

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday June 19, 2023 – Matthew 6: 21

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Read Matthew 6 for meditation and inspiration.



Afraid of becoming your parents? Dr. Rick will see you now!

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

One day many of us wake up and realize that we have become our parents. A recent commercial on the television is about a man trying to coach younger men and women how not to be like their parents! It starts, "Afraid of becoming your parents?" Then a guy named Dr. Rick comes to the rescue, smartly satirizing a generational divide. Not the happiest note for "Father's Day!"

My kids love that commercial because they see me in each action and in the need for the following lesson. Personally, I do not like that commercial because it hits just a little too close to home.

It is something like the story of an eighty-year-old father who went to his daughter's home for Sunday dinner. When the meal was over, he announced that he was going to take a walk through the neighborhood. "I'll be back in fifteen minutes," he said. His daughter began to worry when almost two hours had passed. When the father finally returned, he announced apologetically: "Sorry I'm late, but I stopped to talk to an old man and he just wouldn't stop listening."

Do you remember the Gospel Lesson, where some of Jesus' disciples are out in a boat fishing. Suddenly the Risen Lord appears on the shore and soon, they are all having breakfast together. After they have eaten, Jesus initiates a lengthy conversation with Simon Peter, who of course, wouldn't stop listening:

"Simon, son of John, do you love Me?"

"Yes, Lord, You know I love You."

"Feed My lambs!"

"Simon, son of John, do you love Me?"

"Yes Lord, You know I love You."

"Look after My sheep!"

"Simon, son of John, do you love Me?"

"Lord, you know everything; You know I love You."

"Feed My sheep."

Notice, however, that the conversation doesn't end on that note. Each time Peter professes his love for the Lord, Jesus responds with a call to action: "Feed My lambs!" ... "Look after My sheep!" ... "Feed My sheep!" And, in so doing, Jesus ties together words and deeds.

Remember that you have a heavenly Father who calls you to service in the proclamation of the Gospel in both "Word and Deed!"

Let's get busy for our Father in heaven,

In Jesus name,

Roger

