Even With Needles in My Ear

       Many of you know that I am not a fan of needles.  I have left the room of a church member in the hospital because I did not want to see the exposed needle.  My knees get a little weak when I think of someone getting a shot.  You might call me a big baby.  I am a little better now for I have experienced many needles in the last few years.  Still, I do not like needles.

       That being said, I was in the office of my Dermatologist having a cancer removed from my ear.  The sweet assistant was numbing my ear by putting shots in it.  I ask her if she was a church going person.  She said that she was but had missed the previous Sunday.  She also said that she did not feel complete when she missed.

     This led to a conversation about the presence of God.  I told her that I so loved to experience God’s presence.  “I know he is with me right now” I said, “Even while you are inserting needles in my ear.”  She didn’t know that only a few years ago I didn’t think I could ever allow someone to do that to me.  This young nurse was like a ministering angel.  Isn’t God good?

      The Lord’s presence gives us courage to go beyond those boundaries that our minds have set for us.  My mind associated needles with pain.  Kathie, my wife, gives vaccinations to children and adults.  Little children begin at a super early age making these associations of needles and pain.  We may associate certain foods with sickness so we set barriers for those foods.  Some have made the same type associations between love and disappointment.  We need Christ presence and help to cross these barriers for we often cannot cross them alone.

      There are greater partitions that are much harder to bridge.  We do not witness because we associate the possibility of rejection or failure with approaching someone about Jesus.  Do you not think the Lord will be with us when we witness for Him?  Surely if he is with me when I have needles in my ear he will be very present as I testify for him.

       I visited with a dear brother who has been faithful to the Lord in the ministry.  It seems he is about to go be with the Lord.  He said to me that he is drawing near the time of death.  His words were that he is “approaching the river.”  I am so glad that Christ will be with us in sixth trial and he won’t forsake us in the seventh.  Praise God for his holy presence!

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram