

Dan's Devotion: Dumb People

Do you ever get frustrated with people? I know I do, more than I should sometimes. Let me give you a few recent examples.

1) We were at KFC/Taco Bell in Knoxville the other night after a track meet. We ordered pretty quickly, but when we sat down, we looked around and saw that there were a lot of people in the restaurant, but no one had their food yet. We knew we were in trouble. 30 minutes later we received part of our food, but not all of it. 15 minutes after that we asked about the rest of our food. They had forgotten about that part of the order and it would be at least 10 minutes more. We gave up.

2) I was purchasing some pop from a grocery store recently. It was one of those buy 3 get 1 free deals, but it had to be diet pop. I got one 12 pack of Pepsi Max which is Diet Pepsi with an extra boost of caffeine. When it all rang up, it cost more than it should have. The check out lady said that it had to be "diet" products. I told her that Pepsi Max had 0 calories so wouldn't that make it "Diet"? She said that it didn't have "diet" in the name so it wasn't "diet". She reluctantly asked a manager and he verified that yes indeed it was "diet" and should be part of the sale.

Sometimes when I get frustrated with other people, I try to remind myself that God has put up with a lot of dumb things I've done over the years. I'm sure he has thought that I've been pretty dumb at times, but he keeps on loving me no matter what dumb things I do. I was reading in Ephesians today and a couple of verses really struck me. Paul says in 3:17-19 "*And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*"

Christ's love is wider and longer and higher and deeper than the dumb things we do. He is so patient with us. If we begin to grasp God's love, it says we will be filled with the fullness of God. If we are filled up with God, his patience will start to rub off on us and we can begin to truly show love to others like he has shown love to us. Let's never forget how amazing God's love is for us.

By the way, I did manage to stay calm in both of those situations. Aren't you proud of me?!

In Christ,

Dan