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THE LESSON OF THE MONSTER TRUCK

1 Peter 5:1-4

Recently our granddaughters, Ella and Cara, came over to our house to go swimming in our community pool. At the end of their session, they showered at the outdoor shower by the pool. As Ella was showering, she pointed out a line of ants that was crawling up and down the wall next to the shower. I thought it odd that the ants were there. There was no food source there, so what were they pursuing so diligently as they climbed up and down that wall? There was no apparent point to the activity.

For the couple of minutes we were there at the shower I watched the ants. They were totally focused on what they were doing. They appeared to be totally unaware of my presence. They also appeared to have no conception of who I am and what abilities I have. I possess abilities that would appear miraculous to an ant. I can do things they can’t even dream of. I can carry things so large and heavy they would smash an ant. I think about things and do things that are light years beyond their ability to comprehend. I can speak a language, and I have some knowledge of two other languages. I use a computer almost daily, and they have no idea of what that even means. I have written a couple of books, and they don’t know what a book is or what it is for. I existed before they came into being and will continue long after they have died. For all they know, in their time reference I might well be eternal, for I have always been there. I have power that should frighten them for I could end their lives on a whim should I so choose.

Then I had a theological moment. It occurred to me that the difference between those ants and me is smaller than the difference between me and Almighty God. In Isaiah 55:8-9 the prophet wrote, “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Ants have a better chance of understanding me than I have of understanding God and his thoughts and actions. Sometimes we question what God does in our lives. That is kind of like if an ant were at my house and saw me pick up a guitar and start playing it, and he asked, “Why do you hold that thing and make those noises with it?” There is no way I can explain to that ant that I am making music, and I do it to try to honor God and lift people’s spirits. The ant has no idea what music is, nor how making it is going to honor whoever this God person is or lift people’s spirits. It has no starting point from which it can understand any of that. I have the same problem with God. I have no starting point from which to comprehend what an infinite, omnipotent, omniscient, eternal God does and why, except for what he tells me.

Today we are going to look at 1 Peter 5:1-4. In these verses Peter addresses what leaders in the church should be and do. Yeah, I know. That sounds like a real yawn fest. Prepare for a nothing burger of a sermon that has approximately zero relevance for your life, right? Hold on. What if I told you that hidden in these innocuous seeming verses about a slightly arcane subject are secret keys to understanding the exact timing of the second coming? Okay, that’s not true. Well how about if it contains hidden clues to the identity of the Antichrist? Okay that’s not true either. No, there’s nothing titillating or spicy in these verses. However, in this brief discussion we get a glimpse, a small taste, of how different God’s view of things is. It is that truth that we will key on. We will think about God’s unique way of seeing and doing things and consider what that might mean in our lives. I am going to use Isaiah 55:8-9 as a structure to think about this passage.

GOD’S THOUGHTS ARE NOT OUR THOUGHTS

When I checked in for a flight Laurie and I were going to take recently, the airline offered to upgrade our seats, for a price, of course. We briefly flirted with opting for first class, but then came back to earth. It was not a long flight and the cost was high, so we passed on it. But for a very reasonable price we could get premium coach with a few precious extra inches of leg room. We both thought that might be worth it. We decided to go for it. But when I proceeded, I discovered that there weren’t any available that had two seats together. I told Laurie, who was in another room, “We can’t do it because they only have single seats so we couldn’t sit together.” That afternoon as we were driving to the airport Laurie said, “I don’t understand why we would have to check luggage if we want to get the premium seats.” I was totally lost. I had no idea what she was talking about. I said, “What do mean?” She said, “You said we couldn’t get the premium seats because you have to have checked luggage in order to get those seats and we just have carry on bags.” I said, “I never said that. I said they only had single seats, not two together.” Laurie’s thoughts and my thoughts were in different universes. I still have no clue how she came up with the luggage thing. But Laurie and I were a lot closer in our thoughts than our thoughts are to what God thinks, about everything. He says as high as the heavens are above the earth, that’s how far above our thoughts his are. How far are the heavens above the earth? There is no way to define that. It is a poetic and expressive way of saying farther than you can conceive.

