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Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE



"Major Stuff"

By Darel Boston, Retired Minister, Norton Christian Church

There's an old story of a man who claimed he and his wife had settled on a peaceful way to divide responsibilities: he dealt with the major stuff, and she with the minor. When asked to illustrate, he said he took care of stuff like whether China should be admitted to the United Nations, and she took care of stuff like buying a new house or car.

How would you describe "major stuff"? For most of us things like health, home, happiness would qualify as "major". But truly major may refer to a far higher level. The Jesus of Calvary forfeited "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness", in favor of "higher stuff".

He was entitled to better! For a life without sin, perfectly in harmony with God's design, he was certainly entitled to deliverance and all the above: life, liberty, pursuit of happiness. So what

are we to conclude? "Major" as measured by the divine standard, is more about sacrifice than achievement.

Entitlement is a much used word today in our nation, politically and economically. Some of us can remember a president who said "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do

for your country?"

It's still right to help the needy and show compassion for the suffering. But it's wrong to nurture dependency. The gospel of Christ kindles a desire to sacrifice for "major stuff", like meeting needs and honoring God. May our life, liberty and pursuit be focused on His happiness.

That's the major stuff that matters.

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." (Matt. 5:6)

Always Hungry

I've always been hungry, It comes natural for me. And not just for eating, But for things that "eat me".

Hungry for more
 Of wealth and of fame,
 For clothes and for cars
 And a prominent name..

But a hunger NOT natural
 ---Not by my old nature---
 Is that which my Lord gave
 When I became a new creature.

A hunger for righteousness,
 The good and the pure...
 A hunger as blessed
 As his promise is sure.

Now hunger is blessed,
 Just as He said
 As no more I crave things
 But His righteousness instead.

--Darel Boston

Bounty Beneath A Blizzard



Have faith! Beneath the sheet of snow, colorful crocus and golden daffodils wait for the curtain of winter to lift so the show of spring can begin. Spring is coming as it does every year, for God's plans are so much stronger than our doubts. Do you ever feel that life cannot possibly hold any goodness for you? That you cannot dig out from under your circumstances? The same God who brings spring from the depths of winter can bring light and warmth to your life. Plant some seeds of faith at God's House this week. Spring will come to your soul and you will blossom.

Weekly Scripture Reading					
Colossians 1.24-2.19	Colossians 2.20-3.17	Colossians 4.2-18	Psalms 51	Psalms 56	Matthew 57-61-18

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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Sudoku Solution #3195-M

6	7	1	5	2	3	8	4	9
4	8	5	1	9	6	2	7	3
3	2	9	7	4	8	1	6	5
9	6	2	3	8	1	7	5	4
1	5	4	6	7	9	3	2	8
8	3	7	4	5	2	9	1	6
5	1	8	2	3	4	6	9	7
7	9	6	8	1	5	4	3	2
2	4	3	9	6	7	5	8	1

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"J.J."

D	I	M	E	D	S	P	A	M	S	J	A	M
E	C	O	L	I	T	A	L	I	A	A	R	E
J	A	N	I	S	J	O	P	L	I	N	N	E
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D	E	S	D	E	N	S	E	G	O	O	P	Y

