Abundant Joy

I heard about a young man named Paul who found out he had cancer throughout his entire body. While he was laying in the hospital, he called his friend who was an attorney. His friend came immediately and said what can I do for you. Paul said, "they won't let me out of this bed, I only have a few weeks to live, and I have already witnessed to everyone on this floor. But below us on the next floor are 85 children who will not live either. I need to tell them about Jesus. You need to tell the nurse that we will sue the hospital if they do not let me do this." Of course, the friend said, "we can't sue them". But Paul was very insistent. So, the friend walked down the hall, found a wheelchair and as he took it back the nurse said, "where do you think you are going with that?" The friend said, I am taking Paul on a ride. "The nurse replied, "no you are not". The friend said, "well, I have to say he is already thinking about suing and all he wants is a little ride". She said, "I see nothing". So, the friend wheeled him and ALL his tubes and iv post down to the children's wing. There he told each room full of children about Jesus, His love and how to get to heaven. The friend reported that 80% of the people he spoke to accepted Jesus as their savior. When they got back to the room Paul said "What JOY! Abundant Joy". This man who was so near death, was thrilled to spend his last hours on earth telling people about Jesus. Is this how you or I would want to spend our last hours? More importantly, how do we spend our time when we think we have all the time in the world? Do we spend it in the glow of the tv? Mindlessly watching some reality show? (which if we are honest, has NO reality about it!!. I mean really! When was the last time you knew a guy dating 20 girls at once?)

Our lives here on earth have to mean more than such silliness! In Matt. 25:14-30, Jesus tells us about the talents that were given to people. They were to make the most of them while they had the chance. Isn't that like our lives? Don't we have an obligation to do for others? To reach out to people who need help? To give to missions that help others?

I am honored to be on the Missions committee at Helmar. If you need a mission to support, any one of us can give you ideas. Helmar Church has always rallied behind Missions. If you want to go on a missions trip, Cup of Cold Water can hook you up. If you see someone who needs things for their kids for Christmas, if

someone needs food… Matt 25:30 "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me".

Lord, help us to be your hands and feet here on earth. Show us where we can be a blessing to others in need. Amen

Shirlene Peterson