

nesota. And even in matters of choice, it's impossible to have our cake and eat it too.

Wisdom suggests that we should not only accept our particulars, we should be grateful for them. Even if we've made poor choices in the past and wasted much of our potential, we can be thankful for the unique opportunities that now lie before us. There is good work yet to be done — work that can only be done by a person who has just this set of particulars. Warts, scars, and all!

Let us be contented with what has happened to us and thankful for all we have been spared. Let us accept the natural order in which we move. Let us reconcile ourselves to the mysterious rhythm of our destinies, such as they must be in this world of space and time.

— Winston Churchill —

ANNOUNCEMENTS

— [3 JOHN 2] —

“Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.”

Jo Byrnes • Betty Cannon • Joyce Coones • Sleatha Gore • Essielene Henderson • Buddy Johnson • Faye Kilpatrick

BUSINESS MEETING

Monthly the elders and deacons meet. This month the elders have requested *all the men to meet* tomorrow night (August 3), here at the building at 7:00 PM.

Chiefland Church of Christ

Meeting at 211 NE 2nd Street in beautiful Chiefland, Florida
PO Box 2539 • Chiefland FL 32644 • (352) 493-1242

THINGS ABOVE

“Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth”

— [Colossians 3:1-2] —

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And Yet We Still Call It the Lord's Day

By Al Diestelkamp

No doubt, you've heard what the world thinks about Sundays. Sundays are for:

- ◆ Sleeping late
- ◆ Leisurely breakfasts
- ◆ Dressing down
- ◆ Traveling
- ◆ Family gatherings
- ◆ Shopping
- ◆ Sporting events
- ◆ Work
- ◆ Homework
- ◆ Yard work
- ◆ Repairs around the house
- ◆ *And the list goes on . . .*



Christians have learned that most of these things can be done on Sundays as long as they squeeze in a couple of hours of worship. You'll notice that none of the aforementioned activities are wrong in and of themselves, and with the exception of sleeping late, any of them can probably be done on Sunday without being guilty of sin. However, many Christians clutter their lives so full of non-spiritual activities — even on Sunday — that to call Sunday “the Lord’s day” is a bit of a stretch.

As a result, it’s best to stay out of the way of the church building door when the last “Amen” is said, lest you get run over by those rushing out to get to their other interests. Some even beat the rush by leaving during the invitation song. That way, if someone responds to the Lord’s invitation, they won’t be intimidated into staying to witness a new birth or hear a confession of a brother or sister in Christ.

The “clutter” in Christians lives often affects more than the so-called Lord’s Day. Congregations often make up worship assignment schedules which, after all the necessary changes, look more like a baseball manager’s lineup card after a fifteen-inning game. Don’t even dream of planning for a week-long gospel meeting, even months in advance, without having several members announce that they have something that will get in the way of attending.

Please don’t get the idea that I’m opposed to Christians occasionally being away from their local congregations. We all have circumstances which force us to be away at times, and we need some time to be away on vacation. However, we all need to limit time away lest we hinder our collective work. After all, part of our “reasonable service” (Romans 12:1) involves sacrifice.



Particular People

By Gary Henry

One of the most important steps we ever take toward wisdom and maturity is taken when we accept the specifics of our own individuality. Much of the first half of life is spent in the luxury of limitless possibilities. There is no place we might not go before we die, no accomplishment we might not achieve, and no character trait we might not develop. As we turn toward life’s latter stages, however, it becomes obvious that we’ll not live long enough to actually do any more than a fraction of the things we’ve imagined. Some choices will have to be made. And for each thing we choose to grasp, there’ll be many others we have to let go of. We can do anything we want, but not everything we want.

Human beings are not infinite. We are “particular” people, each defined by our own specifics. We are born into this particular family, and not the millions of others we might have been born into. We have this set of personal characteristics, and not the millions of others we might have acquired. Before life is done, we will have had this set of experiences and not the millions of others we might have had. The older we get, the more comfortable we need to become with our own personal particulars. We should never quit dreaming and working, of course, and while life lasts we should always be pressing toward new possibilities. But when all has been said and done, even the most varied life will still consist of a limited set of particulars. Some people pack more into their lifetimes than others, but there are limits beyond which no one can go. It’s impossible to be a brown-eyed person born in Mississippi and also be a blue-eyed person born in Min-