

January Devotional: Triple A Saves Lives! By Jerry Furniss

One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 10:25)

Do you have this same question? Now that we are starting a new year, let us start from the beginning. Everyone knows that if you have trouble on your journey, call triple A; it can save your life. Likewise, triple A can help save the lives of those in a Christian journey.

As you navigate your own life, you will always be confronted with many questions in life. The ongoing "Who, what, when, where and how." The "When" and "Where" are God's given space and time. They just are what they are, and we live within them. The remaining questions—the big questions in life, are answered by triple A. What I am talking about is that we need to use: **Acknowledgement, Acceptance, and Appreciation.**

Last month we discussed how *much more* we should appreciate everything. We learned then that the "Who" is God. He is the one to whom we should be showing our appreciation. This we do by loving our neighbors, by giving of ourselves.

What about the "What?" Acknowledgement answers the question what. When you show acknowledgement to anyone or anything, you make it real. Acknowledgement gives life to, and establishes what we appreciate. Thus we should acknowledge everyone and everything to really enjoy the diversity of life. That leaves the "How" in life.

The "How" boils down to Acceptance. If you accept God's grace and His truth and His will for your life, the How's of life will be taken care of by Him. "How" is answered with trust and faith.

Now some of you are probably asking, "What about the question Why?". I did not forget about you. Why is a one-letter word (Y) that reminds us that we all have God's gift of choice. Which path will you take When and Where you come to that fork (Y) in the road of life? The answer to your choice and to the Bible verse question above is in Luke 10:27. Look it up, or to paraphrase, show God that you choose to acknowledge and accept everything from Him, by loving your neighbors.

Happiness is something you give yourself, but joy comes from showing appreciation. Have a joyous New Year.