

Dependence

A Two-Minute Thought by Eric

Okay, so I would never say that I have a “spiritual reliance” to Dr Pepper, though some might say that it must comprise 40% of my body mass by now. Yes, I like Dr Pepper and have had a kidney stone to prove it. Is this an addiction? Not really, but I do enjoy it so. Do I depend on it daily as a source of survival? No. Well...maybe. I do exhibit a pattern of apparent dependency that when I stop to think about it, I do seem to depend on it to an extent. I seem to rely on it as a necessary component of my day. Could it be that we place our reliance in things that, if we really stop to look at them, are silly? What types of things do we, on a weekly or daily basis, depend on? Coffee? Dr Pepper? TV shows? Time with a friend? Some “me” time? Pajamas? Hershey Bars?

All of these things are good and can be quite therapeutic as a method of relaxation or personal support. But, how often do we exclusively place our dependence in these “things” and simply ignore God? How often do these things become the focus of our reliance (or become idols...) and Jesus takes a back seat to these worldly things? This is dangerous territory, indeed. It seems easier to lean on God for the big decisions and big problems, but He often gets ignored in the little things or when things are going well. I don't often think, “God, thank you for this Dr Pepper. It is delicious.”. But, it IS something that makes me happy. And we should make a conscious effort to thank Him for the good things and not just depend on him through the bad. When we depend on God for everything (and it's not an easy transition), our will becomes His will and the things we want are the things He wants. And when that happens, disappointment disappears and we don't have to worry about where the next Dr Pepper is coming from.

I just hope that God wants Dr Pepper as much as I do.