

to use his wife's. Then driving to work a little fast a highway patrolman stopped him.

As he walked up the preacher said, "Go ahead and fine me. I am having a miserable day and it probably won't get any better." The officer said "I used to have days like that before I met the Lord." Ouch!!

Far too many of us, who are going to heaven, are just like that and it turns people off. Sadly, it turns people off to the church, and worse, to our Lord. On top of that we live miserable lives and make the people around us miserable. There are three ingredients to enjoy our trip to heaven - a **holy** life, a **helpful** life and a **happy** Life

Happiness is third because it is the first two that produce it. From the pulpit and in our newsletters, I want to share the highway signs that lead us down this road. Number one is – "Live life one day at a time." Number two is adjust to what is. **Pray the serenity prayer**. It works for AA and it will work for you and me.

You may think I sound like Joel Osteen but "a stopped clock is right twice a day" and if we don't do these two things we will not come close to doing what's on this list.

Another sign is, "The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary". If you want something; be willing to work. You know how much I admire, respect and draw from Adrian Rogers. The things I get from him do not drop down on his head from heaven. He got seminary students to research the subject he was preaching on and put notes on his desk of the good things they find. One of the most helpful things I ever got, is what he called: the "Miracle Mile".

In the Roman Empire Soldiers could compel anyone to carry their bags one mile. Jesus says when it happens, carry his bag two miles. Ninety-nine out of a hundred church people would think, "Stinking Romans"!

You are a young person playing ball with your friends and the soldier hands you his bags. You don't say a word. Every Jewish boy had a one-mile marker in his mind on the road from their homes. You get there, you drop the bag in the dirt and walk away.

That "stinking" Roman has ruined your day. When you get home you kick the cat off the porch. But suppose you are a Christian and you would love to tell him about Jesus.

You talk to him and ask him about his family and learn He has not seen them in two years and his youngest boy is sick. Suddenly he becomes a human being and you tell him your church will pray for his son.

When you get to the one-mile spot you keep going. When he asks you why, you tell him Jesus wants you to. This opens the door for you talk about the Lord- who he is and what he did. When you say your good-byes, you shake his hand and tell him, "I hope your boy is alright and I'm going to pray you will be able to go home for a visit." You go home; pet the cat and say to your family: "You know, some Roman soldiers are not so bad" and tell them about your day.

That Roman soldier arrives at the barracks, sets his baggage down and says to his fellow soldiers. "You know some of these Jewish people are not so bad" and he tells them about his day. Two men had walked the "miracle mile" that day and they and their day were better for it.