

Who Has the 'Good Life?'

By Allen Webster (continued from last week)

So, who has the good life? You decide (Tanzanians or Americans) . . .

Their children are poorly dressed but sit quietly through two-hour services; ours are immaculately clothed but get a drink of water every ten minutes and will not behave. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right" (Ephesians 6:1).

They are not bothered with hypertension and lung cancer; we have wiped out malaria and typhoid.

They worry about malnutrition, undernourishment, and starvation; we worry about anorexia, obesity, and bulimia.

They are poor and satisfied; we are rich and discontented. "Now godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6).

They have little and want little; we have a lot and want more. "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content" (1 Timothy 6:7-8).

They ask for an extra preaching service each night; we complain if the preacher goes over by five minutes. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

They know nothing of TVs; then again, they know nothing of dirty movies and seven wasted hours a day. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). We should be "redeeming the time" (Ephesians 5:16).

Many do not have phones, but they do not have telemarketing either.

Their pace is slow, but they have time to talk after a worship service; ours is fast, but we have little time for each other. "Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24).

They have no cars, so they walk everywhere; we drive everywhere and then walk in the park for exercise.

Their men unscripturally marry seven wives at a time; ours unscripturally marry seven wives one after another. "Whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery" (Matthew 19:9).

They live in misery and long for heaven; we live in luxury and doubt the afterlife. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20); "These will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life" (Matthew 25:46).

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Larry Butler found out his heart is functioning at about 50 percent.
- ◆ Tinker's brother Ricky has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.
- ◆ Dale Strong is recovering at home after 37 days in the hospital. Brenda has sciatic nerve pain and broke her little toe.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins, Coe Hamm.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven. Homebound: Vernon James, Steve Siebels, Mary Piepergerdes.



Jesus told them,
"Watch out that no
one deceives you.
Many will come in my
name, saying, 'I am
he,' and they will
deceive many."

Mark 13:5-6

Their children play with homemade toys for hours; ours tire of electronic games a few minutes after opening them.

They are poor, and steal; we are rich, and covet. "Let him who stole steal no longer" (Ephesians 4:28); "Therefore put to death . . . covetousness, which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5).

They believe in superstition and witchcraft; we have hotels with no 13th floor and horoscopes we read every morning. "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are . . . idolatry, sorcery, hatred" (Galatians 5:19-20).
(continued on back page)

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
12-6	Don Luna (80)	12-9	Bill and Lana Cockrum
12-9	Pat Kirkland	12-31	Don and Karin Reynolds
12-9	Jim Lane	Birthdays	
12-10	David Stevens	12-14	Joe Walrath
12-10	Kenneth Workman	12-15	Dana Crisp
12-13	Dale Strong	12-21	Kim Anderson
12-13	Hope Hillhouse	12-25	Jessica Smith
12-14	Corey Hillhouse	12-27	Granger Stevens

Esther is cooking cheeseburger soup, salad, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship supper. Bible classes will follow.

Date	Event	Details
Monday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.	Christmas Play	Kids presenting play

(continued from inside)

They live in mud huts with no doors but are unafraid; we live in mansions with alarms and fear for our lives.

They have no Bibles but beg for them; we have several that we rarely open. "They received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

Which has the good life? Neither. Then who does? Those who make it to the perfect land of eternal delight (Revelation 21)!

December Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

Communion & Closing Prayer

Today Don Luna
 12-7 John Abraham
 12-14 Mark Lane
 12-21 David Stevens
 12-28 Don Luna

Paul Wade
 D. E. Pleasant
 Dana Crisp
 Matt Kyle
 R. J. Moyers

Song Leader: Titus Smith

Greeters: Dana and Marsha Crisp; John and Melinda Abraham

The Family News

November 30, 2025

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Meet the False Teachers***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#991, *This Is My Father's World*; #705, *A Common Love*

#375, *Oh the Depth and the Riches*; Communion Service

#3, *Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah*

Sermon and Invitation

#948, *I Am Resolved*

#755, *God Be with You*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
 Don Luna 417-712-1945
 David Stevens 417-679-4700
 John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
 Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
 James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us