



We Are God's Hands & Heart in the World

I grew up believing, and still do believe, what I heard from my parents and elsewhere: *We are God's hands and heart in the world.* This simple but powerful image is intricately tied to Jesus' words teaching us how and for what to pray: *Your Kingdom come, Your Will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

How wonderful it would be if life here and now could become as it is in heaven. Imagine living in God's presence, sharing company with Jesus and being filled to overflowing with love in return for Jesus' love of us so that this abundant love extends out of us into every direction.

That happens to be our spiritual calling here and now. That is God's Will for us in the present time. God is in this very moment making all things new and the plan is to use us to make things new and right in our corner of the world where we live.

God's transforming power engulfs us as we allow ourselves to become instruments of peace, love, justice, mercy, and hope. These attributes do not enter our sphere of existence from out of the blue. They must come through us. That is why we are here, and why God has showered us with his love and blessings.

This might be a radical notion, to learn that the reason we are here in the first place is to be God's hands and heart in the world. It is not just an afterthought but the primary design. We get our joy, not from seeking it, but from looking outside ourselves with the agenda of making our little nook of the world a better place.

God's Kingdom comes wherever His Will rules the hearts and lives of His people.

We use electronic cards such as credit, debit and gift cards. However promising and convenient these cards may be, they are of no value or use until they are properly *activated*. So with our own lives of faith. Only when the Holy Spirit *activates* our spirits and we become inspired to go out into the world to change it and make things right for God does it happen that we are blessed and joyful.

We are not to seek joy and fulfillment as a goal in life, but seek to serve as God's hands and heart. Our joy and fulfillment will emerge as we experience God's power operating in and through us bringing change and hope into the world around us. That is the foretaste of the feast to come.

