

The Home Place

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Here in Wisconsin a sense of home is often connected to where ancestors settled a farm. Many know of the routine on a cold December evening getting chores done in the barn, then coming in to eat in a warm house, and settling before bedtime. In our minds, we all probably have a sense of the early years in our own lives when adults in our family came in from the outside, ate, and settled down for the evening. For those of us whose forbearers actually farmed the land from untilled fields and woods, we call that place of our ancestors “the home place.”

We all have a home place of some sort; a place in reality or in our mind where we go to sit in front of a figurative warm comforting fire of contentment. When we can't get to our “home place” we experience a yearning for it. That is, to be settled, to find the missing piece, to have completed that which feels lost somehow.

Last evening while texting a friend and thinking about writing for this newsletter, I asked her: What impressed you to start getting serious about Jesus? She replied: “I am an only child. It made an impression on me at a bible study that he is my brother. Didn't feel alone anymore.”

People don't feel alone in the home place where Jesus is. The deepest longing we have can be said to be from our ‘private room’ so to speak. The room we have kept hidden for so many reasons. The door to that room is one you can safely and securely open to Jesus. He is gentle and already knows what is in that room. Jesus is gentle love, wanting to be home with you, even knowing all about you. “... I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.” (Rev. 3:20) What yearning might you have for being securely at rest and peace? Invite Jesus into your ‘room.’ Jesus is gentle to surely lead you to your home place with Him.

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