

Reflection Saturday week 7 – 2022

Jesus obviously had a special love for children and uses them as a model for his followers. Children are full of wonder at new discoveries, eager to learn and understand, fascinated with finding something new, have wild imaginations, are able to think completely outside the box and are full of energy. Jesus wants his followers to be like them all the time. Every encounter has something new to offer, most especially encounters with people. There is always the danger, however, that familiarity will breed contempt. In the company of children, we are reminded of what life could be like, which is probably why we find them so uplifting.

On Children (Kahlil Gibran)

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said,
Speak to us of Children.

And he said:

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

*They come through you but not from you,
and though they are with you yet they belong not to you.*

*You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
for they have their own thoughts.*

*You may house their bodies but not their souls,
for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.*

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

*The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,
and He bends you with His might
that His arrows may go swift and far.*

*Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;
For even as He loves the arrow that flies,
so He loves also the bow that is stable.*