

Polly's Pondering

Why the Written Word Matters.

I have been doing a lot of cleaning in my office – although it might not look like it. That is because this is a different kind of cleaning. I am going through every cabinet, every drawer, every box, and every nook and cranny. Looking at all the things I have acquired along the way. Things that I have carted with me from one appointment to another. But this time I am boxing up only those things that will be needed on the next part of my ministry journey. I am grateful that I am not expected to pack in a week and relocate in one day. So that is what I have been doing going slowly.

Along the way, I have found notes of encouragement, letters asking for forgiveness, and items that have taken me to ministry places I have long left behind. They have brought such joy to my heart, gratitude for the journey, and assurance for tomorrow. It is hard to say goodbye to things, to memories attached to gifts, to expectations of need for the coming days. It is equally difficult to decide what to keep for the new adventures ahead. Not knowing just what tomorrow will look like and what I might need to accomplish the tasks God places before me makes deciding what to keep difficult.

I am sure our graduating seniors must be thinking some of the same thoughts. What do I leave behind what will be needed to take with me to the dorm, the new apartment, or the new adventure that lays ahead.

The one thing I know will be with me is the Word of God. That is because I know that everywhere I go I will need to read the word of God. I will need to be reminded of the promises contained within that book. I will need to see my notes written in the margins and know that the same God I discovered all those yester days ago, is the same God I need for the tasks of each new day, and the same God who will be with me all the tomorrows to come.

On May 17th we will recognize our graduating seniors, and we will let them know how proud we are of each one. We will be able to write them a word of encouragement, jot down a prayer on a card and drop it in the cap on each of their tables. Right now, there are 6 names. Israel Garza, Cadie Martin, Karlie Morgan, Mila Peterson, Cheyenne Smith, and Savannah Smith. You don't have to know them to give them a word of encouragement. The Worship committee will share with each one either a new Bible or a Bible cover which they can take with them on their new adventures. It is not merely historical or instructional, but it is also living and active. The Word of God can penetrate our hearts and minds; it can shape our thoughts and guide us as we make moral and ethical decisions. (Hebrews 4:12) It can give us directions and clarity on the way we should move forward as it serves as a lamp for our feet and a light on our path, (Psalm 119:105).

Yes, words matter, your words, my words, and the most of all the Word of God! Come celebrate our Seniors and bless them with a word or two. Amen