

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Reflect upon your present blessings — of which everyone has many — not on your past misfortunes, of which all people have some.

—Charles Dickens

Old man Woodruff loved golf, but his age was making it increasingly difficult for him to play. He complained to the clubhouse pro about his poor eyesight.

“I can’t play with my glasses on because they keep falling off,” he said. “And I’m way too nearsighted to play without them.”

“Why don’t you play with Hughes?” the pro suggested.

“Hughes?” Woodruff scoffed. “He’s ninety-eight if he’s a day, and without his walker, he barely addresses the ball without falling over.”

“True,” said the pro, “he’s a bit old, and his stance is a problem, but the good news is that he’s farsighted.”

So the next day, Woodruff and Hughes played together. They got to the first hole, and Woodruff took out his driver. He addressed the ball, gave his club a few waggles and then took a tremendous swing, hitting the ball well and far. Looking into the distance, he said, “Boy, that felt good, but I lost it” he exclaimed. “Did you see it?” he asked Hughes.

“Yes,” the ancient old man replied.

“So, where did it go? Did I hit the fairway?”

“I can’t remember,” Hughes sighed.

Woodruff and Hughes didn’t make much of a team for golfing, did they? But they continued through nine holes, thanks to a spotter in the clubhouse. And, rather than spend the time complaining about what they didn’t have and what they couldn’t do, they laughed about what they could do and were grateful for what they did have.

They were enjoying some company. They were outside. They were walking. They were laughing. And when they got back to the clubhouse, they had some tea, and agreed that they were blessed.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord, I thank you for the blessings of today, and the opportunities of tomorrow. Amen.

*Blessings,
Lisa & Pastor Ben Motz*

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** John 14-17
- Monday:** Hosea 11-14
- Tuesday:** 2 Kings 18-19
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 1-3
- Thursday:** Isaiah 4-6
- Friday:** Isaiah 7-9
- Saturday:** Psalms 64-66

VERSE TO REMEMBER

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. ... And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. –John 14:1, 3



WEDNESDAY IS FLAG DAY, 2023

Can you correctly identify which of these statements are true and which are false?

1. Most flags currently sold at U.S. retailers are not the official size and specifications set forth by the congress of the United States. _____
2. The American flag has always had 13 stripes. _____
3. Old Glory is a nickname for the American Flag. _____
4. The original Star Spangled Banner immortalized by Francis

Scott Key once flew over Fort Benning, Georgia? _____

5. No one knows what became of the original Stars and Stripes that inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star-Spangled Banner." _____
6. The flag may be flown every day and in any weather condition. _____
7. The designer of the current 50-star flag was a high school student. _____
8. It is illegal to burn the American flag. _____
9. The flag is usually flown from sunrise to sunset. _____
10. When the president is not in Washington, D.C., the flag does not fly outside the White House. _____

More Questions

1. How many white stripes are there on the American flag? _____
2. How many red stripes? _____
3. How many stars are on the flag? _____
4. In what year was the last star added to the flag? _____

ANSWERS: 1. True. The official dimensions feature a 1:1.9 height to width ratio. Most flags sold to the public are in sizes that do not conform to this ratio, such as 2'x3' 3'x5' and 4'x6'. 2. False. At one time (from 1795 to 1818), the American flag had 15 stripes. 3. True. Other nicknames are The Star-Spangled Banner and The Stars and Stripes. 4. False. It flew over Fort McHenry. 5. False, you can see it today at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C. 6. True, as long as it is made of all-weather material. 7. True, the current 50-star design was created by Robert G. Heft, who was a 17-year-old high school student when he designed it. 8. False. Burning the flag in a dignified manner is the preferred method for retiring it. 9. True. 10. True. More Questions: 1. Six white stripes; 2. Seven red stripes; 3. 50; 4. 1960.