

Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshipping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

Loneliness

By Claude Boisvert

For many people in our world, loneliness is sadness; the feeling that no one cares for them or that they count for nothing.

Perhaps someone is an adolescent who is not cool, a shy person who doesn't have close friends, an estranged husband or wife, a person who is sick in the hospital, someone elderly and forgotten in an institution, or someone who just feels alone.

Have you ever felt alone or do you know someone who does?

The Bible acknowledges the problem of loneliness. In Ecclesiastes 4:8-12 we read that God created us to be in contact with others. He also said in the beginning that it is not good for man to be alone. (Gen 2:18)

Loneliness is one of the many examples of human misery. Where does it come from? We find in Romans 5:12 that humanity turned away from God, fell into sin and brought death, not only physical death but also spiritual death (Ephesians 2:1-4). This spiritual death is the foundation of human misery. There are visible symptoms in human behaviour of our alienation from God and from our neighbour. See 2Tim 3: 1-4.

But God did not give up on us. He sent us Jesus who set us free from sin and death. (Rom 8:1,2). In Jesus, we can call God our Father because we can be his children. We can be fellow believers, brothers and sisters. He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us. In prayer we can speak to God and he speaks to us in his Word, the Bible (Ps 4:1; Ps 5:1-5). Rom 8:28-39 speaks about the assurance of God's love and care for us. As children of God, we are called to serve God and our neighbour out of love. (Rom 12 9-16)

Jesus experienced the ultimate loneliness on the cross. Because of our sins he was rejected by his people, abandoned by his disciples, and rejected also by God. In agony he cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34) Because of Jesus' sacrifice, there does not need to be any loneliness in the lives of those who trust in HIM.

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<http://www.trinitycanrc.org>

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