

The Complexity of “Harming” – Part I

Research has shown that one’s thought life influences every aspect of one’s being. Kind people are simply the type of people who habitually tend to think kind thoughts. Angry people are simply the kind of people who habitually tend to think thoughts that breed resentment and hostility. Archibald D. Hart

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. Isaiah 55:8

This is the secret of joy. We shall no longer strive for our own way; but commit ourselves, easily and simply to God’s way, acquiesce in his will, and in so doing find our peace. Evelyn Underhill

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

To truly care for people requires not caring too much about their approval or their disapproval.

Just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2:4

People who give themselves to relational greatness – people who have deep friends whom they laugh with and cry with, with whom they learn together, with whom they fight and forgive, with whom they dance and grow and live and die – these are the human beings who lead magnificent lives, whether or not they are ever noted in society. And when they die, none of them regret having devoted themselves to people – to their friends, to their children, to their family – not one.

Perhaps there is someone you dislike but whom you have to see each day. What would happen if you sent that person a small card of greeting? What would happen if you invited that person out for a cup of coffee? What would happen if you bought that person a flower? God would smile. That’s what would happen. Christopher de Vinck

At the creation of the world, God had this dream. It was a dream of community, a community of loving persons. That’s what the world was to be.