

Church of Christ

...Heart to Heart...

I was reading an issue of *Reader's Digest*, September 1998 to be exact, and came across an article about Ted Turner who owns several networks. He states, "*Christianity is for losers!*" After reading the article, you can easily see that in his eyes, winners are those who are successful financially and moved up the ladder of success. Bottom line in his thinking, being a winner means he doesn't need Christ.

Think carefully about the statement, "*Christianity is for losers!*" He has a valid point. Christ is for losers, for those who have lost their way, alienated themselves from God, their fellowman, and failed in their lives. Doesn't God's word remind us, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23)? People can act like they have never sinned or think themselves above the idea of sinfulness, but the facts from God tell us differently. "There is none righteous, not even one." (Rom. 3:10) In God's eyes, there is not one person good enough to make it on their own. We are losers!

Here comes Christ into the world for the benefit of losers. "For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly." (Rom. 5:6) Christ died for us, the sinful, pitiful people that destroy themselves through their own sins. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8) Christ didn't die for us when we were winners, but losing sinners! Our lives were doomed to an eternal separation from God. God wants us saved, so Christ became the One to save us.

Here is the real beauty. Christ took us, a bunch of losers, and makes us winners, real, eternal, winners! Our sins were atoned for, Christ paying the penalty. (Rev. 1:5) We were united with Him in baptism, raised with Him and clothed in Him (Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12) and God views us differently because of Christ. We were given the Holy Spirit to work within. We have been adopted as children through Jesus to Himself (Eph. 1:5). We are holy and blameless before God because of Christ (Col. 1:22). This should thrill us beyond words!

It makes me thankful that Christianity is for losers! Without Christ, there will be no winners! I wonder where that puts Mr. Turner and others who have his mindset? Rejoice, brethren, your sins are forgiven and your heavenly Father is for you (Rom. 8:31-39)! Think about it!!!

Brent