

A Great Day in the Kingdom – 9/13/24

In 1973, the Robbins family moved to Fort Worth, Texas. Upon emptying our U-Haul, our neighbor commented on all of the new people coming to Fort Worth. I remember distinctly his comment, "these folks are making this place too crowded." My father did not take the bait, as he refused to honor the statement. I was so young (6) that I remember wondering who the man was talking about.

My brothers rode their bikes down Hulen to go to United Methodist Youth Fellowship. Hulen Mall was a field where people rode dirt bikes. Fort Worth had a hockey team, "The Texans". Attending one of those games was the equivalent of attending a boxing match. One of the local TV stations broadcast "The Children's Hour". The show featured a Claymation cartoon, called Davie and Goliath. Davie was the boy and Goliath was his dog. Davie navigated God's purpose for himself in every weekly episode. Those were good times.

Today, as I remember the neighbor's comment, thoughts of older Fort Worth and newer Fort Worth come to mind. Fort Worth is a great city. Aledo is growing, with more families coming every year. Good! None of us have exclusive rights, thinking we need to be the last one accepted in this area, yet we hear it out in public.

We must remember in the Church of Jesus Christ that each and every guest and member are equal blessings from God. We have all been welcomed. Therefore, in turn, we are to welcome new people. The Kingdom of Jesus Christ is not about maintaining; it is about growing. Crowded is a relative term. Remember what Jesus said to the Disciples?

Matthew 14:13-21, They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.

We are called to feed the world, as we provide the sustenance in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Have a Blessed Week, Church!!!

Love to You All!!!

Pastor Joel

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, help me to provide a kind and infinite greeting to all You provide in my life. Keep me from entitlement. Keep me from judging others. Help me to welcome, as I have been welcomed. Help me to grow Your Kingdom. In the name of the Risen Christ, Jesus I Pray! AMEN!!!