



Mary and Bob often find themselves sharing common ground when it comes to philosophy and ministry. When approaching ministerial concerns from different angles, He Said - She Said is a venue to share differing perspectives. WE Said reflects some mutual food for thought.

(And then again, sometimes we're exactly on the same page - just sayin' - Bob)

We Are Grateful For...

Bob and Mary's Perspective:

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we have been reflecting on things for which we are grateful. Rather than another deep and insightful blog, we opt to share with you a lighthearted look at life. Here is a partial list of things for which we are thankful, in no particular order:

- Those who have encouraged us to continue offering inspiration and blogs.
- Autumn leaves in Northeast Ohio. There is no place more glorious on a sunny day!
- Music.
- Friends who care about us enough to overlook the foibles, to keep us from using sharp objects, and to know where the fire extinguisher is.
- Being blessed even though we don't deserve it.
- A roof over our heads, food in our bellies, and all we've ever needed - even on the salary of a church musician.
- The many park paths nearby and the long walks they beckon.
- The satisfaction of working with spreadsheets! Bob says, "Where there is Mary, there is a spreadsheet. I have always suspected Mary owns stock in Excel." Ditto post-it notes and colorful highlighters.
- Dunkin coffee. And chocolate. Ooh, together!! <from Mary, as if you didn't figure that out>
- Potato chips and Diet Coke. <from Bob - there's a surprise. Not.>
- Mentors and pastors who have given us roots and wings.
- The frivolity of things great and small - we are grateful for both the heavy days and the fun ones, but especially for days that include both.
- Cute babies. That's God's protection plan for when they become teenagers.
- Playing Tetris with the cars in the driveway. It means the house is full of love.
- Times when we can talk in person instead of using voice mail, email, or text. Bob is thankful for the day (he believes yet to come) when technology goes away, and we can interact with human beings again. Also, he'd like his flip phone back. Please.

Sustaining the Journey



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- Stuff... like keys to doors we no longer open, and single socks because the dryer (or a teenager) ate its mate, and flash drives. Lots of flash drives. They remind us that sometimes we have the ability to find calm amidst chaos.
 - Mary: The occasional opportunity to cut the grass. It provides instant gratification (the cut part looks so awesome compared to the uncut part) and really fun sneezes: the gift that keeps giving!
 - Bob: Landscapers. I can enjoy a cocktail while I point out to them, "Hey! You missed a spot!!"
 - Professional organizations that have introduced us to a wider range of friends, and some really talented folks who have raised the bar and elevated our own skills.
 - Little red cars with bun warmers and sunroofs. Especially entertaining when larger human beings struggle to fit in them.
 - The inspiration to write books that we might even one day publish. Maybe. If we're not dead by then.
 - Long stretches of sandy beach, with blue waves lapping at our feet and an umbrella drink in hand. Preferably delivered by a cute cabana server, and paid for by your offspring with their own money.
 - An end to political ads, at least for the time being.

Thank you for inspiring us, and encouraging us, and praying with us and for us. We wish many blessings on you and those you love.

One other Thanksgiving note FROM BOB:

Why did the turkey cross the road? Because it was the chicken's day off.