

Children's Message

2.24.08

3rd Sunday in Lent

I want to tell you today about a conversation that a girl named Rose had with her two brothers Joe & Phillip while they were standing on their front porch.

"There's just not enough of it!" wailed Phillip to his brother and sister.

"It's melting away!" Joe cried with distress.

"It IS going much too fast," agreed Phillip.

"I don't think it's going fast enough," Rose objected.

Just then, their mother came to the front door and said, "Come in for supper children, it will be gone before you know it."

What do you think Rose and her brothers and her mother were talking about?

(snow?- good answer- some people always think there is too much of it and others think there is too little- but that's not it.) Is there anything else that goes too slow for some people and too fast for others?

Time! That's right. What do we use to measure time? (watch, clock, sun dial, egg timer) What do we use to measure big chunks of time- like days and weeks? (Calendars)

It is interesting, isn't it- that we keep track of time so carefully; that we have so many things that we use to measure time: watches, alarm clocks, clock towers, sun dials, egg timers, all kinds of calendars: electronic calendars, wall calendars, word of the day calendars... it almost seems like by keeping track of time we can somehow control it. But can we, can we control time?

Once I came up with, what I thought, was a brilliant idea. I'm not sure how old I was, but it was my birthday and I was so excited about it- I just wanted the day to last forever. So guess what I did? I took the battery out of my mom's watch. I figured that if I could just stop time on my birthday- it would last forever! But time did roll on, and as sure as sunrise and sunset, my birthday ended, like all days do.

Time is certainly not in our hands- it's in God's hands. But you know what IS in our hands? How we use that time. We can choose how we fill our days. Time is another one of our wonderful gifts from God. I know that there are times when I put things off, I just can't around to it. Like, making a phone call to an old friend just to catch up. Or cleaning a desk drawer. Or taking the time to write a thank you note to someone who has done something nice for me.

Oh, I almost forgot- I brought something to show you today. It's a TUIT. See? It's a round TUIT. Because I have a round TUIT I will be able to do all of those things that I have been putting off. You see, I will be able to get a round to it. Get it? I brought each of you a round TUIT today, too. That way you can do something wonderful today that you have been trying to get around to doing.

Reverend Wiley, will you please lead us in a prayer?