

Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE

“Clean up! Company’s Coming!!”

By Pastor Darel Boston

“Tis the season to be jolly”, but also it’s a time for many to be cleaning up and preparing for company.

The inn of Bethlehem was probably clean and ready for guests, but “The Manger Room” was likely NOT prepared for overflow.

We recently saw a neat production where “Leon” (Noel backwards) played the innkeeper, and just couldn’t turn Mary & Joseph away. “You can have my room” he said, and “ruined” the whole play, or made it perfect. Jesus can have my place, all of it, tonight and forever.

Clean up! Company’s coming! Houses will get a once over with dust cloth and vacuum, and some semi-trash will get sorted and tossed or filed. We take pride in our place. We want it to look good when company comes.

It seems like Jesus has a way of stirring healthy pride in people who have said, “You can have my place”. There’s a new desire to look and be our best for Him.

Missionary friends in Southeast Asia tell us

that tribal villages can be very dirty. The “spirit shelf” at the entrance to the village represents the spirits they fear. Living in dread, there is no joy. Despair and filth go together.

But when they are introduced to Jesus, told

of His love for them, shown a way of living filled with forgiveness and hope, and when they RECEIVE Him (“You can have my place”), their villages become cleaner! No lectures needed, it’s just a natural consequence.

Our community and surrounding area provide interesting parallels. Is it possible to read despair by the trash in the yard, and the peeling paint? Do observers who visit our area decide to move here, or not, based on what they “read” from the appearance of “our place”?

Clean up! Company’s coming!! As He inspires in us a joy worth showing, may we be reaching out with hope and love to those who have yet to say, “You can have my place!”

Merry Christmas

The Ultimate Connection



We are more connected than ever before; communication is a basic need and we expect it to be instant. Consider another, more unearthly form of communication...prayer. Each time we come to God in prayer we can expect to connect with Him, our source of all that is wise and good. Keeping in touch with Him through prayer can have an incredible impact on our lives! As we worship this week, may we remember to thank God for the divine communication of prayer, the ultimate connection.

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| Sunday Isaiah 35.1-10 | Monday Isaiah 55.1-13 | Tuesday Isaiah 56.1-8 | Wednesday Isaiah 60.1-22 | Thursday 2 Peter 1.1-21 | Friday 2 Peter 2.1-22 | Saturday 2 Peter 3.1-18 |
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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