

Growing In Faith Of God

Sharing ones Faith in God with others is not a common practice in our western world today. Yet I find that my growth in the faith in God (Trinity) is much improved when I can listen to others share real life stories of experience.

When Jesus came on the scene of humanity, he turned the religious community on its head. We can study the experiences of others of that time. We can only imagine the suffering, injustice, cruelty, and the revelation of good news with the hope of everlasting life and having a real sense of joy. So many lessons in all those stories of experience.

Today's experience, Covid-19 has turned the world on its head, by adding real feelings of loss. We can all name in real time what we see and what we feel.

Yes, I have my moments of doubt, disappointments of our organized religion. I sometimes catch myself daydreaming, a wandering mind of current events during the Consecration or the homily at Mass. What am I thinking?

The Easter story of the passion, death and resurrection gives me hope when I listen and relate to what is going on around me. I see new life being raised in 8 of my family members involved in the medical field, putting their life at risk, being part of the healing process of others. Maybe they and many others don't see the face of God in what they are doing. I pray they see the back of God as he passes through their experiences. We say at Mass, "Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again." In my thinking, if Christ has risen, he is here now in the real time of life. What are we waiting for? We can be part of that new life using our God given gifts of life (talents) for others.

I often contemplate being in the presence of the Trinity (not all three at one time) during my daily activities. It's happened on occasion while I'm sleeping with thoughts that couldn't be my own. My effort is to listen to the presence of God and not do much talking.

When my kids were growing up I was often reminded, "Dad you're preaching again."

Time to close. I thank God for Spell Check.

May the peace of Christ come to all, maybe aided by sharing your story of faith. That will help me grow in my faith.

Norm Hagel