

A Message from Pastor Travis Dean

Often when we're tucking Elijah in for the night, we will ask him, "So, what did you do today?" And repeatedly he'll give the same answer, "Oh, I just... (he'll insert a pause for effect) went to the zoo." In reality it has often been weeks since he went to the zoo. But he still speaks of this great event as if it happened that very day. Perhaps he is reliving the fun and excitement of the last time he went to the zoo. Or maybe he is trying to give a subtle hint to mommy and daddy that it's time to go back to the zoo. Whatever his thought processes might be, one thing is for sure: the passing of time doesn't dim in his mind the fun he had at the zoo.

Those who are nearing the end of their lives often reveal this same resilience. If you spend much time with them, they'll eventually begin talking about the good old days. The passing of decades doesn't seem to dim the bright memories of their earlier years.

As a Christian, I still vividly remember the hour that I first believed. It was a moment filled with joy and excitement. I have never experienced a day like it ever since. Feeling hopeless and broken God revealed to me the cross of His Son Jesus Christ. I saw that this event had purchased for me the joy and hope that I longed for. With this revelation God awakened a faith inside of me that had been dormant. I grabbed a hold of this good news and have been living in its light ever since.

To Elijah all that has happened since he went to the zoo fades in comparison to what he experienced on that exciting day. To many in their golden years the passing of decades does little to dim the excitement of days gone by. And to a healthy Christian the glory they saw when they first believed never grows dim.

Many years after his conversion Paul says in Galatians 6:14, "But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." That was the best thing anyone had ever done for him. And in Galatians 2:20 Paul says, "I have been crucified with Christ." That was the best thing that ever happened to him.

So, what did you do today? "Oh, I just...(a pause for effect) believed in Jesus' death for me."