This means in every respect, in everything that exists, God’s thoughts are different from ours, vastly, immeasurably, unimaginably, beyond what we think. But he does reveal some of what he thinks to us. We see that in this passage about leadership. You should not be surprised to learn that his thoughts on leadership are different from ours. Consider what people usually think about leaders. We think leaders are at the top. They have control and power and get things done. They are the ones in charge. They tell people what to do. They are most important. They are the ones who set the goals and who make the organization or the project run efficiently to accomplish those ends. This is how it works pretty much everywhere in the world, in government, in business, in schools, in sports, in clubs. This is why some people react negatively to Peter’s teaching that a husband should be the leader in a family. If that means he’s on top, he has the power, he’s in control, he’s most important, it’s easy to see why women would find that unappealing and objectionable.

God has rather different thoughts about leaders in his church, and the family, for that matter. Leaders in the church are to be shepherds. Hey, a shepherd has control, decides what the flock does, is the guy in charge, pretty much like the world defines leadership. Hold on. Pay attention to the way Peter describes a shepherd’s relationship to the sheep. He says, “Be shepherds of God’s flock that is *under your care*.” First, he points out this is God’s flock, not yours, so you are not in charge and don’t have control, God does. Second, he says that leaders are to care for the sheep. Make sure they are fed and protected and help them when they are hurting or sick. As a shepherd, a leader isn’t primarily to run the show, telling everyone what to do. He is to care for the sheep.

This thought gets magnified in verse 3. Peter says leaders are to be eager to serve. He meant that literally. He didn’t just mean serve in the sense of taking on the job, like “I’m serving as the leader.” He meant actually serve people. Think of the job of being a server today. That used to be called a waiter or a waitress, but that is no longer politically correct, so they’re servers. What does a server do? He or she serves. They see to the needs of others. They take their “orders.” They make sure those served get the food or drink they desire, or whatever else they need. A leader’s role is to take care of the needs of those being served. The leader essentially takes orders, not gives them! You’ll see in a moment that’s exactly what Peter meant.

Verse 3 says leaders should not be “lording it over the flock.” What does that mean? It sounds like being pompous, high and mighty and looking down on others. It surely can mean that, but it is way broader than just that. Peter got these ideas about leaders from Jesus himself. In Mark 10:43-44 in response to yet another incident when his disciples were jockeying for position, because position meant importance as leaders, Jesus said, “Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.” Here is leadership according to Jesus. You become a slave of those you lead. You aren’t at the top of the org chart, you’re at the bottom. Slaves aren’t at the top, they’re at the bottom.

That really becomes clear when we consider something Jesus said about that “lord it over” thing. In Mark 10:42 Jesus said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.” They’re in charge. They decide. What they say, goes. Jesus defined “lording it” as exercising authority. Jesus and Peter both said leaders should not see their role as exercising authority, being in charge, having control and power, telling people what to do. That’s lording it. That’s exactly how it works in the world. In verse 43 he said, “Not so with you.” How much authority does a slave have? None. That’s how much authority, in the sense of power and control, leaders in the church are to exercise!

Leaders do have authority, but a very different kind of authority. You can see this in verse 3. They should be examples to the flock. This is the most important thing they can do. Be examples of what? Of loving people. Of serving people. Of being humble. Of having integrity and being holy. Of loving God above all else. Of being like Christ. The authority a true leader in God’s kingdom has, is the authority of a godly life and heart. *The ones who should be followed in the church are the people who are most like Jesus*. That’s because what God cares most about is not that we do impressive things and have an organization that amazes people. He cares that all of us would be like Jesus. That’s where he wants leaders to lead people. Everything else is unimportant.

But if what you say is true, that leaders’ authority is their character, that they aren’t in charge and deciding what should be done, then who is in charge? How is the church ever going to get anything done? How are we going to make the church successful? How is this thing going to run? Who decides things?

