

Newsletter June 2021

From Heaven's Heart

"Old Age"

I don't feel any older today than I did when I was in my twenties. Well, maybe just a little! I know I don't move as fast, can't physically work as hard...the chainsaw and I, we don't gee haw like we once did but I feel really good to be moving into what some say are the winter years of my life. I don't feel like I'm old.

However, as I began teaching my first confirmation class, my age showed up. I had selected three people as examples of individuals I was certain my class would be able to relate to as examples of great Christians. Billy Graham. Everyone knows who Billy Graham is. Darryl Strawberry, a baseball sports legend and the famous actor, Denzell Washington. I was excited to bring them up to our young people.

I first brought up Darryl Strawberry. I figured Bryce, a soon to be baseball legend himself, would jump all over Darryl. Nope! No one had ever heard of him. I thought, I better move to Billy Graham. Nope! Hanna or Breanna finally spoke up and said, "I think he is a preacher. Last, Denzell Washington. Wrong again. .

During week four, I threw out the names of folks much older than Darryl, Denzell and Dr. Graham. And I nailed it with this one. Every one of them knew who he was and talked in great detail about him. As it turned out, each one had much to say and it was very personal. They knew about his birth, about his life, the work he'd done, many of his accomplishments, they remembered how he died. And they knew, he had a great deal to do with the Christian movement that has spread around the world. It would be right for me to say, each one of our young people knew him like one knows a good friend, a best friend. I am sure he is one of the oldest people they remember. And I'm certain, they will always remember him fondly to say the least. Who is this old person? His name is Jesus.

Some things, even old age, have little or no effect on. Like the Love of God, the personal relationship we discover with Jesus and with others when we begin to love God first and love others like we love ourselves. I wish every person could have the faith of a child as the bible suggests we have... Our four young people, Hanna, Breanna, Thomas and Bryce have a faith that can move mountains, calm the sea and melt a heart with their love, affection and the simplicity of their kindness, simple and powerful words. Us older folks might need to look at their faith and examine our own. I

can promise you this. I learned far more from these four young people than they learned from me during Confirmation 2021.

I like getting older because I am still learning. Actually, I'm learning more about Jesus than I ever thought possible. What are you learning? We need to spend as much time as we can find with Him. This is where we learn. This is where we receive His grace This is where we are reminded of His perfect and all-powerful plan for life...for your life...for the abundant life He promises.

Love each of you dearly,

Pastor Steve

PS Love our four confirmands dearly.

PSS Love our church family dearly.

PSSS Love what Old Age is teaching us all.