

Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

It's not the years in your life that count, but rather the life in your years.

—*Author unknown*

One of the unluckiest landlords ever was a French attorney, André-François Raffray. In 1965, he signed a contract to buy the apartment of 90-year-old Jeanne Calment, giving her life-rights to live in the place until she died.

Madame Calment defied all expectations, living 32 more years. At the time of her death in 1997, at the age of 122, she had lived longer than any other human being. She outlived her landlord, who had died two years before her at age 77.

Part of the contract required Monsieur Raffray to pay his tenant a small monthly stipend. The attorney's wife continued paying it after her husband's death. By that time, the Raffrays had paid Madame Calment more than double the purchase price of the property.

There are about 92,000 centenarians in the United States as of 2020. By 2060, that number is expected to rise to more than 585,000! Do you think it's possible that any of those centenarians will live more than 120 years?

We might live a long life, but it's more important to live well. What constitutes a well-lived life?

Some people think it's important to have a lot of money, or a big house and a fancy car. But the Bible tells us that wealth is not the key to a life well-lived. "Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich," wrote Solomon in his book of proverbs (Proverbs 23:4, CEB).

For the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, *virtue* was the key to a life well-lived. He thought of virtue as a tendency or ability to make good choices. Do this, and you'll do well.

But he also thought that *friendship* was a critical component of happiness. In this, psychologists today agree. Truly happy people have good, loving and long-lasting relationships and a purpose in life.

If you have friends, good health, a purpose in life, love and acceptance, you are a rich person. And if, with all of these riches, you are given a long life, you are indeed blessed!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for the riches in my long life — the riches of my friends and family, and the wealth of love. Amen.

*Happy Thanksgiving!
Lisa & Pastor Ben Motz
Steven, Sara, & Ethan*

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** 2 Peter 1-3
- Monday:** 1 Timothy 1-3
- Tuesday:** 1 Timothy 4-6
- Wednesday:** 2 Timothy 1-4
- Thursday:** Titus 1-3
- Friday:** 1 John 1-2
- Saturday:** Psalms 136-138

VERSE TO REMEMBER

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

—Psalm 138:8

PSALM PUZZLE

Using the boxes below, find the theme of this psalm (96). To discover what it is, write a word on the blanks provided that best fits each definition. Then, transfer the letters to the numbered boxes. Spaces with an X below the line indicate that those letters are not used.

A. Two children can sit on this and go up and down.

1 16 X 18 14 17

B. Something to keep wet ink from smearing.

X 10 11 5 7 9 12

C. Precise middle of the day.

3 6 19 15

D. One of the words an auctioneer uses to close a deal.

4 X 2 20 21

E. A nail has one.

8 X X 13



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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Answers:
 A. seesaw
 B. blotter
 C. noon
 D. going
 E. head
 " Sing to the Lord a new song."