

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



WASHED CLEAN OR WASHED UP

Some of my Mum's never-to-be-forgotten words, often after the evening meal, were, "Would you kids stop messing around and arguing over who is going to wash and who will dry? Those dishes are not going to wash themselves. Now get on with it!" My Mum was one of the kindest souls you could ever meet, but sometimes three sons "debating" who should do what got the better of her. "Sorry, Mum."

Saint Paul, a follower of Jesus, got stuck into some people of Corinth for how they were living, like pots with burnt-on grease and grime, and unable to do anything themselves to become sparkly clean and again be right with God. Something like a saucepan I once threw out because I could never get it clean.

However, Paul goes on to say to them, "But you were washed, you were made holy and clean and made friends of God again, you were "made right and valuable in the eyes of a loving God, in the name of (by the sacrifice of) the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. **(1 Corinthians 6:11)**

There are some other words related to "washing". Being "washed up". A dictionary describes being "washed up" as "no longer successful, skilful, popular, or needed."

It is a sad fact today that many are affected by community breakdown. People of all ages and social strata are starting to live believing they are "washed-up". Loss of friendships, family breakdown, and a continuous barrage of social and multi-media highlighting lawlessness and lack of care impact our outlook on life. We can easily ask ourselves, "Is the grime and putrifaction we see daily causing us to believe that life is losing its shiny sparkle and will only be dull and useless?"

Another follower of Jesus encourages us with these words placed on his heart and in his mind by the loving God of the Bible. Please take these words to heart.

"If we tell God we are sorry for our wrongs, he is faithful and true to forgive us, clean away our wrongs, make us his friends in love, and help our lives shine." **(1 John 1:9 Paraphrased)**

Just remember, that is what God in love wants for your life, and he will never chuck you away because you might think you are too unclean. He knows how shiny he can make you.

God bless,
Kevin.