A Delegate Reflects

“The goal of God’s work in us is to bring our lives into harmony and agreement with His own righteousness and so to manifest to ourselves and others our identity as His adopted children.”

I remember coming across this sentence in a book I was using as a study guide. It’s one of those sentences that make you stop and reflect on what it is saying, but it is also one that has stayed with me. Often, especially now as a delegate, it has come to bear heavily on my mind, primarily the latter part.

As a delegate, we are called to do many things, however, the one question I often find myself asking is, “How am I manifesting my identity as His adopted child?” Throughout the processes and meetings leading up to and including General Conference (GC) and Jurisdictional Conference (JC) we are faced with many obstacles. We have disagreements with others, we have decisions to make that may and often do affect the whole UMC. With all this tension and stress I must remind myself that in my thoughts, words, and actions my ultimate goal at the end of the day should be glorifying God by the manifestation of myself as an adopted child.

As a delegate, I have been entrusted with making the right decisions for the UMC. I have been entrusted with doing the work needed for GC and JC. However, I can’t help but also recognize the higher calling to which I am called, to be holy as God is holy. If I expect to be faithful in that in which I am entrusted than I must have this as my foundation, to be holy.

As a delegate, I want to be honest and fair. I want to show mercy and kindness. I want to offer grace and peace. I want to display love towards my Brothers and Sisters. If I am to do this I cannot look to myself but look to Christ, who is the bond of my adoption, and the model to which I can manifest to others my identity as His adopted child.