

Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm 33

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-13

This past week I've been hearing much about age.

Sometimes we as believers tend to limit ourselves because of the number of years we have lived or the strength of our bodies.

Many of us have reached our 'Golden years' Who came up with that saying?

Gold is a chemical element with the symbol Au and atomic number 79. This makes it one of the higher atomic number elements that occur naturally. It is a bright, slightly orange-yellow dense, soft, malleable, and ductile metal in pure form. Chemically, gold is a transition metal and group 11 element.

The purer the gold the more pliable it is! (Ductile)

Gold can be hammered or pressed permanently out of shape without cracking! (Malleable).

Golden years, I believe, speaks more about our inner man than our physical.

Hebrews 11:1 says; Now faith is the substance of things, 'hoped for' the evidence of things not seen.

In the reading in Romans this week the passage concludes with verse 17; (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed - **God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did.**

Abraham was 75 before he was even called! 100 when he became the father of Isaac.

Psalm 33:11 says the counsel of the LORD stands forever,

The plans of His heart to ALL generations - do you fit into that all? I do!

Romans 4 if we read a little further down - of Abraham it says in verse 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

Friends, I don't think God is asking us to bear children physically, but His call is that we bear or rear the children already here. The generations before us are in need of parenting/grandparenting.

Finally, we see Nicodemus who says of himself in verse 4 of John 3.

"How can a man be born when he is old?"

Nicodemus we know ends up as a servant of the gospel and shows up throughout. During the time of Jesus' arrest he is there. And for the preparation of Jesus' burial. John 3:16 is for the Whosoever!

Embrace the time you're in! Pray and ask God to reveal the 'whosoever' to you. Perhaps He's already laid them on your heart. Take the chance and step out, call or speak to the whosoever that's on your heart today.

Robin Mark wrote the following song a few years back. I have it hanging on our wall as a reminder.

Men of a certain age are weary, everything rolls along
Nothing has changed for 30 years now, it's still the same old song
Apathy for your anger compromise replaced your rage
Things you once stood for now you stay seated. Men of a certain age.

And men of a certain age are grumpy, nothing has turned out right
All of those things you hoped to accomplish seem to be set aside
Where is that great adventure? How can I turn the page?
Rub it all out and start it over. Men of a certain age

Men of a certain age are heroes at least in their children's eyes
Standing for what they once believed in, no hint of compromise
Running the race with patience, until their final day!
Faithful in every word and deed. You men of a certain age.

**But who told you to quit?
Who said to step down?
Who said to stop running?
Who said that time had been called on your day?
Who said the anointing had been taken away?
Oh, the battle is won, the kingdom has come.
It's time to start running.
So pick up that baton and get back in the race.
You Men of a certain age**