

“I don’t care”

Have you ever found yourself saying, “I don’t care”? I know that I certainly have, and it wasn’t always in a positive sense.

Sometimes an “I don’t care” is a rude remark to get someone off my case. Sometimes it is just a statement of indifference of two relatively similar choices, and it really doesn’t matter which I choose, so I don’t care because it is irrelevant.

There is a very positive and important “I don’t care” that I am trying to develop and incorporate in my life and that is the “I don’t care” of Holy Christian Indifference. Ok, fancy title, but hear me out.

On my most recent retreat, the director highlighted and continued to come back to the grace of Holy Christian Indifference and how it is tied closely to my awareness of my Core Identity.

My Core Identity is simply this: I am a son of God the Father, a brother to Jesus Christ and a temple of the

Holy Spirit. I am loved deeply by the Holy Trinity. Every other aspect of my life is secondary and will pass, fade away, die.

When I am clear about my core identity, and **own** the **FACT** that God loves me and that is all that matters, everything else in my life becomes secondary and only exists to clarify my core identity.

Now let me try to say all this in English. It doesn’t matter if I am rich or poor, sick or healthy, young or old, good looking or well you know what I look like. All that is irrelevant because no matter what, God loves me to the very fiber of my being, and there is nothing I can do to make God love me more and nothing that I can ever do that will make Him love me less.

When I take on an attitude of Holy Christian Indifference my mind set becomes “I don’t care”, not in a negative insensitive selfish sense, but rather in a positive attitude that I care, but I focus on my core identity and realize that all else is secondary. I know that God will work through every situation in my life.

St. Ignatius of Loyola puts it this way:

Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord, and by this means to save his soul.

The other things on the face of the earth are created for man to help him in attaining the end for which he is created.

Hence, man is to make use of them in as far as they help him in the attainment of his end, and he must rid himself of them in as far as they prove a hindrance to him.

Therefore, we must make ourselves indifferent to all created things, as far as we are allowed free choice and are not under any prohibition. Consequently, as far as we are concerned, we should not prefer health to sickness, riches to poverty, honor to dishonor, a long life to a short life. The same holds for all other things.

Our one desire and choice should be what is more conducive to the end for which we are created.

All that being said..... remember THIS:

YOU ARE the son/daughter of a loving God who loves you unconditionally.

YOU ARE a loving and loved friend of Jesus Christ.

YOU ARE a temple of the Holy Spirit.

Nothing else matters. +peace – tom

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