

A Mid-day Meditation

From

Sue's Perspective

*"There's one other thing that I think every person or frog needs to be creative: friends. For me, the best part of creativity is collaborating with friends and colleagues. Mine happen to be bears, pigs, rats and penguins, but you go with what works for you."*

- Kermit the Frog

At first glance, you might think that this is a lead-in to creativity and how we regard those who are blessed with very creative minds. But, no, this is about friends and how they impact your life. I know that some of the best (and worst) ideas that I have come up with over the years have been in co-operation or in collusion with my friends. I am happy to say that God has blessed me with a circle of friends whom I cherish.

*"For me, the best part of creativity is collaborating with friends..."*

My circle of friends includes a patchwork of personalities. Not unlike the circle of friends that Kermit describes, many of mine are as different as day and night. Some are warm and cuddly; some are just plain smart; some are a wee bit conniving and some are just downright stuffy. Each person whom I consider a friend adds something to my life to make it better. Each of them understands something about me that I often don't understand about myself. When I am together with one of my friends, we can come up with some pretty good ideas – ideas for fun, ideas to help others, ideas to make the world a better place.

*"Mine happen to be bears, pigs, rats and penguins,..."*

When I was in Girl Guides, we sang a song called "No Man Is An Island." It talks about the need for people to have others in their lives. Most of us have family to surround us (not so much right now, but you know what I mean). Family members are important, that goes without saying. Friends, on the other hand are equally important. Friends share common interests. Friends share secrets. Friends share devotion and solidarity. Friends challenge you in ways that family members don't. Friends laugh with you and friends cry with you when others look at you, puzzled. Friends don't ask questions, yet friends do ask questions. I think the bottom line here is that a life without friends can be a lonely life, a life without collaboration, a life without creativity, a life where we miss the presence of God.

*"...but you go with what works for you."*