

What's Your Name?

How do people see you as you move through one of our Life Care buildings or represent Life Care at Home? What conclusions do they draw about you? How do you see yourself?

Writer Paul Lee Tan gives this illustration:

John Selwyn, who became the Bishop of the South Pacific, was renowned for his boxing skill during his university days. On one occasion, after he had become bishop, he had to utter grave words of warning and rebuke to a professed convert. The man clenched his fist and violently struck the bishop on the face.

In response, Selwyn simply folded his arms and looked into the man's face. With his powerful arm and massive fist, and the skill acquired from his sport, Selwyn could easily have knocked the man down, but instead he waited calmly for another blow. It was too much for his assailant. Ashamed, he fled into the jungle.

Years later, the bishop became seriously ill, so he returned home. One day, the man who had struck him came to his successor to confess Christ in baptism. Convinced of the genuineness of his conversion, the new bishop asked what "new name" he desired to take as a Christian.

"Call me John Selwyn," the man replied, "for it was he who taught me what Jesus Christ is like."

Do others call you a Christian, or see Christ in you? Or is that only what you call yourself? If not the name of Christ, what name do your friends give you behind your back? If you were given a nickname descriptive of your character, would you be proud of it?

Proverbs 22:1 offers this wisdom: "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."

--Beecher Hunter