

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



WHAT'S BEHIND THE LAUNDRY DOOR?

In my early teens, there was a hit song, "Green Door", in which the singer, Jim Lowe, expressed his desire to gain admittance to "Behind the Green Door", behind which it sounded like "a happy crowd" play piano, smoke and "laugh a lot".

What IS behind the "Green Door" may not have been far from what's behind my laundry door, and probably yours – maybe stuff we wouldn't want everyone to see.

By now, you are most likely asking, "What does the "Green Door" have to do with a "Laundry Door"? When significant visitors come, we seldom invite them in through the back door, which is the laundry door in many houses. Also, I remember it was important to mum that the inside laundry door was shut. "You don't want people seeing your dirty laundry (clothes).

Consider this. We can shut the laundry door and hide our dirty laundry from visitors but don't even think of hiding personal laundry from God. "Can a man hide in secret places so I cannot see him?" says the Lord. "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord. (**Jeremiah 23:24**) He sees it all: the actions and the thoughts leading to the actions. He knows about the judgemental thoughts and actions that have dirtied our lives. In **Psalms 44:21**, we can read, "Would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart." He sees the lack of love toward those who need our love and attention. He sees and feels my "non-caring" attitude toward another and himself as it spreads like a paint stain and spoils relationships, even between me and a caring God. We can do nothing to clean ourselves up and rebuild a friendship with God the Father: no cleaning agent, no top-brand detergent; life can look pretty hopeless.

However, remember, we are talking about a loving God who himself provides the answer, the cleaning agent. He tells us in **1 John 1:9**, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." In **Hebrews 10:10**, there is the added assurance, "Our sins are washed away, and we are made clean because Christ gave His own body as a gift to God. He did this once for all time."

Start every day with a life where you stand before God, and with eyes shining with love, he says, "Come my child. I have cleaned you all up; let's enjoy this day together, and remember, if you mess up, I am still with you to clean up the mess and make you clean again. We will have a great time together. Oh, and about what was behind the door, I got rid of that, too. Let's go! And if you are unsure about something during the day, don't forget to talk to me about it."

Kevin