

How Little I Know

April 17, 2008

Sometimes I feel out of place as a pastor.

In the religious world, we meet so many people who are filled with certainty. Very little is left to doubt. They seem to know all the answers. They seem to know who is in and who is out (religiously speaking). They know so much.

Me, on the other hand, I am quite content to understand how little I know. What really motivates my faith is not that I have all the answers. It is that I have experienced a relationship with God that is real and significant in my life. I have experienced love and grace in a way that motivates me to trust and attempt to be faithful each day.

There is a song by Chris Rice that I just love. It is called "Big Enough". Here are the lyrics.

None of us knows and that makes it a mystery. If life is a comedy, then why all the tragedy. Three-and-a-half pounds of brain try to figure out, what this world is all about and is there an eternity, is there an eternity?

God if You're there I wish You'd show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don't mind me askin' the questions
But I figure You're big enough
I figure You're big enough

Lying on pillows we're haunted and half-awake. Does anyone hear us pray, "If I die before I wake." Then the morning comes and the mirror's the other place, where we wrestle face to face with the image of Deity. The image of Deity

God if You're there I wish You'd show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don't mind me askin' the questions
But I figure You're big enough
I figure You're big enough

When I imagine the size of the universe. And I wonder what's out past the edges. Then I discover inside me a space as big. And believe that I'm meant to be, filled up with more than just questions

So, God if You're there I wish You'd show me
And God if You care then I need You to know me
I hope You don't mind me askin' the questions
But I figure You're big enough
I figure You're big enough
'Cause I am not big enough

I love this song, because it highlights the questions many of us have about life, about living and about faith. Yet it also holds out the promise that it is okay to ask questions of God, because God can handle our questions. Personally, I find that to be comforting.

While I may not know everything, I know this. I am loved by God. That love has claimed me and carried me through some of the best and worst moments of my life. It is in that love that I rest. It is in that love, that I invite you to rest.

In the hope Jesus offers us,
Rev. Scott Carlson

*The Mission of Sun Prairie United Methodist Church is to invite and welcome people to be committed
and compassionate followers of Jesus Christ through worship,
through spiritual growth, through fellowship and through service to others.*