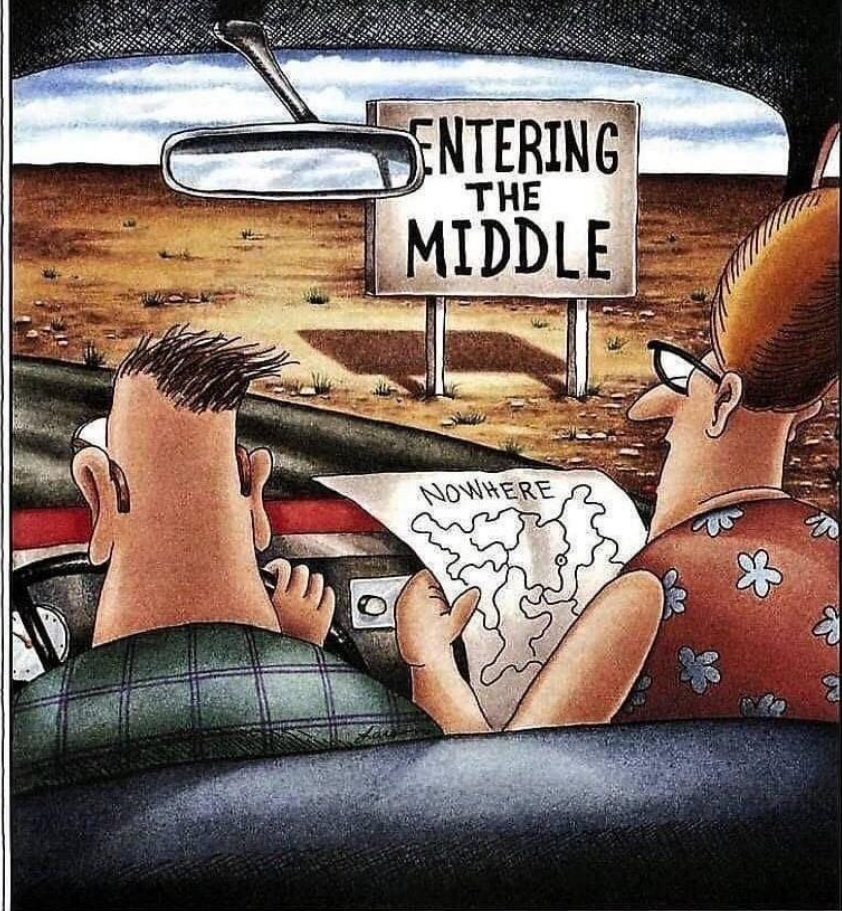
Your Monday Smiles....



Oh, and as an aside, I want to invite you to check out "David's Blog" on the Sauble Beach United Church website.

<https://saubleunitedchurch.ca/category/davids-blog/>

Once I get the hang of it (read: figure out what I'm doing) I hope to post these Monday – Thoughts and Smiles – and invite any of your responses or additions you would like to make. Could be both interesting and mostly – FUN!



"Well, this is just going from bad to worse."

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Have a terrific week!
Blessings to you all!

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