



From the Desk of Father Peter

One's Life Does Not Consist of Possessions

When I think of my days as a teacher in a minor seminary in Ghana, I am struck by how often students who are now priests themselves thanked me for the words I said—words I didn't even remember. Often times, it was not the grand, meticulous lesson that impressed them, but some simple phrase that I said in passing, like a tiny seed planted in their mind that flourished.

As I think about them and our faithful in the Diocese who live individually in various parishes, I think about life's graces. The family that gave birth to them, the teachers that

taught them and the parish they grew in. All have had a great impact on them. I am inclined to think that most of life's true graces are small—small words we live by, small kindnesses we savor, small accomplishments we treasure, and small bits of hope or light or truth that see us through the big challenges of life.

We are called to be followers of Jesus by the virtue of our baptism. Our faith calls for the nurturing of that love in the family that we have been planted. Our parents are our first teachers in ways of the faith, and they are to help to the best of their ability, to bring us up in the church tradition. To be a Christian and not be generous is a contradiction. To be a Christian and not go out of our way to help others, makes no sense. To be Christian and fight with other people over worldly possessions or because we feel wronged is

AS EACH ONE HAS
RECEIVED A GIFT, USE IT
TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER
AS GOOD STEWARDS OF
GOD'S VARIED GRACE.

1 PETER 4:10

hypocritical. Jesus taught humility, simplicity, good will, peace, and self-sacrifice. It is not only the religious or the ordained who are called to serve. It is not that child in the family who is called to ministry or service in the Church. Jesus intends for all of us to make the world a better place by our faithfulness to God and how He (Jesus) taught us to love one another.

The following poem by an unknown author reminds us that what we need isn't what we want:

I asked for Strength and God gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom and God gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for prosperity and God gave me a Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage and God gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love and God gave me Troubled People to help.

I asked for Favor and God gave me Opportunities.

I got nothing I wanted but I received everything I needed. God's endless love and care.

Let us be mindful of all those who have provided us with a paternal love and care, and ask the Good Lord to bless them all.



Blessings and peace to all,

Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu