

## Let's Stop Playing God

I heard a guy in AA say one time, "I didn't have a problem believing in a higher power, I just had a problem believing that it wasn't me!" Although that statement may make us laugh we have a tendency in life to take the wheel, at least emotionally and try drive the bus ourselves. Bottom line, we weren't created to do that. Listen to what Francis Schaeffer says in his book True Spirituality about that tendency among Christians:

**"It is dangerously easy to have within ourselves, as Christians, the old longing to be God—so that we cry within ourselves, "I should be superior because of who I am."** We deny the doctrine of the Fall, and we build a new romanticism if we fail to accept the reality of our limitations, including our psychological struggles. Thus we lose the "substantially" in beating ourselves to bits trying to be what we cannot be. **I am not to set myself at the center of the universe and insist that everything bend to the standards that I have set upon my own superiority.** I am not to say, "I must be thus," and if it is not thus, there is nothing but psychological despair. Some people are totally caught in this, but all of us have something of it within ourselves, swinging pendulum-like between conceit and despair. This is true not only in the psychological area, of course; it is true in all the relationships of life."

Schaeffer, Francis A. (2012-01-24). True Spirituality (p. 120). Tyndale House Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Perhaps if Jesus Himself was standing with you and I observing our thoughts (as He can because He knows what is in a man) He would say something like this:

"I, THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE, am with you and for you. What more could you need? When you feel some lack, it is because you are not connecting with Me at a deep level. I offer abundant Life; your part is to trust Me, refusing to worry about anything. It is not so much adverse events that make you anxious as it is your thoughts about those events. **Your mind engages in efforts to take control of a situation, to bring about the result you desire. Your thoughts close in on the problem like ravenous wolves. Determined to make things go your way, you forget that I am in charge of your life.** The only remedy is to switch your focus from the problem to My Presence. Stop all your striving, and watch to see what I will do. I am the Lord!"

Young, Sarah (2012-10-09). Jesus Calling: Enjoy Peace in His Presence (p. 148). Thomas Nelson. Kindle Edition.

I believe that the psalmist struggled like this and came to the right conclusion when he said; ***"LORD, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, hope in the LORD From this time forth and forever.*** (Psalms 131:1-3 NKJV)

Perhaps today you and I need to accept the fact that our minds can be like a bad neighborhood (not safe to go into by ourselves) and return to the Lord, placing Him on His rightful throne in our hearts and letting God be God. After all we were not cut out for the position!

***Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.***" (Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV)

*Jim Freed*