This is where we run into a truth that is hard for us to grasp. We tend to get glimpses of it, then lose sight of it because it is so radically different than the way everything else works. I will illustrate it by something I saw recently with our grandson, Wesley. I have mentioned that his favorite TV show is *Trash Truck*. This is consistent with the fact that he has a fascination with trucks. Recently he has stepped up that obsession. He has broadened his TV viewing interests. Not long ago he wanted to watch a You Tube video that featured rallies where they have huge trucks drive through pools of mud somewhere in the South, while hundreds of people look on and cheer. Comedian Jeff Foxworthy’s signature is jokes about how you know you might be a redneck. For instance, if you’ve ever made change in the offering plate, you might be a redneck. Or, if the only condiment on the table is the economy sized bottle of ketchup, you might be a redneck. If that’s true, I might be a redneck! You surely might be a redneck if you watch rallies where trucks drive through mud for entertainment. My 2 year old grandson might be a redneck! Maybe it’s genetic.

Later Wesley watched a monster truck rally that took place in a stadium. At one point I noticed the stadium, not the field the trucks were on, but the surrounding stadium, and it looked familiar. Then I recognized it. It was Petco Park! Good grief! Rednecks in San Diego! The rally featured trucks with enormous wheels. The trucks were raised up very high. So they had these huge vehicles with various kinds of truck bodies up on top of them. Some of the truck bodies were wild looking. They did amazing things with these trucks that sometimes caused them to fall on their sides or even flip over on their backs, but invariably the drivers inside were just fine. I realized that’s because the truck bodies are actually just window dressing. The real vehicle is a chassis with an engine and a super strong, sturdy steel cage that protects the driver. The truck body is just stuck on top of the actual vehicle to make it sort of resemble a truck. The vehicle could run just fine without the shell of the truck body.

At this point you are likely thinking, “Yep, he’s confirmed it. Myatt is a redneck. Why else would he be talking about monster trucks in church?” That’s because what we typically think about the church is that it is the visible organization that we call The Anchor Church, or North Coast Church, or Calvary Chapel, or Twelfth Baptist Church of Barstow. But those organizations are like the truck body on monster trucks. They aren’t the real thing at all. They aren’t what God looks at and cares about. He cares about the real thing, and those visible organizations aren’t it. They are just man made things stuck on top of the real thing, which is the body of Christ. God cares about the real thing; the window dressing is irrelevant to him.

God isn’t interested in the man made organizations, in how smoothly or efficiently or effectively they run, or how impressive they seem to be to humans. People care about that. They care about that a lot. But that has little to do with what God cares about and what he is doing in this world. God cares that we love him. Jesus said that was the most important thing in all of life. God cares that we love other people. God cares deeply that we all, especially leaders, be humble, which we will look at next week. That’s one of the most important things he wants in leaders. He cares that we all be holy, that we glorify him. He cares that we have faith, because according to Hebrews 11:6 it is impossible to please him with out it. He cares about his church, the one that is not visible, but consists of every person in whom the Spirit of Christ lives. He doesn’t care about the window dressing, which is the man made organizations we call churches.

GOD’S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS

God does things that are a mystery to us because he has abilities we cannot even imagine and he operates in ways we can’t conceive of, ways that are totally different from what we would do. For instance, God works according to his own timetable. That can be frustrating for us. We hate that we are often told in the Scriptures to wait on the Lord. I don’t like waiting. Very few of us would say patience is one of our strengths. Yet God’s timetable often results in us waiting. For instance, we have seen that Peter said the end of all things was near. I’ve been hearing all my life that Christ is going to come back, and it could be any time. But it’s been a long time. That’s where we run into God’s timetable. In 2 Peter 3:8 the apostle wrote, “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.” “Yeah, I get that Rick. Sometimes sitting through your sermon feels like at least a century.” God is working on his timetable, which exists outside of time. Compared to eternity a couple of thousand years is like a nanosecond. An eternal God lives outside of time. So he works on his own schedule, which can be hard for us because our lives are dominated by time, and compared to eternity, we have very little of it here.

God also works for his purposes. My purpose tends to be, “Rick Myatt has no pain or disappointment.” God seems to be aiming at something different. Ephesians 1:11 says we were chosen “according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.” That tells us that first, God does have a plan. There is a plan for history and for what is going on in this world. Second, it is a plan that involves everything in life. There is not a single thing that happens in our lives that is outside that plan. And third, it is aimed at accomplishing the purpose of his will, not our purposes. In verse 10 he said his purpose was the summing up everything in Christ. In other words, it’s all about Jesus. The whole thing. Your whole life and my whole life. Every part of it.

