

John Wesley was once asked, "If you knew that you would die, this evening, what about today would you do differently?" After a pause to consider the question, Wesley simply said that he thought he would do nothing differently. Praise the Lord! But, is that true of us? Are there things that we have left undone that we would want to take care of before we die?

There is an old saying, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." I understand that expression to mean that it is easy to think about what we ought to do, but so often our good thoughts do not result in any actions.

To illustrate, a believer may know that he or she should seek reconciliation with another where there is a strained or broken relationship, but do nothing. (Matthew 5:24) A believer may know that he or she should share the gospel (belief in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, for the sending away of sin, according to the Scriptures), but say nothing. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) A believer may know of another, who is in great need of help, but share nothing. (Luke 3:11) Please note, we're not talking about unbelievers here; we are talking about believers, like ourselves, who know the Lord Jesus Christ. Just so, it is my experience that when people talk about their lives, they often express deep regret about missed opportunities.

Several times, I have mentioned from the pulpit that I believe the Lord is using this virus, Covid 19, to get our attention. But, to what is He directing our thoughts? Are there habits He would have us break? Are there sins He would have us forsake? And, are there opportunities we have so far missed, but still exist?

The Lord would have us look forward to those opportunities which still exist, not back to our missed opportunities. For example, we are told to redeem the time. (Ephesians 5:16) Furthermore, we are told to forget "those things which are behind, and reach . . . forth unto those things which are before," pressing "toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14) In other words, as long as we have breath, it's not too late.

In Matthew 16:1-4, Jesus chastised the Pharisees and Sadducees with these words, "O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky, but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Today, aren't the signs of the times pointing us to Christ?

The Lord, I believe, is warning all of us, including believers, by means of this worldwide pandemic. Are we taking heed of the warning, or will we be like the man who looks in a mirror, but quickly forgets what he sees?

Even right now, as you read this, is the Spirit of God within you bringing to your thoughts things that you have left undone? Now is the time, believer – don't let the opportunity slip away forever.