February 19, 2011 Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D.

Monday

<u>John 10:10</u> "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

It's true — Jesus came to give you, to give everyone, life worth living, overflowing, abundant and meaningful. It's also true that most people seem not to be experiencing that life at all. Drudgery and doubt plague many. It is not the lack of provision in Jesus' promise that is at issue, but the lack of genuine intention on the part of the believer. The promise is realized in a life that is committed to and released to Jesus. Are you tired of the drudgery of life? Would you like to know the adventure of life instead? Make a plan to follow Jesus, commit to it wherever it leads, and then follow that plan. Life awaits: abundant, overflowing, meaningful.

Tuesday

Eccl. 11:3 If the clouds are full, they pour out rain upon the earth; and whether a tree falls toward the south or toward the north, wherever the tree falls, there it lies.

Are you full of silly arguments that keep you from joining the adventure of God's plan? What if God does this? Why did God do that? It is akin to your putting off a significant and unrelated life decision based on the question, "If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there, does it make a sound?" Sometimes questions of ponder cannot be answered and become merely excuses for inactivity and stalled direction. You can sit and ponder wasting your opportunities for real life, or you can rest upon the revelation of God in Christ and move out with purpose and meaning. "If a tree falls, there it lies!" So what — get on with life! Join the adventure!

Wednesday

Eccl. 12:1 Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them".

You can take a battery out of a watch, but time continues to pass. Its march is unrelenting and with its passing another day flies by. Seconds to minutes, minutes to hours, hours to days, days to years, and life flies by. God warns often that you are to redeem the time not allowing opportunities to pass without purpose. What are you waiting for? Is your marriage passing without significant investment? Is your opportunity for mission passing without commitment? Is your time with your children passing without their seeing you totally sold out to Jesus? Make a plan; a settled intention to use the gifts God has given you to join the adventure!

Thursday

Eccl. 11:10 So, remove grief and anger from your heart and put away pain from your body, because childhood and the prime of life are fleeting.

Some attitudes will absolutely rob you of God's plan for your abundant living. What is more, these attitudes taking up residence in you will work to rob others of joy and meaning. Such is Satan's plan for you. He comes to steal from you, kill you, and destroy you. God's plan is otherwise — abundant living. So what attitudes must be put away? Unforgiveness and the grief that pursues it. Anger and the murderous, bitter attitude that accompanies it. Self-importance and the pain it brings. "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger be put away from you." (Eph 4:31)

Friday

Eccl. 11:4 He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap.

We all procrastinate. Some of us procrastinate until significant opportunities have passed. Don't! Change your perspective. Stop being satisfied with watching the clouds roll by. What is God leading you to do? What has he gifted you to do? What relationships need mending? What attitudes do you need to change? What opportunities need exploring? It's been noted, "Those who fail to plan, plan to fail." Stop wasting the opportunity for abundant living and plan for an abundant life!