

E-Devotion – Wednesday Dec 2:

Recently I heard from an old friend still living in Idaho where we moved from to come to Green Valley. We stay in touch despite the miles that separate us. He shared that his mom who was 99 years old had just passed away after a short time in hospice. This wonderful lady was part of our family for many years and especially at Christmas time. She would join us for Christmas Eve service and then a small social gathering at our home. We were all blessed that my friend would share his mom with us.

I knew she had been slowly slipping away but it was still a sad day as I thought of my friend, his sons and grandchildren who would not have her in their lives anymore. But the more I remembered her zest for life, her enthusiasm, her love of her family, and her deep faith, the more I realized that her passing was just the completion of her life journey. As I read her obituary, I was no longer sad but rejoiced for having known this special lady. I decided I would celebrate her life, not lament her passing.

Psalm 90:12 *“Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom,”*

With her as an example, I want to live my days in such a way that when they close, I have gained a “heart of wisdom.” The “heart of wisdom” I believe, is to live the days we have with God occupying first place in our lives. We then live each day enthusiastically for Him. We do this a day at a time. Instead of complaining because a few more aches and pains seem to appear daily, we choose to celebrate life rather than endure it.

Aging isn't a choice. But our response to it is. In so many ways we ourselves determine how we shall grow old and complete our own life journey.

Let us pray: Lord, forgive me for so often forgetting all that I have to celebrate. Teach me to celebrate all You have done for me with joy and thanksgiving. Be with me and guide me on my life journey. Amen.

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