EVERYDAY ETHICS

Continuing the Conversation

The Thrill of Victory: How to Respond if Your Candidate Won

Season 3, Episode 6

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Questions for reflection and/or group conversations

1. Richard Rohr has stated that people define their worth through a simple formula: "I win, therefore I am." How much do "wins" and "losses" dictate your sense of value, mood, or peace of mind?

2. Regardless of how an election turns out, what can you do to serve the broader community and keep healthy and open dialogue alive?

3. How important is etiquette, or good manners, in moving forward as a community?

4. How important do you consider this past election (or really any election) in the future of our community or nation? Will this be the “election to end all elections”?

5. Bill drew attention to the idea of groups operating from within "silos." Can you recognize you are part of such groups that others may call "thought" bubbles? Can you consider such arrangements can limit your worldview, your impact? That a provincialism that is overly exclusive works against finding and operating with a common good in mind?

6. Alexander McCall Smith in The Winds from Further West (New York: Pantheon Books, 2025): “I suppose we need to try to get back some of the things that we’ve lost: courtesy, listening to the other point of view, helping one another, accepting that people may have different ideas of the good, accepting, too, that people may be flawed but not entirely wicked.” Bill and David offered several suggestions toward civil conversation: do not gloat, speak “softly,” be gracious, do not insult, brag. What other specific suggestions can you think of?

7. Bill pointed out that many of our modern relationships are transactional: what we get out of each other. What would it look like for you to move from this to a covenant mindset in your relationships?