

## Monday Quotes



### Grain

“Everything is holy now.” –Songwriter Peter Mayer

### Field

<sup>1</sup> The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament<sup>[a]</sup> proclaims his handiwork. <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; <sup>4</sup> yet their voice<sup>[b]</sup> goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens<sup>[c]</sup> he has set a tent for the sun, <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;... Psalm 19:1-7

### Thoughts

Recently, I watched the movie, “Nomadland.” Fern, the main character, was one of those hard hit by the recession. Financially tapped out after facing unemployment and ageism, she chose the life of a wanderer and itinerate worker living out of a van. Fern encountered others leading similar life styles and then an entire community of individuals oscillating between their solitary journeys and gatherings with fellow van dwellers/travelers.

For me, the film posed universal questions about rootedness versus the open road, relationships versus solitary journeys, and security versus the illusions of security. But the way people are portrayed experiencing nature was one of the most striking aspects. A 74-year-old character, who played herself, talked about feeling her life was complete because of the incredible wildlife she had seen kayaking. The bio of one of the young characters, also playing himself, said he had dreams of returning to Wisconsin to practice land conservation someday. I don’t want to overly romanticize the struggles involved in being houseless, but I got the sense that the characters were taking time to listen to nature.

Psalm 19 talks about God’s speech being transmitted through the natural rhythms of creation, and then goes on to connect creation with God’s law. As people of faith, we don’t have to exude an either-or mentality. “I find God in nature, not church.” Or, “I only find God in worship.” God is not confined to any one place, a lesson that Jesus often taught and landed him in trouble.

What is the wisdom we can hear in the ways God appears to us in the complexities of creation and our lives? When wondering about how we can care for God’s creation for the sake of survival, also consider the beauty, smells, and the sounds that reflect God’s glory and speech. What we hear sometimes graces us to view and care beyond our small realms.

Happy Monday!

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Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Cindy