When we flew home from Seattle last week our plane landed early. It was so early that the gate wasn’t ready for us. So the pilots stopped the plane on the taxiway while the rampies got the gate ready. As soon as the plane stopped, some passengers got out of their seats and began retrieving bags from the overhead bins. This was dumb, because where did they think they were going to go? The plane wasn’t at a gate, the doors were closed, so there was no place to go. Very quickly a flight attendant said over the PA system, “Ladies and gentlemen, please return to your seats and buckle your seat belts until the aircraft is stopped at the gate.” Not one person sat down. The flight attendant repeated her announcement, this time with a more forceful tone of voice, adding “We are on an active taxiway, and you are required by law to remain in your seats.” She obviously was not happy. This time a few people reluctantly sat down. But several continued about their business of getting their stuff so they could go nowhere. You had human beings working at cross purposes. The flight attendants had the purpose of keeping people safe and following the law. Some of the passengers had the purpose of getting out of their seat before anyone else could get in their way because they wanted to get off the plane first. Those cross purposes resulted in a problem. This time the flight attendant took the gloves off. She practically shouted, “Sit down right now.” Even the more dense of the early standers got the message and finally sat down. All except one. He just kept on doing his thing. The attendant now addressed him directly and said, “Sir, stop what you are doing immediately and get in your seat.” There was some obvious threat in that statement. She didn’t say it, but her tone of voice clearly implied, “or else.” If he didn’t sit down that minute he would indeed have been first off the plane, because the security people would have come aboard and escorted him off the plane to take him to a place he most assuredly did not want to go. He sat down. Sometimes life is bumpy like that because our purpose is not in line with the plan that the entire universe is operating by. God’s plan is to carry out his purpose of summing up everything in the Lordship of Jesus Christ. It is *not* to make sure we always get what we think we want.

One of the reasons we sometimes find life frustrating and it feels like things are against us is that we are working at cross purposes with God. God has a plan that has everything working toward his purpose. But we have a different purpose. We wonder why things keep happening to get in our way and keep us from our goals. It’s because the universe is actually operating on a plan that has a different goal.

Even the ways that God carries out his plan are different than the way we would do things. Numbers 22 relates the bizarre story of Balaam. The king of Moab tried to hire him to curse Israel because he was afraid of Israel. Balaam refused, but after they kept pressing him he went with the king’s people. This led to one of the weirdest tales in the Old Testament, where Balaam’s donkey actually *spoke* to him. He said, “Wilbur…” Oh, wait, no, that was Mr. Ed. He said basically, “Haven’t I always let you ride me and been faithful?” Then Balaam saw why the donkey was balking. There was an intimidating angel blocking the road. Yeah, uh, that’s just a weird way of doing things.

Judges 6 tells us about a time when Israel was invaded by a huge army from Midian, Amalek and some other groups. God drafted a guy named Gideon to lead an Israeli army to fight off the invasion. Gideon raised an army of 32,000 men, which was impressive, but they were still badly outnumbered. However, at least it was big enough to give them a chance to fight. Then God said there was a problem. Not enough men? Not exactly. In Judges 7:2 he told Gideon, “You have too many men.” Too many? Uh, Lord, haven’t you heard that you can never have too much pitching? No, wait, that’s not right. You can never have too big of an army. At God’s direction Gideon gave his soldiers the option of going home. Two thirds of them did the math and figured out if they stayed to fight their names were likely to end up on a plaque somewhere dedicated to those who paid the ultimate price in defense of their nation. They said, “I’m out.” Gideon was left with 10,000 men. It was pretty depressing. And God said, “Still too many.” Dude, are you serious? That was just nuts. God wasn’t happy until they got down to 300 men. Then God defeated that massive invading army of possibly 100,000 with a special forces unit of 300. That’s just not the way we do things.

When God entered human history to rescue us, he didn’t do it the way humans would. He didn’t show up powerfully with a display of shock and awe to make sure everyone noticed. He came as an infant in a no name family on the back side of nowhere. Then, when that infant grew up and became a man, he had him be executed like the worst of criminals. That’s not a rescue plan that any human would come up with. That’s just not the way we would do things.

