

Reflection Tuesday Week 8 2023

God loves a cheerful giver and so do we all. It is far easier to accept and welcome someone who is cheerful and upbeat because they have the ability to lift us up, even when we are feeling down or forlorn. They are people who see the challenges in life as possibilities.

A story: There were two boys: one was spoilt and over pampered; the second was a day-to-day sort of youngster. They were taken to a house and the pampered boy was put in a room full of the best and most up-to-date toys while the second lad was put into a room filled with a big pile of manure. After half an hour, the observers went to the room in which the pampered boy was sitting, He was crying his eyes out. He complained that there was something missing from all the toys in the room. Then they went to the second boy and found him laughing and singing. He was furiously digging away at the manure and said: *"With all this manure, there just has to be a horse in here somewhere!!"*

"Anytime you have a negative feeling toward someone, you're living in an illusion. There's something seriously wrong with you. You're not seeing reality. Something inside you has to change. But what do we generally do when we have a negative feeling? We say, "He is to blame, she is to blame. She's got to change." No! The world and the people in it are all right. The one who has to change is you!" Anthony de Mello sj