Give Tomorrow the Day Off

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Give tomorrow the day off

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” -Jesus in Matthew 6:34

Over spring break I had three separate plans: visit my brother, camp on the beach, and visit my parents. I left late one evening and drove down I-75 until I reached my brother’s house in Orlando, FL. We had a great time, but throughout the weekend I kept thinking about how fun it was going to be to camp on the beach.

On Monday I left Orlando and drove to Anastasia State Park in St. Augustine. It was everything I hoped it would be. Again, I had a great time, but I frequently thought about seeing my parents.

I left St. Augustine and a few hours later I was home with my family. Pure bliss! Unfortunately, I started thinking about coming back to work and finishing the school year.

Now here I am spending spring dreaming about summer. When I was in college all I could think about at this point in the year was “when finals are over, THEN life will be good.” Unfortunately, I get to summer and the cycle of planning the next step comes around again.

You get the idea. I have planned my life in such a way that joy can never be fully found until tomorrow, and it’s exhausting.

I get it – we have to plan. We’ve got finals to pass, resumes to send, and people to see. The future is unknown, so we try to control it. But in our attempt to limit the anxieties of tomorrow we overlook the joy of today.

Whether we like it or not life can only be lived one day at a time. Sometimes the days are as nice as the Florida coast, and sometimes they seem distressingly dark. Whatever circumstance you find yourself in, today is the Father’s gift to you - the birds keep singing, the heavens always declare the glory of God, and Kraft still sells mac and cheese. You and I are dearly loved by a Friend who is smart enough to figure out the future, so take a breath and smell the roses.

I’ve wasted a lot of good todays worried about tomorrows, and I’m over it. Today has so much joy – don’t miss it.

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