Good News From Chardon

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128 Maple Ave. 440-286-5505

Life is too Short

By Bill Brandstatter

One of my grandsons was married this year. Another grandson entered the sixth grade. Also, my wife and I will be celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary later this year. I also signed up for Medicare this year. It just doesn't seem possible all those events are happening in the same year. It seems like I get up at six in the morning, and before I know it five in the afternoon is upon me. All this has caused me to contemplate life; what the Bible says about the brevity of life and how seriously we need to be to make the most of the life we have. The point of Biblical teaching is that the importance of life is not so much the quantity of years as it is the quality. The Psalmist wrote, "We spend our lives as a tale that is told," (Ps. 90:9 KJV). What kind of tale is your life telling? In thinking about the quality of our lives, emphasis is placed on making the most of the time we have.

We should pay attention and make the most of our lives on earth. The Psalmist wrote, "So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psa. 90:12 (NKJV) This is a similar thought Paul expressed when he wrote, "Redeeming our time because the days are evil." (Eph. 5:16) As we look back on life, do we have any regrets? As we look at the present, are there any changes we need to make? As we look toward the future, is there anything we can do now to affect the future?

We can't just compare our lives to others by indicating we are better than someone else. Our souls are precious (Mt. 16:26). We should do some serious thinking about where we are spiritually and where we Greeting: Mark want to be eternally. Peter told the Jews on Pentecost, "Save yourselves" (Acts 2:40). I have to do something because the future will be here before I know it.

We should make the most of our lives because we don't have long Hymn: here compared to eternity. Peter described our lives as grass that eventually withers and falls away (1 Pet. 1:24). Life is compared in the Bible to: a sigh (Ps. 90:9); sleep (Ps. 90:5); a shadow (Eccl. 6:12); a moment (2 Co. 4:17); and a weaver's shuttle (Job 7:6). Many of us can identify with these descriptions. We see how accurate these descriptions are every day we live.

How are spending our lives? Do we pay more attention to the physical comforts of life than we do the spiritual? Jesus said, "One's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15). Let us be more diligent in our spiritual lives in case death comes too early for us and our lives are cut short.

Bill Brandstatter preaches for the Marion Church of Christ in Marion, IL

Schedule of **Services:**

Song Leader: Mark **Opening Hymn:** 592—Oh Happy Day **Opening Prayer:** Dale

182—Stepping in the Light **Scripture Reading**: Larry

Acts 2:40-47

Hvmn:

295—In Remembrance Lord's Supper: Ray

Hymn:

366—Is It For Me?

Sermon: Mark **Invitation Hymn:**

598—Lord I'm Coming Home

Closing Hymn:

592—Near To The Heart of God

Closing Prayer: Robert

PRAYER LIST **A Vital Church Grows** *Ruth was taken to Geauga hospi-Scripture Reference: Acts 2:40-47 tal last Sunday. She is home now and doing much better. ACCORD ADDED ANYONE AMONG *Tom and Nina and their family APOSTLES BAPTIZED BELIEVED BREAKING *Ron and Bonnie and their family CHURCH COMMON CONTINUING DIVIDED *Margaret her family and friends. DOCTRINE FELLOWSHIP GLADNESS HAVING *Wanda and her family. PEOPLE POSSESSIONS PRAISING **PRAYERS** *Kathy and her friends. RECEIVED SIMPLICITY STEADFASTLY TEMPLE *Zarna and her family. *Larry and Ruth. TOGETHER THINGS THOUSAND THROUGH *Pat and Ron and their daughters. WONDERS *Juanita's sister Betty. *Mary and her family. SWNI THMPPGASNYYS *Robert and Sara ΗЕ Ε Ι S R W L Ν *Juanita and her family Ι \mathbf{E} Η 0 R D *Ray and Barbara PMKHN Ε S Τ *Dale and his family. 0 *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven. Ε L D S Α S W 0 Ν *Myron & Carole A C D F S F Ι *Mark and his family. ELHPR DLPEDE A N D *Our congregation BXGHRAS A D D Ε D **CALENDAR** S В \mathbf{E} В Ε Sep. 27—Worship 11 am Υ D D Η Т 0 \mathbf{E} Η Ρ R A Y Ε Speaker: Mark P N G G В Ε S ANVE Sep. 27—Bible Study 6 pm on-line Ι N G Ν U 0 Sep. 28—b. Rylan ORDHAO Ι S S PRERCD Sep. 29—a. Mark & Debbie SANDRT OGE Oct. 1—b. Ron F.

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Answer to Puzzle: With many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

Speaker: Mark

Oct. 4—Worship 11 am

Oct. 4—Bible Study 6 pm

on-line

Here is a test to find whether your mission on earth is finished: If you're alive, it isn't.—Richard Bach

SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom);

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