Do you remember what Jesus did when he was out of town and got word that his dear friend, Lazarus, was gravely ill? John 11:6 says, “When he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.” Lazarus’ sisters had sent word to Jesus hoping he would come and save Lazarus. That was like a first century 911 call. Jesus responded by just staying where he was! During that time Lazarus died. Imagine if you placed a 911 call today and the paramedics waited 2 days before responding with the result that the victim died. Somebody would get sued. Do you think Lazarus’ family understood that? John 11:21 says Martha, one of the sisters, said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” She didn’t understand why he didn’t come immediately. Jesus had a different purpose than Martha. He did things differently. God just does things in ways we won’t always understand. Of course, you know how that one turned out.

That is also true in how God runs his church, God doesn’t do things the way we would do them. What do humans look at when they evaluate a ministry, a church? They look for things that appear impressive to us humans. They look for numbers, size, buildings, programs. For the most part they look at things that are visible. They look at the organization and how smoothly and “effectively” it runs. Remember that to God, the organization is a human creation. It is something that humans focus on and care about. But to God, that organization is invisible. It has nothing to do with what he is doing. He is building his kingdom, which is not of this world. It is organic. It is not an organization, a human artifice. It is an supernatural organism that requires supernatural power to enable it to be and do what God wants.

This is why God has a very different way of leading in mind for the church. The way you lead a human organization is different from the way you lead in a divine, supernatural organism. That’s because the health, success and growth of the organism does not depend upon the abilities of humans. In 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (English Standard Version), Paul wrote about the church of that day, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ***So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who gives the growth***.” It is not what people do that brings about the growth that God cares about. Human beings are can bring about the kind of growth that human beings evaluate. They are able to build organizations that impress other people. But by our ability we humans cannot produce the growth God cares about. So leaders shouldn’t focus on what makes a church “successful” or “effective.” Those are people’s way of describing visible things that they care about, not what God cares about. God’s leaders focus on being faithful, on serving and loving people, and on being an example to the flock, on heart and character, and God will bring about the growth that matters to him, which usually has to do with things people can’t even see.

There’s a story in 1 Kings 19 about Elijah. He ran away, depressed and afraid because he thought his big revival had failed and now his life was threatened. But God told him that he wasn’t working in loud, impressive ways like huge storms and mighty earthquakes. He was in the quiet whisper. Then he told Elijah that he had 7000 people who were faithful to him that the prophet knew nothing about because they weren’t visible.

God is uninterested in leaders who can make an organization run smoothly, effectively or “successfully.” That organization, whether “successful” or not, is of no interest to him. He is only interested in leaders who are faithful to him and care about what he cares about, and that has to do with humility, love, holiness, and his glory.

Go back to the story of Gideon. Do you know why God only wanted an army of 300 men? In Judges 7:2 the Lord said to Gideon, “You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, ‘My own strength has saved me.’” God wanted it to be clear it was not humans that saved them, it was not ability or strength or strategy, it was God and his supernatural power, and nothing else. God is not interested in sharing his glory with people and their abilities, talents and clever methods. That’s why he reminds us he is the one who causes the growth that he cares about, and the people are nothing.

But how can this work? Do you remember how God planned to have ancient Israel be led? God was to be their king, their leader. They were to just follow him. But they couldn’t understand how that would work. Hey, everybody else had a king. The king ran the show. He made things work. He helped them defeat their enemies. Everybody could understand that because they could see it. In 1 Samuel 8:5 the people of Israel came to the prophet, Samuel, and said, “You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.” They wanted to be like all the other kids. Everybody else has a king. Why can’t we? They wanted a king, because they couldn’t understand how they could run the nation with God leading them. Sadly, Israel never consistently lived as the theocracy, the God led nation, God wanted them to be. That is parallel to what happens today. We have a hard time understanding how God could grow his church and operate it, without running an organization the way everybody else does. God’s ways are not our ways.

APPLICATION

I hope that coming out of this we might think about the church and about leaders from God’s perspective and get away from being obsessed with what people usually focus on. But most of all, I want us to grasp the fact that God thinks differently than we do and does things differently than we do. If we are thinking like most everyone else and doing what they do, we are not thinking what God thinks and doing what he wants done. Why does it matter that we understand that God thinks and acts differently than we do?

