

Fort Payne church of Christ



The Weekly Moment

A Weekly Motivational Message

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

A Few Random Thoughts

Sometimes we get caught up in our own world and forget that we're just a small spec in the landscape of the universe. God created each of us – and that makes us special. Remember, though, that God created everyone else also. I guess that makes everyone else special. Let's treat *them* that way.

As Christians, we talk a lot about how powerful prayer is in our lives, but then we don't bother to use that powerful tool. We need to pray when everything is going right – giving God the thanks – not just when we're in trouble. He asks for our burdens, but likes to hear us pray *"thank you"* every now and then. And I truly believe that He enjoys hearing our prayers for others. Seems I recall that the Apostle Paul did a lot of praying for others. I'm sure that someone has prayed for you at times. ***"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."***
James 5:16

Life is not a straight road; there are a few crooks and bends in it. No matter how hard we try, we will run off the edge once in a while. Notice those grooves on the side of the highway. They are there to keep you from straying off course too far. We have "grooves" alongside the highway of life to keep us on the *"straight and narrow"*. It's called God's Word and only when we open His Book will we find those grooves and stay on the straight and narrow. ***"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."*** I Cor 10:13

All things in life are temporary. If it's going well, enjoy it; it won't last that long. If it's going badly, don't worry, that won't last long either. Often, we lose hope when things are going bad. We allow ourselves to get stuck looking in the rearview window of life. Just remember that the windshield is much larger than the rearview mirror. Look ahead and let the past stay where it belongs. And this thing called *"worry"*, don't let it rob you of the peace found in each new day. In times like these, it is helpful to remember that there have *always* been times like these. ***"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."*** Psalms 23:4

Friendships are important. They are like a book; they take years to write, but only a few seconds to burn. The old friends that we have gained over the years are like gold – they are so precious to us. Yet every day brings the opportunity to make new friends. And then, in time, those new friends will become old friends whom we cherish.

We need to remember where all of our blessings come from. Use them wisely! Use them to help those in need. Jesus said, ***“Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away”*** (Matt 5:42). We never know when a small gift to someone in need might be returned in kind a thousand times over to others. This is not to say that we should not enjoy some of God’s blessings ourselves. Simply help others when the opportunity arises.

At some point in your life, someone is going to hate you. It’s going to happen; you can’t avoid it. You may not – probably won’t – deserve it, but it will happen. So now that you know that it is going to happen, how will you handle it? Jesus said, ***“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.”*** (Matt 5:11). This will make it easier to handle – that is, if you heed the words of the Master!

Now that you are filled with all of this wisdom, you can be happy, happy,



happy!

Think about it.

Here’s hoping you’ll make the *“most of your minutes”* this week.

Hope to see you at Bible Study tonight.

In Christian Love,

Bob Strickland