

As We Have Opportunity

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all,
especially to those who are of the household of faith.*

Galatians 6:10

This week has caused me to reflect on our theme verse and to pause for a moment to watch it in action. God calls for us to look for opportunities, which at times seem not so difficult to find. For this past year your willingness to serve people, “especially those of the household of faith” has been nothing short of heartwarming. The recent events with Bert and Ana, the assistance given to members in need and of course, the recent events surrounding the Butler’s. It is during such adversity that question, real and hard questions. One of them being, “Why?” I will not be so bold to suggest I can answer such a question with a few short words; but faith says there must be some kind of answer to be found.

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies
and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be
able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which
we ourselves are comforted by God.*

2nd Corinthians 1:3-4

I realize that Paul is speaking of sufferings that stem from a person who encounters persecution for being a follower of Christ. The principle of receiving comfort from God and sharing that with others can also be true of the “trials” (James 1:2) we face as we journey homeward to God. This has never been so vivid to me than what I witnessed this past week. “You have cancer,” were the penetrating words that echoed in the hospital room. What took place in the following days spoke volumes of the people seeking to take the opportunity God presented to them. Calls, text messages, visits, inviting someone over all were examples of God’s people seeking to do good, “especially to those who are of the household of faith.” One stood out to me, as they offered comfort to someone, a comfort they themselves experienced only weeks before. A comfort that they received in part, through the body of Christ.

The more we grow in our relationships with one another, taking advantage of opportunities to serve each other, the stronger we will become as His church. Thank you for being Jesus’s disciples, which was so clearly seen through the actions of your love. “Love never fails” (1st Corinthians 13:8) to leave its impression on the hearts and minds of those watching.

