

Remove the Clutter

By, Carlotta Whyte

Take out the trash – something that we do weekly, but for the most part don't really give it much thought. Gather, bag up, carry to the pick-up point; and relatively soon, it gets picked up and taken away.

Same thing with un-wanted e-mails or texts, hit "delete" and they disappear. Likewise, with the recycle bin on our computer, select "empty bin" and it is empty in a few seconds, or on some computers, it can even be set to automatically empty with specific instructions.

But what about removing the "trash" or "unnecessary items or tasks" from our "to do" list in our lives? Oh, yes, we try, but sometimes it sticks to our lives like Velcro! Or clings to us like static cling on our clothes on a cold winter's day, or clings to our lives like saran wrap when we try to wrap up food! These items on our "to do" lists are not really bad things, but they are not in focus with where Jesus is leading us. And they may have just slowly climbed onto our "to do" list, barely being noticed. These things may in fact be very good things to do, but they can clutter our life and keep our life so full that there is no room to follow Him.

Selecting what we will choose to do, takes time, effort and talking in prayer with our Lord to determine where our focus should be.

Thought to ponder: What things in our lives can we "point, click, and hit delete" from our overloaded lives that will ultimately lead to a more focused (and a more relaxed pace) life in Jesus?

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9)

Prayer: Lord, help us to sort out the "clutter" of our lives. Guide us as we choose to "hit delete" on the things in our lives that take us away from focusing on You and Your ever abundant love for us. Guide us as we strive to follow in Your footsteps, in Jesus name we pray. Amen.