06/01/2015 One Day At A Time

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matt.6:34).

Abraham Lincoln is credited with this quote: "The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time..." Ida Scott Taylor (Fanny J. Crosby) said this: "One day at a time --- this is enough. Do not look back and grieve over the past, for it is gone; and do not be troubled about the future, for it is yet to come. Live in the present, and make it so beautiful that it will be worth remembering..." McGuffey readers were used in schools in the USA in the 19th and 20th centuries. They contained stories with morals to help children to not only read, but learn a lesson at the same time... One story was about a clock that lamented over how many times it would have to tick (86,400 times) just to make it though a day. The thought of how many times it would tick in a year (31, 536,00) was just too much and the clock decided that the task was so daunting, that it would just stop ticking. A wise owl, knowing the importance of the clock's ticking to keep time, offered this sage advice to the clock. "Just remember this... You only have to tick one tick at a time..." This sounded so reasonable to the clock, that it kept on ticking. Rumor has it that it is still ticking today... With the past gone and the future yet to come, we must live in the moment. The very best preparation for tomorrow is getting it done today, instead of worrying about it... Many worries can be avoided by just living one day at a time...

Have a great start to your week... Begin it with a RAK or two... Love mark Phil.4:11

06/02/2015 Remember Fanny J....

"Be imitators of me, just as I am of Christ" (1 Cor.11:1) "Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me..." (1 Cor. 6:16).

While the Parable of the "Talents" (Matt.25:14-30) is actually about money, I view it to really be about abilities and how we use them. You might want to read the parable some time today. If you are wondering about my title today, I'll explain. Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915) was for all intents and purposes blind from birth. If you are not familiar with her, she was a prolific writer. She penned over 8,000 hymns, 1,000 poems, and 4 books of poetry. She wrote the hymns Blessed Assurance, Rescue The Perishing, Praise Him! Praise Him!, Safe In The Arms Of Jesus, Draw Me Nearer and All The Way My Savior Leads Me among others. This is what she said about her "handicap... "Had I not been deprived of my sight, I would never have received so good an education, nor cultivated so fine a memory, nor been able to do good to so many people..." One way way to ward off anxiety is to be able to accept ourselves the way we are. We

need to understand our strengths and weakness and use them all for the Lord. Fanny took what we would perceive as an obstacle and turned it into a stepping stone... The writer of the Book of Proverbs said this... "For as a man thinks in his heart, so he is..." (23:7). Alleviating worry and anxiety is an "inside job" rather than an external one. Temptations and difficulties will always be out there, so we must make adjustments and changes of heart. It becomes a matter of turning our difficulties into blessings.... Fanny did...

Have a great day, I'll miss for a while.... On rainy days, let your smile be your umbrella... Love mark Phil.4:11