

July 28, 2020

In our podcast today, Bishop Curry and his guests talk about ways to combat being overloaded, overscheduled, and overstimulated. My personal experience is that I do these things to myself they are not something that happens to me. It is a version of “keeping up with the Jones’.” Everyone else in the world is Superman or Superwoman, I need to do the same. I have come to realize that everyone else in the world is not Superman or Superwoman.

It is my insecurities that blind me to the fact that we all are struggling to get by from day to day. None of us are superheroes we are all searching for love, happiness, and meaning.

One of my friends was a very successful real estate agent and her husband was a successful businessman. They had it all – social status, two over-achieving sons, great friends, great marriage, great, great, great! Over time, they decided that they wanted something different. One of their sons loved horses (dressage in particular) so they decided they were going to re-prioritize so that they could buy a horse for his training purposes.

Their other son loved mission work in Russia, so that decided that they were going to help him with his passion.

To accomplish these things they decided to downsize by selling their house on the bayfront in Corpus Christi, switch to a more rural public school district, and other changes.

I would hear some of their friends’ gossip about all these changes. One day, one of their friends said to me, “it’s too bad about ‘so and so’ they just couldn’t make it in the real world. They had to step away from all their successes because they could keep it going.”

I was surprised because this came from a very good friend. How could anyone who knew them think they couldn’t make it? Everything they were doing sounded very rational and wise. Sadly, they received grief from their friends.

Fast forward a few years, their oldest son is a very successful businessman in Dallas. Their youngest son was a nationally ranked dressage competitor and trained with the German equestrian team in Europe for two years and is now working at a huge equestrian center stable near Houston. The wife quit real estate and is now an Episcopal priest. The husband sold his business and now works for the National Episcopal Church.

Although they were happy with their “previous” life, they have attained a new level of happiness and meaning.

Do we have to be overloaded, overscheduled, or overstimulated? Only if we want to be. Only if it furthers what we think God wants us to do.

The hardest thing is to say, “I don’t care what the Jones’ are doing. I care about myself and my family. I care about how we impact the world.

Listen to where God is calling you not where the Jones’ is leading you. By doing so you become new in Christ and the old things pass away – all things become new!