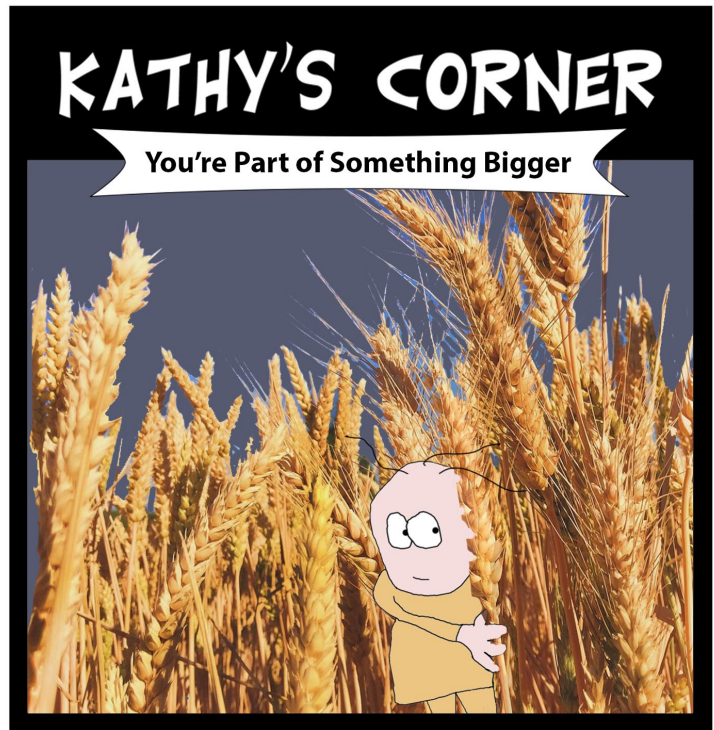


“You’re Part of Something Bigger”

As I considered my own insignificance in my own eyes, I “heard” the words, “You’re part of something bigger. If born from above, each of us may be a very small part of what God is doing, but we are a part, nonetheless.

As huge as the number of attendees at the State Farm Stadium which has an expanded capacity of approximately 73,000, you are part of something bigger. Looking at that immense mass of people attending the celebration of Charlie Kirk’s life, realizing that it is made up of thousands of **individuals** each one showing up at the right time, caused me to think. What would have happened if each individual considered him or herself unnecessary, then decided not to show up? If these individuals decided they had something else they should be doing at that time, where would the enormity of the celebration be?



Few people make it into history books. Few will be remembered a hundred years or so later. Many martyrs are remembered—many more are not. Jesus is remembered more than twenty centuries later. He is, even today, considered One worth dying for. How many are looking forward to His return? I would like to think that that number is larger than what would fill the seats at State Farm Stadium.

As huge as the audience at the stadium was, it is insignificant compared to the millions of people in our nation and the billions of people in our world—*His world!*, yet God cares for each one—even the hairs of our head are numbered. God called Jonah’s attention to the number of people in Ninevah:

And the Lord said, “You cared about the plant, which you did not labor over and did not grow. It appeared in a night and perished in a night. So may I not care about the great city of Nineveh, which has more than a hundred twenty thousand people who cannot distinguish between their right and their left, as well as many animals?” (Jonah 4 10-11 CSB)

The number of people in Ninevah was about 120,000. That is less than double the number seated in the stadium.

How many are invited to a banquet that has been provided for them? How many have something better to do? Business, busy-ness and excuses will not hold any weight when the day comes. How many will want to come wearing their own covering rather than the covering Jesus provided for them?

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables: “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to summon those invited to the banquet, but they didn’t want to come. Again, he sent out other servants and said, ‘Tell those who are invited: See, I’ve prepared my dinner; my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’”

“But they paid no attention and went away, one to his own farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged, and he sent out his troops, killed those murderers, and burned down their city.

“Then he told his servants, ‘The banquet is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Go then to where the roads exit the city and invite everyone you find to the banquet.’ So those servants went out on the roads and gathered everyone they found, both evil and good. The wedding banquet was filled with guests. When the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed for a wedding. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ The man was speechless.

“Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

“For many are invited, but few are chosen.” (Matthew 22:1-14 CSB)

We live in a day that the tares and the wheat grow side-by-side. The fish drawn in by the nets are both good and bad. The day is coming when there will be a **great separation**. Right now the bad and the good live side-by-side, but not forever. Until now, I really didn’t think about the immensity of the numbers at that *great separation*. Numbers of individuals that had free will, and made their choice—an eternal choice.

Little one, you are part of something bigger. Though small, still loved, still significant, a valued part of God’s kingdom. Charlie Kirk was just one—a debater—a truth proclaimer. We see similar in Saul (Paul) in Acts 9:29.

Barnabas, however, took him and brought him to the apostles and explained to them how Saul had seen the Lord on the road and that the Lord had talked to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. Saul was coming and going with them in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. He conversed and debated with the Hellenistic Jews, but they tried to kill him. (Acts 9:27-29 CSB)

Saul/Paul escaped at that time, but he remained what NUMA would call a “High Value Target,” eventually martyred.

Charlie Kirk’s death testifies to the validity of the scripture, **“Jesus replied to them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains by itself. But if it dies, it produces much fruit. The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me. Where I am, there my servant also will be. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.** (John 12:23-26 CSB)

Although Jesus was foretelling His own death to His disciples in this passage, It applies to every life given for Him. “A life for a life.” The old life was meant to die, symbolically it is buried in baptism. You contain the incorruptible seed. The fruit of a life from this seed brings honor to Jesus and the Father. (...you have been born again—not of perishable seed but of imperishable—through the living and enduring word of God.) (From 1 Peter 1:23 CSB)

You are just one, but a part of something bigger—His family—His kingdom.