

Chaplains Corner

On the Road--To Discover Whether There is
More Too Life than Going around in Circles

Life, What a Gift!

Wow, we can hardly believe that we have been writing **on the Road** for nearly three months. We've had an amazing summer drive traveling nearly 8000 miles through 15 states and north into Canada. This is our final **On the Road**. When you read this, we'll be back home to East Bay Raceway Park! We met good people everywhere we camped but there's nobody like the folks back home. We return to you all with a deeper appreciation for how vast and diverse is this grand country God lovingly created for our enjoyment.

At the moment we are enjoying a few bittersweet days on our last stop of the summer at beautiful Lake Chatuge nestled in the mountains of Georgia and North Carolina. We've stopped here for the past three summers and make it a point to visit Cowboy Church in Hiwassee GA. Last Sunday morning we walked into the renovated gas station where the service bays had been converted to look like the inside of a barn. We took our seats in some old theater chairs as we took note of the saddles, old farm tools, a buggy and other bits of tack and old time farm goods that decorated the place. Well, up front, high above the rough hewn branch wood pulpit hung a sign with this message burned into it.

Life is God's gift to you.

What you do with it is your gift to God.

The first part of that slogan sure has been revealed to us this summer in a profound way. What a playground God has carefully prepared for us to enjoy! Jesus promised, **I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full.** [John 10:10]. God really truly deeply gave us His handy work to enjoy. We've found that the closer our hearts draw to God, the fuller is our experience of life. We're healthier, happier--just more spring stepping.

We have a choice though. We can live our lives for God or we will live for Satan who is out to destroy the lives of whomever he can. In the Bible, the prophets plead with us to choose wisely. In one place it reads, **Now, choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life.**" [Deuteronomy 30:19]

Maybe you know someone who loved their child and gave him all the best things of life only to have the child rebel and turn away. Instead of being grateful and caring, she treated her folks like dirt. Well, that relationship is broken for sure. All the love those parents had to give has been ignored and despised. We all know that child will come to no good. Maybe drugs will get him, or booze. Not living right has its price.

God gives us life and wants us to have all the best but many dishonor Him by living a life of sin. Just as earthly parents weep over wayward children, our heavenly Father weeps when his dearly loved don't live as they should. Those who despise the God who gave them so much will find that not living right has a high price—being separated from Him forever. You don't wanna go there.

God bless you,

Chaplains "Natz" and Elana Peters