

# From the Pastor's Desk - September

2011

A common sight found in school newspapers around the country is advice from graduating seniors to underclassmen. It is the time when these seniors who have been blessed with the insight that only comes from experience are allowed to present their words of wisdom to those students who will be returning for at least one more year. Unfortunately, these words of advice from seniors don't begin appearing until near the end of the school year.

This is unfortunate because at that point the students have already determined the course that their year is going to take. It is quite unlikely that these returning students will remember the advice that was offered by the seniors over the summer and into the new year. It seems to me that it would be best for these pearls of wisdom to be given at the beginning of the school year.

So, as the school year is in its early stages and as we are beginning a new year of Sunday School and fall programs, I would like to take some time to mention one of the most popular words of advice given by graduating seniors. ***Enjoy it because the time goes by quickly.***

In my understanding of this advice, it's a call to make the most of your time because of the undeniable truth that time seems to fly by. This advice is relevant for all of us. It's true for those who are still years away from high school. It's true for those who are currently in high school. It's even true for those whose years in high school are an ever shrinking dot in the rear view mirror. ***Enjoy it because the time goes by quickly.***

In life that seems to be one constant. Time continues to move. There are those days that it seems to move slowly. (Imagine a long trip in a car full of children or a slow day at work when the weather outside is beautiful.) At other moments, time seems to fly by. Where did the summer go? How can school be upon us already? When did I turn 38? How can my kids be starting school?...going into high school?...graduating?...entering college?...getting married? One thing that we realize is that time doesn't slow down or stop for anyone. It keeps marching on.

When we realize this, we begin to understand how important each moment truly is. There is nothing that we can do to slow down the hands of time, but we can at least see to it that we make the most of the time that we have. The best way to make the most of our time is to live every second of it for the glory of God and to pass on our faith to others. We want to follow Christ in all that we do. We want to pour our faith into our children. We want to share our faith in word and deed with our friends and neighbors. We want to fulfill the call that God has placed upon our lives for as long as he allows us to walk this earth.

The truth is that our time and even our lives don't belong to us. They belong to God. Paul says in Galatians 2:20, ***"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*** As followers of Christ, we only truly live, as we live in Christ. We have been given a great privilege. We have the ability to truly live – to live not for ourselves, but to live for the one who has created us, to live for the one who died for us.

We give God glory, as we follow Jesus Christ and pass our faith on from one generation to another. When we do this, our time will be well spent, no matter how long or short it may be. The faith that we pass on to others continues even after we are gone.

In Christ,  
Pastor Scott