

The World is Watching

Larry is one of the guys I meet with on Tuesdays at the Eatery. His faith is new, it's fresh and enthusiastic. I love how he shares his story with friends and even strangers. Larry was out breaking up ice on his driveway last weekend when a Comcast salesman came by (see Brad - your people are out there!). Larry already had Comcast, but they struck up a conversation. The guy had recently moved to the area and was just starting to connect. Larry shared his excitement about the GCC food drop that just took place that morning. Larry and his son were with me and had a great experience delivering food to people in need. The sales guy said he had heard about GCC so Larry shared more of his excitement about his church family and what it meant in his life. As the guy departed, he said to Larry, "I don't think it was an accident that you and I met today". Larry shared with us that he was just about to say the same thing. He glowed as he shared this with the group.

He had a very different experience right before Christmas. Larry works second shift and he often goes to a nearby McDonalds during break. Two days before Christmas, a lady sat down near him while he was eating. She was well dressed and set a beautiful bible on her table as she ate. Larry introduced himself, commented on her bible and shared that he was studying the Christmas story in Luke with a group of guys at his church. She ask where he went to church. When he said GCC, she said "OH" with a look of disapproval. She proceeded to pepper him with questions about scripture and doctrine. She fired question after question with no real expectation of a response. Larry felt crushed. He told me he didn't want to argue with her, but felt so inadequate because he didn't feel like he could even respond at all. So I asked Larry a couple of questions of my own:

- Who opened the conversation? (Larry)
- Who was excited about sharing what they had been learning? (Larry)

I told him she wasn't sharing the gospel. She was beating him over the head with her book. He was far more Christlike in that moment than she may ever be. Keep growing in the word, but never lose enthusiasm for sharing your story.

Deb and I recently went to dinner with some friends from GCC. We ordered onion rings as an appetizer as we were seated. The waitress came back later and asked if we liked sour cream with potato skins. I said we did but weren't sure how well it would go with onion rings (with a smile). You could tell by her look that she had placed the wrong order. So the onion rings were a little late, but were still great. We had nice meal and the waitress did a great job. As we were preparing to leave, she said;"Maybe I'll see you at church this weekend".

You never know who is watching....

I have 3 simple questions for us today.

1. Do you share your story with the enthusiasm that Larry has?
2. Have you ever been that woman at McDonalds?
3. What do you look like when others are serving you?