Dear Lexie,

"To Give or not to Give"

I'm not sure what it is about this time of the year that puts people in the mindset to give. Whatever it is, I wish it could be contagious throughout the entire year. For whatever the reason, individuals that wouldn't normally possess a giving spirit all of a sudden find themselves doing so and, in many cases, without provocation. As I have said many times before, this time of the year is my favorite of the holiday season. And the reason for that is that when you think about it, there is still something about Thanksgiving that in many ways has yet to become infected by the Madison Avenue commercialization that continues to plague most, if not all, of the other remaining holidays that our nation celebrates.

Read more>>
The Wonder of Worship

Playing with Fire

"If you play with fire you will get burned." This saying is quite sensible. After all, fire is hot! Still we are attracted to the flames. We love its familiarity, beauty and light...

Read more>>

Family and Parenting Seminar

By Gerry Lopez and Paolo Esposito

Join us for "Parenting with Hope" and "Hope for the Married"
This Saturday at 3:00 PM in the Sligo Youth Room located in the basement level. Bring a friend!

Register today>>

Get your holiday photos/cards

At our Sligo Barn Party

Part of our Festival of Praise Celebration this year will be an evening barn party on Saturday Nov. 23 at 7:00 PM. The friends* you bring will receive free Holiday Cards with their photos!

Register today>>

Festival of Praise!

Bring Family and Friends

Few services at Sligo are as joyous as our annual Festival of Praise and this is year we've stepped up a notch. We have a special programs all day long and we want you to invite your family
and friends!

More Info. and Registration>>

Missed Last Week's Sermon?

Watch Live or OnDemand: Sligo WebTV>>

Sermon Audio Archive:

Audio Archive>>

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"TO GIVE OR NOT TO GIVE"

By pesposto On November 21, 2013 · Add Comment · In eWeekend

I'm not sure what it is about this time of the year that puts people in the mindset to give. Whatever it is, I wish it could be contagious throughout the entire year. For whatever the reason, individuals that wouldn't normally possess a giving spirit all of a sudden find themselves doing so and, in many cases, without provocation. As I have said many times before, this time of the year is my favorite of the holiday season. And the reason for that is that when you think about it, there is still something about Thanksgiving that in many ways has yet to become infected by the Madison Avenue commercialization that continues to plague most, if not all, of the other remaining holidays that our nation celebrates.

That being said, there are still some people who for whatever reason are not all that excited when it comes to this thing called giving. Now, I know that you might find that hard to believe, but sadly it's true. And what may shock you even more than my previous statement is that some of these individuals call themselves Christians. When you think about all that the Christian life is to represent, how could anyone call themselves a Christian and not possess a spirit to give? The very nature of the name that we as Christians bear is associated with the one that epitomized what true giving is all about, because he gave the greatest gift that anyone could ever give - his own life.

So, as we prepare to celebrate this season of thanksgiving, the question to be asked is not, "to give or not to give," but rather, "what shall we give and to whom shall we give?" And, as we prepare to answer these questions, let us never forget that for the Christian, giving is one means by which we demonstrate in a very practical and powerful way the love that God has for his greatest creation, mankind. So, as Thanksgiving is almost upon us, I encourage us to give as much as we can, to everyone we can, and as often as we can, and not just during this time of the year, but rather each day of every year.

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LEAVE A REPLY
Wonder of Worship: “Playing with Fire”

By pespisto On November 21, 2013 • Add Comment • In Worship

“If you play with fire you will get burned.” This saying is quite sensible. After all, fire is hot! Still we are attracted to the flames. We love its familiarity, beauty, and light. We are comforted by the warmth we feel while sitting by a fire. We reason that fire is our friend. It’s a source of security, safety, and provision. Yes, it is all that and more.

However, if we chose to play with fire, the results are always the same—you will get burned! The Bible tells us of a sobering story when the Israelites played with fire.

As the story goes Moses, the newly elected senior pastor of the Mount Sinai Church, was engulfed in the flames of a mountain top experience. You see, he experienced the consuming fire of the Lord’s glory and he longed to share God’s presence with his congregation. Moses’ members had been slaves, not only to sin but also to a sinister, merciless Egyptian Pharaoh. As slaves they were unable to have pleasant experiences, fun-filled moments or happy days. This new Sinai church plant consisted of believers who had never seen or freely worshiped God. When God showed up to be worshiped in the glow of a hallowed inferno, the light show, smoke, sound effects, and arresting music made the church members nervous. So they called an emergency board meeting and decided that it was better not to let God into their congregation (Ex.20:18-21). Sadly, this worship was unfamiliar and didn’t resemble their past experience.

Moses’ forty day ridge revival seemed like an eternity to his fledgling congregation. During his extended stay, the peoples’ morale dwindled. They met with Aaron, the associate pastor, and decided they needed to do something to fire up the saints. They persuaded Aaron to melt their gold to mold a more acceptable and familiar image of God. Aaron fashioned a calf that resembled the Egyptian bull god, Ptah. Then built an altar and lit a fire! Exodus 32:6 says, “They rose up early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat, drink, and rose up to play.” You can take the Church out of Egypt, but you can’t take Egypt out of the Church! The people rather play with the fire of a familiar false god than be consumed by the life-changing, Holy Spirit fire of the One True God.

Are we like the Israelites? Do we reject God’s Word on worship because it doesn’t resemble the familiar styles of our past? Are we burnt out instead of aglow with our worship practices? The Mount Sinai congregation rejected God and chose to play with the fire of an idol. What can we do to avoid a similar mistake in our congregation? How can we experience the fire of God’s presence in our church life today?

Tagged with: cheryl wilson • cheryl wilson bridges • experience • God • moses • playing with fire • Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church • worship
On Saturday November 23, 2013, you are invited to our annual Festival of Praise!

REGISTER TODAY!

We have a great day planned out for you. Join us for a day of celebration, praise and fun!

All activities will be held at:

Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist Church
7700 Carroll Ave.
Takoma Park, MD, 20912

At 11:15 AM EST Join us for a special worship service.

- With Music from:
  - Sligo Sanctuary Choir
  - Sligo Children's Choir
  - Youth Choir
  - As well as worship from WAU Worship Team

- A powerful message will be delivered by Pastor Charles Tapp

At 12:30 AM EST Join us for our Food Drive.

We encourage you to bring non-perishables goods. These items will be distributed to over 1000 families in need in the Find a Home of Hope
At 3:00 PM EST Join us for a family and parenting seminar.

The seminars will be presented by Pastor Gerry Lopez and Paolo Esposito. The seminar is free and all are welcome to join whether you are a parent or not.

At 7:00 PM EST we will close the day with a Barn Party!

Join us for fun, family friendly, social event sponsored by the Sligo Youth Department. We will have:

- Music
- Games
- Food
- Winter and Fall photo booth**

**A photographer will be available to take family and personal holiday portraits, you can get a head start on your holiday greeting cards!!!

Admission is Free and we encourage you to invite your family, friends and neighbors to tag along too!!!

PLEASE REGISTER TODAY TO RECEIVE A FREE GIFT FROM US!

REGISTER (http://findhopetoday.com/festival-of-praise-registration/)

*Please bring any non-perishables with you on November 23. We will be sort, pack and prepare them for distribution on site.

**A photographer will be available to take family and personal holiday portraits, you can get a head start on your holiday greeting cards!!!