

St James News: Thought for the day – Wednesday 15th July 2020

Life and death by Steve Jobs – Revd John Ohen

Death is inevitable in our lives. One of the most memorable quotes of Steve Jobs is that ‘death is not the opposite of life, but a part of it.’ Here are the words of one of the richest men in our lives, (taken from social media in this time of Covid - 19 and that Black Lives Matter)

Steve Jobs, one of the world’s best-known billionaires, died at the age of 56 years of Pancreatic cancer. He reached the pinnacle of success of the business world and in others’ eyes, his life was the epitome of success. However, when he was lying on a sick bed and recalling his whole life, he thought about things like material things lost can be found, but there is one thing that can never be found when lost.

Below are words attributed to him:

‘When a person goes into the operating room, he will realize that there is one book he must read. Material things lost can be found, but there is one thing that can never be found when it is lost and that is “LIFE”. When a person goes into the operating room, he will realize that there is one book that he has yet to finish reading and that is the book of healthy life. We will face the day when the curtain comes down. Love for your family, spouse, and love for friends are essential in life; but always treat yourself well and cherish others. As we grow older and wiser, we slowly realize that wealth is only a material thing. You will realize that happiness does not come from the material things of this world.

There are five undeniable facts of life, and one of them is not to educate your children to be rich but educate them to be happy. You are loved when you are born, you will be loved when you die, in between, you just must manage. There are six best doctors in the world, Sunlight, Rest, Exercise, Diet, Self- confidence, and Friends, but in the end God’s love is supreme.

He ends by saying that God loves each and everyone of us and we should love God in return.

This can be put in another way, “the golden rule” do to others as we want them to do to you. Mark 12 v 30-31 - To love the Lord above all things, and the second is to love our neighbour as ourselves.

You can hear more from Steve Jobs at the link below in a speech in made in 2005 to Stanford University Graduates.

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2011/oct/06/steve-jobs-pancreas-cancer>

PRAYER:

O God, the well of love and Father of all, make us so to love that we know not but to love everyone in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Song: [Be still my soul - Traditional](#)

O consuming fire, O Spirit of love, descend into our hearts and there transform us until we are fire of your fire, love of your love, and Christ himself is formed within us. Amen.

Elizabeth of Schönau (1129-1164)