



Lemoore church of Christ

Sept. 27, 2020

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MISS HEAVEN!

-Ryan Parsons-

This week I read of an old preacher who loved his children dearly and longed for them to live right. As they grew older, he did not want to browbeat them or make them think he was always "preaching at them," so he looked for a way to lovingly and gently encourage them. He came up with his own heartfelt "catchphrase:" Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!" As each child graduated and moved out of the house, he heartily urged, "Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!" As they began to experiment with the "pleasures" and the "ways" of the world, he gently implored, "Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!" Then, as they all gathered around his bed, with tears in their eyes, watching their adoring father take his last breaths on this side of eternity, they heard him whisper again, "Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!"

What a beautiful story! Like that preacher's children, we are faced with many unique obstacles, and there are also an abundance of temptations. Distractions vie for our attention from every conceivable direction. These present a grave danger to our walk with Christ.

Thankfully, we have the word of God that constantly encourages us: "Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!" Paul exhorted the Colossian Christians to keep their minds focused on eternal things rather than become consumed with things here on earth. Why? He didn't want them to get distracted from the things that really matter. Colossians 3:1-4,17 1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory....17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of

the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

No doubt this week, we will encounter obstacles, temptations, and distractions. Peter cautions, "Be soberminded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8)." We don't want to give the devil any opportunity to pull us away (Ephesians 4:27). Keeping our focus on eternal things is the first step to thwarting his plan. Whatever you do, don't miss heaven!

Five Minutes with God: This week:

Sunday	Day 271	Matthew 24:36-44
Monday	Day 272	Mark 13:32-37
Tuesday	Day 273	Luke 21:34-38
Wednesday	Day 274	John 12: 20-26
Thursday	Day 275	John 12: 27-36
Friday	Day 276	John 12: 37-41
Saturday	Day 277	John 12: 42-50

Prayer List:

Cleta Sisk, Eula Rhoads' sister spine injury

Beca Standard

Raquel Lopez Hyperthyroidism – Dr. trying to find the correct medication

Alice Fall is recovering from her eye procedure

Taylor Radcliff for strength.

Kathy Shough, relative of Lynda Sander, - cancer

Whitney Broaddus is doing well with her recovery.

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom

Doug Standridge

Red and Marjory Cooper

Richard Hunsberger, Stephanie Tischmacher's step-

dad,

Meryl Wamhoff, friend of Lisa Butts, has 4 months of chemo ahead. Still needs prayers, please

Gary Radcliff, Garth's father, started chemo

Linda Frye, Cancer

Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin, clots in his

legs

Angie and Tito Cano- Tito on maintenance meds

Bart Massey, friend of Dixie Blair, stomach cancer

Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment

Our Mission Work:

- First Responders
- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting