

# Family Focus

## SHEPHERD'S CORNER

### A BALANCED LIFE



Our culture has been greatly influenced by “modernization”. Our 24 hour day forces us to make many decisions with respect to the use of our time. A life based on the frenzies and impulses of human ambition is a delusion and obstacle to grace and it can get in the way of God’s will. We must learn to distinguish between the pseudo spirituality of our many possible activities and the vitality and energy of Christian action guided by the Spirit. It is in the ordinary duties and labor of life that the Christian can and should develop his spiritual union with God.

But this is so difficult to achieve for many of us. Today, multiple family members are often in the workforce, either part time or full time. The apostle Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians (II Thes. 3) notes the role of work and he warns them that they were leading “idle” lives. He relates that “nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you”. He taught by example.

The book of James helps us to set priorities in our life. Chapter 4:13-15 says “Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’ Whereas, you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, if the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” These verses help us to determine what is important as life unfolds.

The Giant’s pitcher Dave Dravecky, in dealing with health issues, stated: “I don’t ordinarily think much about heaven and hell. I’m too busy keeping up with the day to day concerns of life. But in those days, I found my perspective shifted. Some things that mattered a lot in the day-to-day routine of living mattered much less. Some things (spiritual issues) that I seldom considered mattered a great deal more.”



Don Osburn

### Our Shepherds

Glen Godsey, Charles Martin, Britt Newby, Don Osburn,  
Jerry Templer, James Treece, Dee Vanderburg



Congratulations to Alex Peterson-Ramey who was baptized last month.  
Alex is in the seventh grade.