

April 24, 2024

Devotion:

*A cheerful look brings joy to the heart; good news makes for good health.*

*-Proverbs 15:30*

*Some people come to Calcutta, and before leaving, they begged me: "Tell us something that will help us to live our lives better." And I said; "Smile at each other; smile at your wife, smile at your husband, smile at your children, smile at each other—it doesn't matter who it is—and that will help your to grow up in greater love for each other." And then one of them asked me: "Are your married?" and I said: "Yes, and I find it difficult sometimes to smile at Jesus." At those times when he is so demanding, to give him a big smile is very beautiful.*

*-From A Gift for God by Mother Teresa*

It is not easy to have a smile on our faces all of the time, however a smile makes a difference in the world. It is not the fake smile or a goofy toothy grin, but a genuine lifting of the mouth that makes another feel wanted and welcomed.

There is no scripture about Jesus laughing or even smiling, yet I cannot fathom how Jesus could not have at least had bright eyes when he held the children in his lap or feel joy enough to bring on a smile when he was in the home of his good friends, Mary and Martha and their brother Lazarus. So I have no explanation why scripture doesn't record Jesus' smile. I think smiling is simply a human reaction that we don't think about but one that has so much power and importance.

Today I challenge you to smile at someone and see his/her reaction to your smiling.

Many Blessings!!

Pastor Cindy