

ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE

“The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children...” **Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22**
(NKJV)



This Week’s Thought – October 8, 2017

“When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.” Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting.” Psalm 126:1-2, 5 (NIV)

Joy and happiness are found in our Heavenly Father. It comes from seeing the big picture of where He has brought us, and to where He is taking us. If joy and happiness were contingent on cash and comfort, then the modern world would be the one laughing a lot. However, without Heaven as the end in mind, contemporary conveniences actually work against authentic happiness and joy.

Stuff and things without our Savior, becomes seductive and controlling for its cause, but joy fills our heart when we think of the Lord’s deliverance from our captivity in Christ-less living, into a life of significance. Joy and happiness are the result of *giving, not getting; of serving, not being served; and from leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.*

“Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord’s people.” Philemon 1:7(NIV)

Therefore, go forth into life and sow seeds of gratitude and generosity, and you will reap a harvest of contentment and fulfillment. You will garner gladness, as you keep God and others as your goal for doing good works. Sow the seeds of acceptance and forgiveness, and you will reap a harvest of acceptance and forgiveness.

“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” Galatians 6:7-8 (NIV)

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Take a risk and get emotionally involved with those in need, and you will be happy you did. Surface living is for the shallow, scared and unhappy ones, so get below the facade and feel their pain, weep and watch God work through your tears, as you pray persistently for your prodigal.

There is a harvest of happiness waiting, as you sow the seeds of selfless service on behalf of your Savior.

“Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, until he comes and showers righteousness on you.”

Hosea 10:12(NIV)

Application: Who can I joyfully serve and bring a harvest of joy and happiness to all involved?

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Lord, please open my eyes to see those around me that are in need of compassion. Compel me to listen to them, to hear their needs. Give me the heart to be interested in their troubles and provide for me the means to help them. I want to be compassionate. I want to be like You that had so much compassion for the world that You sacrificed Your Son on a cross for us. I want to have that kind of heart for the world that I will do all I can on Your behalf, to be a voice for the oppressed, a giver to the poor, an encouragement for the disenfranchised. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!”

“And then God answered: “Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King