

Connecting New

February, 2021

There is a difference between knowing something intellectually and knowing something through experience, what St. Ignatius of Loyola called “felt knowledge.” Often what we are told to be true we may believe, but not yet know through experience. This month I share a poem and painting that are the fruit of a “felt knowledge” experience of how all of my life has been and continues to be interconnected with the lives of countless other people. The trigger to this epiphany was realizing that every single turning point in my life came about through the direct or indirect influence of other people, many times feeling serendipitous.

Every Step

With the perspective of age,
I see, I know,
that every single tiny step in my life
involved at least one other person,
their help, guidance, influence, encouragement.

And infused in them and in me
has always been, and will always be,
the goodness of God
(even when my choices have been poor).

Because no matter which direction I take,
God is waiting there for me
with a love beyond limits
and the ability to fully express it.

Surely along the way I participated,
made decisions, took action, engaged effort,
but now I see, now I know,
that my life exists only in relationship,
completely interconnected.

So I hope that I can fully honor
the gift of my life for the sake of those who
participated in creating it.
So I hope that I can return the favor
to the world and to God.



May we continue to grow in our awareness of how we are interconnected...and act accordingly.

Peace and Blessings,
Clarence

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