

The Puppeteer

A puppet play can be as simple as this ...

The puppeteer wore an orange glove on one hand and a lime-green one on the other. The two hands imitated youngsters passing a ball back-and-forth in the park.

They laughed and giggled and enjoyed each other. But, alas, when one player missed his catch and ran for the ball, he found a mirror. Looking in the mirror he noticed the other player was different from himself. How could an orange puppet possibly play with a lime-green one?

Immediately he set a brick in the middle of the play field as an obstacle. His partner responded like-wise, overcome with feelings of anger.

The wall got bigger and bigger till neither puppet could see the other. Then they were sad for there was no one to laugh with and catch the ball.

Finally the puppeteer spoke out and asked the two what was wrong? What were they so sad? "He's different than me!" wailed the right hand. "And I can't play with some one that looks like that!" wailed the left hand.

"Now look here", the puppeteer scolded. "So what if you are different. I'm your creator and I made each of you like you are. I made one orange because I like orange. I made the other lime-green because I like lime-green." He sighed and continued. "You are both a part of me. Feel my arm, my shoulder, my head." Each puppet felt up from one wrist and across the face, to discover each was connected to the other. Each came from the same source. "There's no reason for either of you to dislike or resent the other."

Slowly the two puppets recognized a bit of the truth. They knocked down the barrier they had thoughtlessly erected, and went back to enjoying their fun games.

When we are tempted to judge another, remember the two puppets and their Creator.

(written by Joyce Sasse)