

Looking at Life

What is your outlook on life? Are you a person who sees the glass as half full or half empty? Years ago, I heard a story that highlights the different ways people tend to view circumstances and situations that confront them.

Two identical twins were similar in appearance, but markedly different in attitude. The older twin was an optimist who was always smiling. On the other hand, the younger brother was a pessimist who wore a perpetual scowl.

Concerned with the difference, the twins' parents took them to a psychologist in hopes that she might balance their personalities. The psychologist suggested that on their next birthday, the parents put the boys in separate rooms and give them their gifts.

"Give the pessimist the best toy you can find," she advised, "and give the optimist a box with some horse manure in it."

The parents were puzzled, but they obeyed. They gave their sour son a popular action figure with a host of accessories. As they peeked in on him, they heard him whining, "I hate this toy. It's the wrong color. And I think I have already lost some of the pieces! I bet my brother got something better."

Tiptoeing to the sunny son's room, they found him eyeing the horse manure with a wide smile and bright eyes. "This is so cool," he shouted. "Where there's manure, there's gotta be a pony nearby!"

Which twin do you resemble? Do you view life as a disaster waiting to happen, or a blessing to be received?

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything.

I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Philippians 4:11, 13).

--Beecher Hunter