

MEL'S MEDITATIONS

Silas Shotwell wrote, "Charles Francis Adams, the 19th century political figure and diplomat, kept a diary. One day he entered: "Went fishing with my son today--a day wasted." His son, Brook Adams, also kept a diary, which is still in existence. On that same day, Brook Adams made this entry: "Went fishing with my father--the most wonderful day of my life!" The father thought he was wasting his time while fishing with his son, but his son saw it as an investment of time. The only way to tell the difference between wasting and investing is to know one's ultimate purpose in life and to judge accordingly."

Being a father is a great responsibility. I was very blessed to have a Christian father and a Christian grandfather (my other grandfather was also a Christian, but died when I was very young). I am very touched at how they handled the responsibilities of fatherhood. They were extremely different and only had two noticeable things in common: farming and Christianity. Actually, they both had another very important thing in common for me, they both made my life easier by the relationships I had with them. I think there are memories I have of both of them that might have meant very little to them as individual events, but are heart-warming to me. We may never know how an act of kindness will impact someone. I'm sorry Charles Francis Adams thought a day fishing with his son was a waste of time and I'm glad his son thought it was a great day.

I think we frequently underestimate the importance of a "small" act of kindness. In all of our relationships we should take time for small acts of kindness. Galatians 6:10 states: *as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith* and Hebrews 10:24 states: *let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works*. The two things I want to uplift in this devotional are: take the time to **do good** for others, even if it doesn't seem like a big deal to you, and if you've been blessed with a Christian father or father figure, be thankful for the blessing. I am thankful for the relationships with my grandfather, my father and my Heavenly Father.

God Bless, Pastor Mel Zumbrun

