



Prime Timer's Newsletter

Mission Statement: Provide opportunities for the senior members to be involved in the fellowship, service and evangelism activities of Meadow view, assisting the congregation in its outreach and growth.

Volume 9 Issue 6

July 2012

Times and Places

Bible Thought: "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under Heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NIV)

I recently organized some old photographs. As I looked at each picture, a flood of memories came back of vacations, holidays, friends and family.

Some were of my hometown during a sentimental visit in 2008, the week of our fortieth wedding anniversary. We drove over to the old church building where we had gotten married, to reminisce. Many years had gone by but we remembered and saw God's hand.

Life is like that, with the passage of time. Fleeting, or slow, time is measured by hours in the day, weeks and months on the calendar, and various seasons of the year. God has planned out our very existence – including those unique times, places in our lives.

We don't know what lies ahead in our futures, or what pictures we might add to our albums – to look back on later with fond memories. But, God already knows, and He wants us to enjoy the precious moments of our lives.

Perhaps you have a few pictures to go through, and some sweet memories to ponder. God has given us life, and is constantly watching out us – now, and in the future. Our lives are in His hands, and that's a very good place to be!

~Katha Winther
San Diego, CA



Saying Thank You

Almost four centuries ago, the English statesman and author Sir William Temple, penned some profound observations about the central role thankfulness plays in general well-being of our souls.

Few of us who spend our lives putting words on paper can expect our musings to survive 400 years, so it is with some awe that I share Temple's lasting comments about giving thanks.

He wrote: "it is probable that in most of us the spiritual life is impoverished and stunted because we give so little place to gratitude.

"It is more important to thank God for blessings received than to pray for them before hand."

"For that forward-looking prayer, thought right as an expression of dependence upon God, is still self-centered in part, at least, of its interest; there is something we hope to gain by our prayer. But the backward-looking act of thanksgiving is quite free from this. In itself it is quite selfless."

"Thus," Temple wrote about what he called "the backward-looking" prayer – the prayer of thanksgiving, "it is akin to love. All our love to God is in response to his love for us; it never starts on our side. 'We love, because he first loved us' (1 John 4:19)."

Can we in the era of the "Me Generation" begin to comprehend the principle Temple was affirming?

Did Bishop Ambrose in Milan possible have this in mind when 1,200 years before Temple he insisted, "No duty is



more urgent than that of returning thanks"?

Long before there was a holiday called Thanksgiving, these wise believers recognized how crucial a thankful spirit is to the inner health of all believers.

Of all the holidays we observe in America, Thanksgiving has the greatest potential to ennoble us. It remains the least commercialized and the most family-oriented of them all.

What will happen, however, if we let over-indulgence replace the season's historic focus on gratitude? What if turkey and football nudge aside thankfulness as the reason for the season?

Surely it is no accident that the most-often repeated words in the entire Bible appear in the call to God's people, "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good." And then the reason for our gratitude is stated: "His love endures forever."

-Gene Shelburne
"The Christian Appeal" magazine

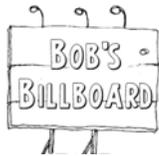
July Activities:

Potluck Luncheon: Monday 2nd @ 12:00

Rapha International / Healing Hands: Thursday the 12th @ 8:00 a.m.

Meet at the building at 7:45 a.m., leave at 8:00 a.m.

Steering Committee Meeting: Monday 16th @ 2:00 p.m.



To obtain God's best, we must give our best.

To win, we must surrender.

To live, we must die.

To receive, we must give.

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