



One Day at a Time

It is only the first week in November, but I am sure many of you have already seen Christmas decorations up in some of the shopping malls. There was an article in one of the newspapers which stated that many stores were putting up their decorations as early as possible to compete with the stores who were going to wait until the traditional opening date of the Christmas shopping season (the day after Thanksgiving.) Those stores who do wait until the day after Thanksgiving to display the decorations seem to be fewer in number each year. This seems to be a rather sad statement about what Christmas means to many people in our society today. One holiday that seems to get pushed further behind the scenes by this early Christmas decorating is Thanksgiving. One really has to make an effort to enjoy the present moment and not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of something that is not celebrated for another seven weeks.

Jesus said that tomorrow has enough problems and that we should focus on today (Matthew 6:34). Certainly we all have to do some planning regarding our finances, careers, education and so forth. However, we must make sure that we look for and savor the goodness of the present moment. Even if the present time is filled with chaos and discouragement, there is something to be said for focusing on the *now* and letting tomorrow take care of itself. How good it is if we are able to find a few moments in our day to take a walk outside and savor what God has created. How good it is if we are able to sit quietly in a chair with our eyes closed and give our Lord fifteen minutes of our undivided attention. How good it is if we are able to simply say "Thank You, Lord, for all that You have done for me!" Let us enjoy the present time and see it truly as a gift from God. It is true that tomorrow has enough troubles, but God has given us today. Let us use it as best we can and not pass up an opportunity to praise and thank the One who gave it to us.

Father David