

## i Am Not Big Enough: 1 Peter 2:11<sup>1</sup>

my mouth opens  
dripping, wet, sweet.  
The largest burner  
(back left)  
is on high and  
the pot isn't big  
enough to keep  
blood bubbles,  
thick and juicy  
from spilling over.

Sand takes the place of saliva  
and the texture of my mouth  
goes by two names: fear and doubt.

Greediness consumes me  
and pulls me from my faith.  
Arrows of sorrow<sup>2</sup>  
sink into my chest  
“Now, now, now!”  
they scream tugging  
yanking ripping me forward  
their edges  
cunningly caught on tissue  
and bone, points curved  
so they can't be pulled free.

Once Lust has broken my body,  
made his way through weak barriers,  
my soul lies naked,  
the wares of spiritual warfare  
lay scattered across the countryside.  
my shield, my sword, all of it  
in pieces because I refuse to pray.

The world and his lusts  
have made a friend of me  
and i have made enemies of my friends<sup>3</sup>  
and i am so foolish

Where have i been walking?  
On the insides of peaches?  
On the insides of me?<sup>4</sup>

Filthiness, mud, stringy muscle,  
blood and ripped tissue  
hang out of my beaten vessel-  
i lay scattered on the countryside.

We should each know  
how to possess our own vessel  
in sanctification and honor<sup>5</sup> and  
i thought i knew.

i thought i alone was big enough.

<sup>1</sup> 1 Peter 2:11 “fleshy lusts war against the soul”

<sup>2</sup> 1 Timothy 6:9 “some have strayed from the faith  
in their greediness, and pierced themselves through  
with many sorrows”

<sup>3</sup> James 4:4 “those who are friends of the world are  
enemies of God”

<sup>4</sup> Galatians 5:16 “walk in the Spirit and you shall not  
fulfill the lust of the flesh

<sup>5</sup> 1 Thessalonians 4:4