

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**  
By East Bay Raceway Park Chaplains  
"Natz" and Elana Peters

Seventh in the series:  
*Life is God's Gift to You-*  
*WHAT YOU DO WITH IT IS YOUR GIFT TO GOD*

***ME THIRD***

The CEO of a profitable company displays on his desk a rectangular bronze paperweight bearing no other ornamentation than the two words, ***ME THIRD***, impressively engraved. When his customers or business associates ask him what the inscription means he explains that it reminds him to keep God first, others second and himself third. He knows that ***Me Third*** doesn't come naturally. It has to be learned, put into practice and then practiced over and over until—maybe—it becomes a little bit more of a habit.

***I'll take care of me first*** is the normal way of thinking and behaving. But the Bible denounces selfish behavior as the "sin nature." The apostle Paul explains the sinful nature this way: ***". . . when you follow your own inclinations your lives will produce these evil results: impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry...hatred and fighting, jealousy and anger, constant effort to get the best for yourself..."*** [Galatians 5:19, 20] But, that's not the way God would have us live. Paul warns that ***"anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the kingdom of God"*** [Galatians 5:21].

*Forgive me if I have used this story before. It so perfectly illustrates the **ME THIRD** principle at it's best. It was the last race of the season for points. The point leader needed only to start the feature event to lock up the championship but he blew his engine in the heat race and did not have another.*

*Although he didn't have the points to be in the running for the championship, another racer was the real winner in my book that night. He stepped up offered the leader his car to drive in the feature event! Of course he would have preferred to race the feature himself. But, he sat in the stands and cheered the point leader who ran a good race in his car and claimed the championship that year.*

*The champion remembered the kindness and honored the selfless racer by loaning him his car and cheering **him** from the stands their next night out.*

When we put others ahead of ourselves it not only makes us feel good, it pleases God, our creator and giver of life. Selflessness is the fifth of six moral attributes that make up a Godly life. The first four are controlling anger, sexual purity, marital faithfulness and honesty.

*Our prayer for you is to be passionate about godly living--and be blessed! --"Natz" & Elana*