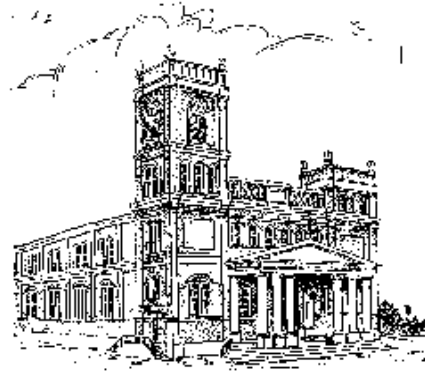


Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church
228 South Beach Blvd.
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
(228) 467-6509
www.olgchurch.net
email: olgchurc@bellsouth.net



A Little "extra" for O.L.G. parish family

February 21, 2010

Life Lessons

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live.

They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad."

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered: "I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

"We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

"We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

"We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are."

Make a Difference

by: Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R., The Sower's Seeds

As the old man walked the beach at dawn he noticed a youth ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea. Finally, catching up with the youth, he asked him why he was doing this. The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun. "But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," countered the old man. "How can your effort make any difference?"

The young man looked at the starfish in his hand and then threw it to the safety of the waves. "It make a difference to this one," he said.

God Made Part of Me

by: Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R., The Sower's Seeds

"Can you tell me who made you?" the pastor asked the small boy.

The Youngster thought a moment. Then he looked up at the pastor and said, "God made part of me."

"What do you mean, part of you?" asked the pastor.

"Well," answered the boy, "God made me little. I grew the rest myself."

"Growing the rest" is a lifetime job for everyone.

15 Things God won't ask

by: Bill Greer, Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul

- God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but will ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- God won't ask the square footage of your house, but will ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- God won't ask about the fancy clothes you had in your closet, but will ask how many of those clothes helped the needy.
- God won't ask about your social status, but will ask what kind of class you displayed.
- God won't ask how many material possessions you had, but will ask if they dictated your life.
- God won't ask what your highest salary was, but will ask if you compromised your character to obtain that salary.
- God won't ask how much overtime you worked, but will ask if you worked overtime for your family and loved ones.
- God won't ask how many promotions you received, but will ask how you promoted others.
- God won't ask what your job title was, but will ask if you reformed your job to the best of your ability.
- God won't ask what you did to help yourself, but will ask what you did to help others.
- God won't ask how many friends you had, but will ask how many people to whom you were a true friend.
- God won't ask what you did to protect your rights, but will ask what you did to protect the rights of others.
- God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, but will ask how you treated your neighbors.
- God won't ask about the color of your skin, but will ask about the content of your character.
- God won't ask how many times your deeds matched your words, but will ask how many times they didn't.

Patience to Learn

by: Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R., The Sower's Seeds

A young man presented himself to the local expert on gems and said he wanted to become a gemologist. The expert brushed him off because he feared that the youth would not have the patience to learn. The young man pleaded for a chance. Finally the expert consented and told the youth, "Be here tomorrow." The next morning the expert put a jade stone in the boy's hand and told him to hold it. The expert then went about his work, cutting, weighing, and setting gems. The boy sat quietly and waited.

The following morning the expert again placed the jade stone in the youth's hand and told him to hold it. On the third, fourth, and fifth day the expert repeated the exercise and the instructions.

On the sixth day the youth held the jade stone, but could no longer stand the silence. "Master," he asked, "when am I going to learn something?"

"You'll learn," the expert replied and went about his business.

Several more days went by and the youth's frustration mounted. One morning as the expert approached and beckoned for him to hold out his hand, he was about to blurt out that he could go on no longer. But as the master placed the stone in the youth's hand, the young man exclaimed with-out looking at his hand, "This is not the same jade stone!"

"You have begun to learn," said the master.