

March 28

Galatians 1:10 (NIV) Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

One more devotion about Christina Noble. I was struck by one person's critique of the movie. He called it a "hagiography," a story about someone's life that makes it seem better than it really is or was. He called the movie superficially uplifting and suspicion-raising. He wanted to know the real story. He wrote, "Can our heroine really be such a marvelous cross between Mother Teresa and Doris Day? A recent documentary about Noble was flattering too. But it also evoked Noble's egotism, psychological damage and arguably naive belief that all developing countries need are more pure-hearted do-gooders from the west to come and fix things."

Jesus tells us that when we follow Him, we should expect opposition. He also tells us that the world will not understand Him; therefore, it will not understand us. This writer was trying to understand a life of faith from a world that doubts that faith and, thus, could only criticize the movie and her life. He felt the faults of the person took precedence over the accomplishments. We can expect the same treatment when we step out in faith because God chooses to use flawed vessels to accomplish His work. We all have our "faults," as did Abraham, Sarah, Jacob, David, Solomon, etc. We are not embrace those faults; we are to work with God to eliminate those faults. At the same time, we do not have to defend ourselves to the world nor do we need to hide from it. We follow Jesus and let our actions speak for us. Saul of Tarsus did just that and became Paul, who still touches lives today.