

## Is it Sunday?

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The alarm clock sounded this morning, I awoke startled. Bleary-eyed, I rolled over to turn it off, with my first thought of the day, “Huh, isn’t it Sunday?” Rewind a couple of hours... the dog woke me up to go out and I noticed the alarm was not set so I flipped the switch then went back to bed. When the alarm startled me awake, I thought maybe it was Sunday, hence the 5:30am regime had not been activated. To tell you the truth, I’ve done it the other way, on a weekend at 5:30 the buzzer went off... and so did a rather annoyed husband!

In cheerful anticipation I still thought, “Oh yeah, it’s Sunday!” As my brain began to download I remembered going to church the day before. Ok, mystery solved. Then I thought how cool it would be if every day were Sunday. Get up, praise God, go to church, praise God, fellowship, get some rest, hang with the family. It must be like that in Heaven! Can it be like that here? I wonder if you are a pastor, is every day like Sunday? I mean, it’s their job to do these things, eh? How cool is that?

Well how cool would it be if we did that, too, as we go about our day? Maybe that would be Heaven on earth. Wake up with God in mind. Dress your best, even if it is work clothes, just make an effort... it may pay off! Eph. 5:19 says **speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.** I did not read anything in there about *only on Sunday!* Seems to me, this is like “whistle while you work” vs. grumbling and complaining. Do you ever catch yourself grumbling? I do. Ever had to put up with co-workers, friends, or family members grumbling and arguing? Hmm... Let’s look at Phil. 2:13-14 **for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God.** I think this is beginning to sound more like a Sunday.

Ephesians 5:21 says, **submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.** Sounds like cooperation here. Wouldn’t that make life easier? If everyone, or at least more folks, cooperated with each other? Now look at chapter six in v.7 **Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know**

**that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.** That should make any job easier, doing it as unto the Lord in His service, not just “because” or for the paycheck. Years ago, my friend Donna shared that when she was upset with her husband, she would imagine she was serving Jesus, not the husband! This helped her keep a good attitude in times of adversity. I’ve referred to that scenario often over the years... probably not often enough!

What about when times get really tough? In Phil. 1, Paul answers this in verse 18, **Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly *expect* and *hope* that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient *courage* so that now as always** (and not just on Sunday) **Christ will be exalted in my body.** Now those are some powerful words! I don’t know about you, but when I am having a bad day, words like *eager, expect, hope, and courage* don’t usually spring forth! But they need to! I need to!

With courage, (and with God) we can eagerly expect a favorable outcome in which God will be glorified as we emerge stronger and victoriously through a difficult day or situation. This attitude rings power vs. helplessness. We can help others see life like this as well. Oh, it’s sounding like Sunday again.

So maybe we don’t have to wait for Sunday. Maybe we don’t all have to be pastors to serve and encourage others. Maybe our pastors would have a lighter load! For sure our loads would be lighter as we carry each other and let God help us along the way.