

Let's Have a Cup of Tea



I was blessed to live in England for almost seven years. It took some time to adjust to life in London, a vast city of millions colored by hundreds of cultures and languages. However I soon learned to navigate the “Tube” (the underground train system), to find my correct bus stop, and to “queue” up to buy a ticket or to do my banking. Although my Oklahoma accent set me apart, I eventually felt at home, even British at times. I enjoyed a ploughman’s lunch, shepherd’s pie, a good roast dinner, and of course, fish and chips.

One British custom I have carried with me over the years is that of enjoying a good cup of tea. My English friends taught me that tea could warm me when I was cold, cool me when I was warm, calm me when I was giddy, and comfort me when I was sad. Sharing a cup of tea seemed to place a special stamp on a friendship.

This picture of sitting with my dear friends in London, having a cup of tea, popped into my mind when I thought of a scripture verse in Revelation 3:20: Jesus said, “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.” The King James Version of that verse uses an old fashioned word – “I will come in and sup with him...”

What a thought! Jesus Himself would enjoy sitting and having tea with me. His heart longs for fellowship with us. And just as I could sit for hours with my friends in London, drinking tea and talking and sharing deep conversation, Jesus wants to hear my heart and have me hear what is on His. In 1 Peter 5:7 an invitation is given: “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

As you sit in His presence, feel free to share with Him your concern over that wayward son or daughter. Tell Him that you are really worried about your financial situation. Unload about the problems you are facing at work, in your relationships. And most of all, tell Him of your hunger for Him, your need for His wisdom, and that you need Him more than any other thing in life. Think of your conversation as having tea with your Best Friend.

- Read Psalm 55:22. What cares are you dealing with right now that you can cast on Him? Make a list and lay it “in His lap” as you pray.
- Listening is a vital part of good conversation. Find a few moments to sit quietly, with open Bible, and ask Him what is on His heart. As you listen to His voice, He will encourage you, direct you, and tell you how much you are loved.