

## A Thought to Ponder

Our affluence, our lack for nothing, has posed a dilemma for the church and society. I am convinced that once we believe that we need nothing, including God's forgiveness, let alone His Word, certain aspects of society crumble. It crumbles because we remove ourselves out from under the sovereignty of God. During such swings of the pendulum, the church becomes just another place, club or institution to join, if and when one is so inclined. Yet, nothing could be further from the truth. The Christian Gospel demands our entirety, something that most find deplorable in this day and age. A poem by Gordon Aeschliman states it this way:

Don't give us blessings; give us grace to be obedient to  
your every command and desire.  
Don't give us status; give us a place to serve.  
Don't give us things for our use; use us.  
Don't give us good jobs; put us to work.  
Don't give us satisfaction; teach us sacrifice.  
Don't give us entertainment; enable us.  
Don't give us good salaries; give us strength to do your will.  
Don't give us mansions to live in; give us a spring board to  
Take Christ's love to the whole world.  
Our joy is in pleasing our Lord; no other joy in life is comparable.

With that end in sight, we need to re-affirm that the journey into truth is the journey into God. It is a journey that is eternal so long as we are finite and the Holy God is infinite. Once grasped, it is a journey that can never again be avoided. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

-NJP