

LIFE'S JOURNEY

By : REVEREND GARY A. MARSHALL

Mankind starts out in life very dependent for survival. Everything is given to them upon crying for their needs – food, clothing, warmth, toys, etc. Then they reach the age of knowing – knowing right from wrong. This was the time when the adult male of the American Indians would take their male child away from the love and care of their mother, and proceed to teach them how to survive on their own. How to feed and clothe themselves, and how to protect themselves. We call it the age of puberty. An age when the body changes greatly and the emotional level of a child starts the process to maturity. Then the next “phase” of life begins somewhere between 18 and 25 years-old. This is the final step across the ‘great divide’ into adulthood.

However, this is not a guaranteed way of moving from infant to adult. Depends on the early years of one’s life and the way of life that was taught by the adults (or non-adults) that influenced them on their journey. Some never reach the final phase – adulthood. Some take the journey on a “normal” path. And some make a large and drastic change in their journey of life. The many – and it seems to be more than fewer – that never reach that final phase, stay in the “me syndrome” – (What’s in it for ME?) This always brings great harm toward others. Harm that causes illness, hunger, separation, war, etc.

This was and is not God’s intention when creating mankind. We were created for a personal relationship with our Creator and to aid (help) one another. In short: we were created for others – not for ourselves. We were created to reach out with the palm of our hands turned down – not up, hoping to get whatever we can.

What can we, as individuals, do about this? STOP trying to save the world as a whole – NO ONE PERSON CAN DO THAT. Focus on what immediately surrounds us – our family – our church – our community. Rev. Billy Graham, (in my opinion, the last true Evangelist in modern day time) once said concerning his Christian events: “It’s not the thousands of people that come, it’s the one that recognizes Jesus as “my Lord and my God” that counts”

Invite your neighbor – a member of your family – a member of your community – and don’t worry if they don’t come back, or if they do not come at all. No failure here – we only fail if we do NOT INVITE. God cannot bring them to His church if His believers do not invite.

Keep your church home in order and keep your personal home in order – you never know who will be knocking at your door.

More grey matter from an old man.