IT KEEPS US FROM BEING PROUD

Peter will follow these words up with an admonition to humble ourselves. When we realize how far above us God’s wisdom is, how far beyond us his ways our, we will see that we have no reason for pride at all.

Every year the baseball team at the college I attended had an alumni game just prior to the beginning of the season. One year a well known alum played in that game. His name was Wes Parker, and at the time he was the first baseman for the Los Angeles Dodgers. He was a good hitter, but he was an outstanding fielder. He won the Gold Glove award for best fielder at his position every year for 5 straight years. Years later, in 2007 he would be named the best fielding first baseman of all time. My last season of baseball, my sophomore year in college, I played first base. I wasn’t a prototypical first basemen. The coaches put me there because they figured it was the only position where a guy with a wet noodle for an arm could play and not do too much damage. So, do you think I sought out Wes Parker the day he came and offered to give him a few tips about playing first base? Do you think I chatted with him and shared some of my baseball wisdom? I didn’t even talk to him because I didn’t want to bother him. He was a baseball giant, and I was a gnat. I didn’t want to be an irritating gnat buzzing around him. It wasn’t hard for me to be humble in regard to Wes Parker because to be anything else would have been idiotic and absurd. So it is when it comes to our relationship with God. The fact that God’s thoughts and ways are so much higher than ours should cause us to humble ourselves before him. It should cause us to be in awe of him and not try to put him in human boxes. It should cause us every day of our lives to bow before him saying, “Your thoughts, your purpose, your ways, not mine, O Lord God Almighty.”

IT ENABLES US TO TRUST GOD

This is a big one. There will be times that we don’t understand what God does or doesn’t do. There will be times that we don’t like what God does or doesn’t do. It will make so sense whatsoever to us. I don’t understand why God would allow a pandemic to wreak so much havoc, pain and loss on the world. I don’t understand why we seem to be going through another round of it. I don’t understand why he would allow an earthquake to again devastate Haiti when there is already so much misery in that poverty stricken land. I don’t understand why he would allow the Taliban to inflict their horror on people once again. I don’t understand why Laurie and I had to go through the death of a child. I don’t understand why my Dad had to die at a much earlier age than I expected. I don’t understand why some of our family and friends have had to deal with cancer. I had a perfect plan to help with our retirement. It was writing some books and having them sell really well. I don’t understand why God didn’t seem to get on board with that plan.

Remember that last week we saw that a key to us being able to rejoice even while suffering is committing ourselves to our faithful God. Many of the things we will struggle with are painful and hard. But as we humble ourselves and remember that God has his purposes that we often know little to nothing about except they are good and loving purposes, we can trust him. We can be like the child who doesn’t understand why his or her parents insist on them eating vegetables when we’d much rather eat French fries, or when the parents insist the child does something other than drone in front of a television.

Remembering God’s thoughts and ways are different enable us to love him when we don’t get what’s happening, and to worship him, even when life is confusing and difficult.

IT HELPS US LINE UP OUR LIVES MORE WITH HIS WILL

Finally, as we grow, more and more we will learn to line up with his purposes rather than be so obsessed with ours. The universe is running in line with a plan, God’s divine plan for everything. It will help us if we begin to see the world the way he does, to care about the things that he cares about, to think the things he thinks, and most of all, to have his purpose be our purpose. As we do that, as we line up more with the plan that he is using to operate the universe, the more our lives will run smoothly.

What if a conflict occurs between you and a family member, friend or someone you encounter in the course of your day. What is the human way of behaving? Protect yourself, look out for your interests, defeat the other person, who is now the enemy. What is God’s way? We live so that all we do could be summed in Christ. We give up self like he did. We love. We become humble and gentle like he was. That’s living for God’s purpose.

Michael and Carissa took little Wesley to the famous San Diego Zoo. He seems to like animals, so they were eager to see how he would react to elephants, giraffes, lions and tigers. He did get very excited and focused at the zoo. But what he focused on was the ducks that hang around there. You can see ducks lots of places. But that’s what he liked. But what he really got excited about was the zoo bus. We are like Wesley, enraptured by our versions of ducks and busses. God has another purpose for us, a far more exciting, important and fascinating one. Let’s look for God’s ways, not ours.