

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

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## Ordinary Pots

“Whoever you are, whatever you’ve achieved or left undone, you’re pretty much just an average person like the rest of us.” Jonathan Fisk, author of *Echo: unbroken truth worth repeating again*, (Concordia Publishing House, page 11, 2008) begins his book by stating the obvious.

We are average, broken, active, tired people. In our victories and failures, we pale in importance to the superiority of Jesus: who He is and what He does.

Pastor Fisk goes on to tell us earthshattering, foundational truths worth repeating again, and again, and again.

It was a relief to me to read that I was average and so was everyone else. No more putting on a good face or beating myself up for disappointing others. There was no need for competition; you know, the kind that is unwritten, but disturbs your thinking. I felt a weight fall off my shoulders.

God sees me as I am and makes a way for me to be accepted into His family by the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ. Not only that, as if that isn’t tremendous enough, but He resides inside me, guiding, directing, and empowering me.

The Bible puts it like this:

*“But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ...always carrying in the body, the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.”* 2 Corinthians 4:7, 10.

Because of Christ we relax in His peace and find right priorities, after being released from the regrets and disappointments of the past. His empowering guides us in our love for others. The results of our work come completely from Christ’s intent. We are free to love, ask questions, and rest.

My friend, Gayle, gave me a book for Christmas called, “The Crooked Christmas Tree” by Damian Chandler. The bent tree was an example of you and me and the value God places on us. “He chose me, redeemed me, and left no evidence of my troubled beginnings. By grace He propped me up and then did something crazy. He put His light on a crooked tree and said, “Now you go light up the world.””

*“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”* 2 Corinthians 5: 20-21.

Reading God’s Word, talking with Him without ceasing, appreciating His creation, including people, is the opportunity we have every day.

Being challenged to reach beyond our comfort zone, deciding to act, we can base our decisions on need, not on our ability. We are ordinary, everyday pots of clay where the power of God dwells.

Happy New Year!



The Christian Life Committee