

Lucy's Question for the Catcher

Some time ago, there was a *Peanuts* cartoon in which Lucy is in the outfield playing in a baseball game.

Charlie Brown, of course, is on the mound pitching. Lucy calls out to him, "Hey, Manager! Ask your catcher if he still loves me!"

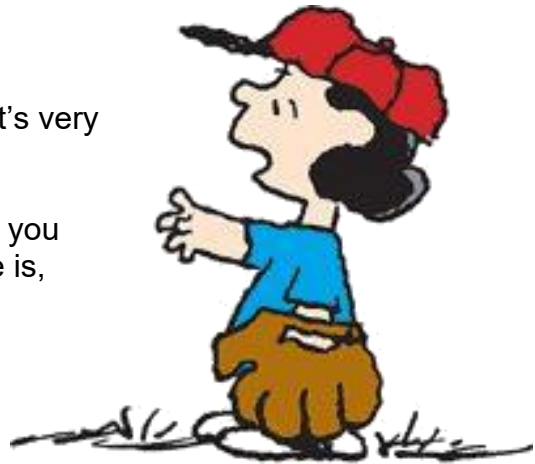
Charlie Brown interrupts his pitching and says to the catcher, "She wants to know if you still love her." Then, in the next frame, Charlie Brown turns to Lucy and yells, "He says, 'No!'"

Then Lucy wants to know why not. He relays the information to Lucy again: "He (the catcher) says there are so many reasons he can't remember them all."

This upsets Lucy, and she responds, "Really? That's very depressing."

Finally, Charlie Brown, exasperated, cries out, "Do you mind if we get on with the game?" Lucy's response is, "Game? What game?"

"The baseball game!" shouts Charlie Brown, to which Lucy responds, "Oh, that's right. I was wondering why I was standing out here."



Now, in mid-year 2020, is a good time for reminding ourselves why we are "standing out here." What is our purpose? Why are we here?

It's also a good time to remind ourselves of God's promises. The Apostle Paul said, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. He destined us in love to be His sons [and daughters] through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:3-6 RSV).

Paul is speaking here of our destiny. He says to us that we are destined to be God's sons and daughters through Jesus Christ. Do you believe in destiny? Do you believe you were put on this earth for a purpose? And if you believe there is a purpose for your life, do you believe you have found it?

Experts tell us that people who have a sense of destiny accomplish more than those who do not; that if you believe God is at work in your life and has a plan for your life, you are likely to be a more optimistic person than somebody who believes he is on his own and look for ways to turn defeats into victories.