



The Missing Peace

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Every time that a baby is born into God's world, they are born with a piece of their life's peace missing. That piece of that puzzle has one distinctive shape that can never be duplicated but must be filled with the original piece designed just for that person.

The Bible says that we are knit together in our mother's womb. Well, I believe that in part of God's knitting he purposely leaves a gap in his work that can only be filled with that one piece that was created only by him.

As that baby grows into a young child you will begin to see the first signs of their search. When you see a struggle on their face in making a choice to do what is right or what is wrong, they are beginning to feel that tug.

As they grow and become a young person they begin to notice a void, a "missing" feeling, but they can't explain it. They don't understand what it really is so they begin their search. At first, they think that maybe it's a boyfriend or girlfriend that they need or maybe it's the act of doing things to "fit in" with the popular people like drinking or experimenting with drugs, but no matter what they try that emptiness is still there.

As this person reaches adulthood the search for that missing piece begins to grow stronger. Many times, men and women mistake that longing inside them as a need to be in a relationship with a man or woman, many times even involving sex in that relationship hoping that even that will fill the void, but it doesn't. They go from relationship to relationship.

Another search leads people into marriage, fairytale fantasy marriages that aren't based on a mutual search of the couple, but of them each looking for something different. Many times men think that they must fill that void with money or things. They mistakenly think that the buying of things will make their wives happy and it only adds to the stress of the marriage. They mistakenly feel that they must have the best job, the best house or the best vehicles to fit in with their peers, but inside they're really searching for that one thing to fill that void.

Other times women feel that if they only had a baby then that empty feeling inside will be filled. Sometimes after the birth of a baby a woman can be so busy and preoccupied that they almost feel like it's worked because they don't have much time to think of anything else than the child, but then that longing resurfaces. Those quiet times when that baby is sleeping become times of noticing that void again. These women feel like they may not actually be satisfied now with that child, so they begin searching again. So no they go into the job market, to feel successful, but it just doesn't "fit".

Many, many times these searches lead both men and women outside of their own marriages and into arms of other men and women who are only doing the same thing...searching.

Why do we do this? What is it inside of a person that makes them notice this void? Sometimes people actually do begin to realize that this emptiness must have something to do with God.

"If this emptiness has to do with God," they say, "then let's find some of Him and put it in that space." They begin to talk like they've found him. They start using phrases such as, "I'm praying for you" or "just have faith and believe". They begin to refrain from using bad language, they don't frequent the bars any longer, they even have Bibles in their homes. And even on rare occasions, mainly holiday's, they will attend a church service.

Wow! To those on the outside it would appear that they have finally found the missing piece. They're doing all the "right" things now.....but why do these people still feel that emptiness? Why is it when they're all alone that they still sense that void in their heart?

They're "talking the talk". They're being "good people". Some may even claim that they are a Christian, but why do they not feel whole then?

When these people get to this place in their life all they have done is traced the shape of that puzzle piece and made their own version of a "God piece" to fit, but it's still man made. It's filled with criteria; lists to check off that people think that God expects out of them or that other peers or family members expect from them.

God's design was for fellowship with man. He wants man to seek out a relationship with HIM. He wants a life given to service and to HIS will. He doesn't want you to look outside the puzzle box and see if you can find a different piece that can be squeezed into "your" place. He designed one piece for one person.

The true beauty of this analogy is that when you do get to the point that you believe you have found that peace with God, and you go to Him and He shows you exactly where he placed your piece of the puzzle, when you lay it down and it "clicks" and lies smooth with the rest of the entire vision of your life, you'll know. Your search is over. Now you can spray that puzzle glue on this treasure and display it so that all can share in your genuine and true masterpiece of peace!

Psalm 139:13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.