

“God said: Let there be light, and there was light. God saw that the light was good. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” Evening came, and morning followed—the first day” (Gn 1:3-5). For as long as the sun has been setting, men and women have admired God’s artistry and known there is a creator. Upon seeing a beautiful sunset, my mother would always remind that God is the greatest artist. He paints the sky with hues of red and orange and yellow in a scene admired for only a moment and never to be duplicated in that particular way again. God’s creativity is infinite. “The heavens proclaim the glory of God” (Ps 19:2a).

We are created in the likeness and image of God, to know him, to love him, and to serve him. And at life’s end, God calls us home to eternity. “Eye has not seen nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, what things God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Cor 2:9). Like a sunset, each human is unique. The eternal truth, beauty, and goodness of God is painted in each soul. God has revealed himself to us, and we are to reveal God to others.

“Ever since the creation of the world, his invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made” (Rom 1:20). My father often lamented the fact that while God reveals himself to us so plainly, we often learn to ignore God. We are so innocent as newborn children, but in the process of growing we can learn to hate and discriminate and hurt others by the fears we learn and the prejudices we hold onto. None of us are immune.

Jesus often reminded us that we need to be like children, trusting and open to God and his goodness. For a young child without any cares or worries, the world is like a giant playground. Everything can be a source of joy and wonder ... all leading us closer to God. How do we recapture the innocence of our youth? How do we look at the world with the joy and the wonder of a child?

Built into each week, God invites us to take a day of rest, a day to ponder God, a day to worship in community, a day to put the worries of the week aside and rest in Jesus. God tries to instruct as we set aside time to listen to his Holy Word. We gather on Sunday to celebrate the Lord’s Supper and Jesus feeds us with Holy Communion. Jesus wants us to transform the world. As we search for God and his truth, beauty, and goodness, we are called to share that with others.

It doesn’t have to be rocket science. Jesus often took time to dine with others in their homes. In the busyness of our world, we often lose sight of the very simple things ... slowing down to spend time with others, sharing a meal and trying to discern the reflections and thoughts of God’s heart as we find it in the simple routines of life.