

(On computer listing as 040101-5)

Year C #779

Filling the Gap

040101-4

Hello! This is Dorothy —

What an encouragement to hear from some of you and what a blessing to be able, in turn, to pray for some of you in a specific way. We heard from a lady in Malawi, who wrote - I love listening to your programme, Dorothy's Daily. I listen to you every day. You teach me a lot. I loved the one programme you spoke of back in April. The message really touched me. I am a true and devoted Christian; I believe and trust in the Lord; I read and know the Bible, But I know and feel there is something missing: a gap that needs to be filled. Every day i pray to God to open my eyes to show me where and what I am doing wrong. Please, will you send me a copy of your book, *Food for Faith* which you mentioned, so I may have the peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ?

I would like to share with that lady that our prayers and love at this moment are among you all. Yes, she might understand the gap that needs to be filled. You read a letter like this and you know she loves the Lord. You know she is devoted; she is in the Word and seeking to gain everything she can of any information which will help her grow in Him. And she is asking for a book, which is really a key issue of showing how she can take from the Word every day. That book, *Food for Faith*, I know will be a blessing, but she is also looking for peace and joy in our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is an amazing thing that sometimes we keep looking for something. We try the next thing and we keep hoping for the answer

to what is going to fill my life. The Lord Jesus Christ intends that you and I should have our lives filled full of Him. It is a simple thing to simply say to the Lord, *Fill my life afresh. Come now.*

You see, there are many fillings. Sometimes we think, “Well, I got saved years ago and I know I received the Holy Spirit, and the Lord became very real and precious to me and I could understand His Word.” But somehow we go on and think, “Well, it really does not matter about all those little things that accrue because God knows it and He is sorting it out. The big things I will deal with and ask Him to heal and actually cleanse.” But I am missing the point that I am to be filled full daily with His Spirit. This is normal. Therefore, it is essential that when we are looking for that something as a believer that will fill our lives, we need to allow Him again to be the center of our lives and to fill us afresh with His Spirit. I am amazed that so often I feel, “I did this yesterday and today I am going through this again, but I think there is something missing today.” It is not that He stepped out of my life; somewhere I took over more territory. Instead of it being by His Holy Spirit, always Jesus filling my life to the overflow, I start to think of things in terms of myself. You know, “How is this going to work out? What am I going to do?” Little by little, I am pushing out the work of the Holy Spirit and taking over that position on the throne of my life and not allowing Him to be Lord and King to rule within.

Sometimes, too, joy goes over the little things. It is the little sin that we make an excuse for. We are independent and we are following some selfish desire. Sometimes joy is lost because of some stain on the conscience or some involvement with the world that causes a kind of fear to come about standing at the foot of the Cross. It's a fear to allow that finished work of Calvary to count on my behalf to not only cleanse me but to deal with that conscience to set me free from the demands of the Law into the liberty of His life. And there I am in bondage and entangled, putting on this little act in trying to meet everything that is expected of me, but I have never laid it at his feet; I am never totally free. This fear, in a way, is gripping me and there is this gap in my life.

I find, too, that joy can be lost by unbelief. It could be I do not believe God in a situation where I cannot rule and control and see what is going to happen tomorrow. That comes from pride and a fear of losing my reputation. This can cause that gap in the life.

Also, joy can be lost when meeting the Lord in the Word, the Bible, as I find that I skip and think, "Oh, I know all that!" and I don't take the Word of God as something which is living and real or give my total absorption in seeing that He is speaking to me. I become too familiar with the things that I consider I can handle and know about. I do not see that it is fresh, living water in every situation which I need. I do not use every opportunity to take in the Word in

that living way. I end up having . . . **a form of godliness and denying the power thereof.**

That dear lady from Malawi has a need that we could all express perhaps: a gap that needs filling and dealing with. Let's turn to Jesus now and say, *Deal with what it is You are speaking to in my life, Lord. May it be that the overflow of all You are takes over and not only fills the gap, but that fills to overflowing in my life.*

In Jesus' Name. Amen.