



The Cadillac Kid Devotion

As Mrs. Johnson was greeted by the pastor as she left church, she told him of her upcoming cataract surgery.

“Cadillac surgery?” young Hector asked.

“No son, cat-a-ract surgery. It will help Mrs. Johnson see better.”

But maybe Hector had the right idea all along. Most of us need to have the Cadillacs of life removed from our eyes because they obscure that on which we should be focusing. It is easy to want all the fancy cars, gadgets, games, and distractions that advertisers insist we need to be cool, fit in, or just be up-to-date with everyone else. Every time there is a new cell phone update or technology release, people stand in line for blocks and even “camp out” for days to be the first to acquire the latest gadget.

This is not new. Jesus warned about things obstructing our judgment in Luke 6.

“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye” (Luke 6:41-42).

What the log is in this parable is not specified. So often we are oblivious to our own failings and want to identify shortcomings in others instead of addressing our own. A time of self-examination may be in order. What log has taken up residency in your eye? Pride, greed, self-righteousness? Maybe it is time for you to turn it over to the Savior for some “Cadillac surgery.”

The “Cadillac surgery” our Lord Jesus performs removes the distractions that blind us from seeing His gifts of grace, forgiveness, and eternal life for us. Jesus proclaims, *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life”* (John 8:12). Jesus died and rose so that we could be rescued from the darkness of sin, death, and Satan. Jesus died and rose so that through faith in Him, we are now ... *children of light, children of the day* (1 Thessalonians 5:5).

When we are baptized, our gracious God removes the little sticks and big logs of sin from our hearts (and eyes). Every single day thereafter, as we live here on earth, the Holy Spirit works in us to lead us to repent our sins. He gives us the peace and clarity of purpose that comes from knowing we are God’s forgiven children. The Holy Spirit empowers us to not be distracted by the things of this world. Instead He helps us to keep ... *looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith* ... (Hebrews 12:2a).

Young Hector may not know the difference between cataract surgery and “Cadillac surgery,” but the Great Physician Christ Jesus can take care of both for us.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, open our eyes to the light of the Gospel and help us ignore the distractions of life so we can focus on You more fervently. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

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