

Pastor's Corner

September 2012 – Rev. Eric Lane

I ran across this Upper Room devotion the other day (I hope that you have already read it):

My two sons were out playing tennis when I had to leave the house. I left them a note in large handwriting, "Ham sandwiches for lunch." Near the sign was a covered dish of meat, a jar of sauce, and buns. When I got home several hours later, I found the lunch untouched. On top of the sign sat an opened can of tuna fish and a box of crackers. Later I asked Sam about lunch. He admitted it was terrible, eating tuna from the can with crackers, "But we couldn't find anything else." Abundant provisions had been at hand. The table was laid out. The instructions were plain. The only thing missing was the simple act of recognizing the gift and taking it.

In a similar vein, how many times do we miss the wonderful gifts God longs to give us? Too often we don't listen closely enough to understand God's directions for us. Too often we are not ready and willing to hear what God says. Thus we miss out on the real joys of a spirit-filled life. But through the disciplines of scripture reading, prayer, and regular worship, we can learn to see, appreciate, and use what God has given us.

You know I cannot express it any other way. At times we fail to see the note God leaves us or take the time to stop and read, listen, or respond to God; as a result we go spiritually hungry or feed on that which is less satisfying to us.

Like the story in Luke chapter 14 of the one who prepared a dinner banquet, and when it was time to begin, all the guests made excuses and refused to come. Then the man told his slaves to go out and invite people off the street to come, so that those who had made excuses missed out.

What is our excuse for missing God's blessings? God is always ready and willing to give, but we must be ready to receive.

Don't miss out on the blessing that God has in store for you.

Blessings,

Rev. Eric Lane