

Reflection - An Evolving Faith

Reading:

Staying in the liminal place of holy uncertainty is deeply uncomfortable. But certainty in the life of faith doesn't serve us well. Evolutionary thinking is, for me, the very core concept of faith, where we trust that God alone steers this mysterious universe, where there is clearly much hidden from us and much



still before us—and where “eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and the human heart has not conceived, what God has prepared for those who love God” (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Evolutionary thinking is contemplative thinking. It leaves the full field of the future in God's hands and agrees to humbly hold the present with what it only tentatively knows for sure.

Evolutionary thinking agrees to knowing and not knowing simultaneously. It sends us on a trajectory, where the ride is itself the destination, and the goal is never clearly in sight. To stay on the ride, to trust the trajectory, to know it is moving, and moving somewhere always better, is just another way to describe faith. We are all in evolution all the time, it seems to me.

(adapted from Richard Rohr and Molly Baskette)



Psalm 131:

My heart is not proud, O God,
my eyes are not haughty;
I do not concern myself with great matters
or things too wonderful for me.
But I have calmed and quieted myself,
I am like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child I am content.
Israel, put your hope in the LORD
both now and forevermore.

Reflection Questions:

How does this reading and psalm speak to me/us at this moment in our history?

What is the certainty that I/we long for that we may need to let go in order to move forward in faith?

Song: *Do Not Be Afraid* – Jeanne Cotter

Refrain:

Do not be afraid, I am with you always.

Do not be afraid, my love is forever.

1. I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for peace and prosperity.
Trust in me as I live in you. I give you a future full of hope. So... (Refrain)
2. Search for me with all your heart. I will let myself be found by you.
I could never leave you orphaned. I will not abandon you. So...(Refrain)
3. Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me.
I give you peace that passes understanding; peace to guard your heart and mind.
(Refrain)

(Bridge): What can separate us from the love of God? Neither death nor life, not angels or powers, things present, past, nor things to come, not height or depth, nor any living creature. Nothing can separate us from the love of God through Jesus Christ.

Refrain:

So Do not be afraid, I am with you always.

Do not be afraid, my love is forever.

Do not be afraid... my love is forever!

