

Fourth Sunday of Lent

“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation...”

Philippians 2:14-15

In taking classes taught by Ron and Catherine Hilliard, I have learned to notice and share “God sightings”—the small and large ways we see God in our lives on a daily basis. When I slow down or step back from the busyness of life, I notice God’s presence in a myriad of ways all the time. Just last Sunday, I was scheduled to be a Circle of Prayer minister after the 11 o’clock worship service. I was not serving as a deacon that day and my family could not attend 11 o’clock service, but because I was scheduled to come forward to pray with anyone wanting prayer after the service, I attended alone. Wearing the “prayer minister” badge I went up to the front as everyone was leaving, but no one came forward, so after a little while, I took off my badge, put it back in the basket, and left.

Outside the sanctuary I bumped into Catherine Hilliard and we started chatting. We were about to say goodbye when I asked her how she would be spending her Sunday. She said her cousin was in town from Idaho and she had not seen her in 40 years. She didn’t know her cousin’s faith journey and she asked me to pray for her and their visit—meaning some time that day. I asked, “Do you want to pray together now?” Catherine was delighted and I did pray for her, but the point is in just that everyday situation, our hearts were made aware of God’s presence.

When no one had come forward after the service, after I had made a lot of effort to be there, it was a little discouraging—but to be altogether honest, I also felt like I was off the hook because I’m not one hundred percent comfortable in being the go-to person for prayer in the sanctuary. However, God knew what He was doing for all involved, and, as usual, He did it in a way that was not expected.

Heavenly Father, Thank You for all the ways You make Your presence known to us. Please help me to slow down and notice You at work in all of my circumstances and draw me closer to You. Amen.

Lisa Cole

(Submitted in 2011)

