

Seeking Clarity

Mother Teresa, one of the most remarkable human beings ever to walk this earth, was a woman of prayer, trust and spiritual perception.

Brennan Manning in *Ruthless Trust* (HarperCollins, 2000) relates this story:



When John Kavanaugh, a renowned ethicist, went to work at “the house of the dying” in Calcutta, he was seeking a clear answer about how to spend the rest of his life.

On the first morning there, he met Mother Teresa. She asked, “And what can I do for you?”

Kavanaugh asked her to pray for him. “What do you want me to pray for?” she asked.

He said, “Pray that I have clarity.”

She said firmly, “I will not do that.”

When he asked her why, she said, “Clarity is the last thing you are clinging to and must let go of.”

When Kavanaugh commented that she seemed to have the clarity he longed for, she laughed and said, “I have never had clarity; what I have always had is trust. So I will pray that you trust God.”

And so it is for us.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).

– Beecher Hunter