



Servants of Christ
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Devotion for the Week of August 3, 2020

Home

*‘For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.’ –
Hebrews 3:4*

*‘My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed
places of rest.’ --Isaiah 32:18*

*I did something weird last weekend. Maybe you can relate. I ‘googled’ the
address of the house my brothers and I grew up in. Interestingly, there was a
realtor page that actually had modern photos of inside the house. My parents
were the first owners back in 1966 with a mortgage payment of \$90 (now the
house sells for \$275,000...) I was interested in revisiting the place where I was
formed, not unlike Miranda Lambert’s song: “If I could just come in I swear I’ll
leave, won’t take nothing but a memory from the house that built me.”*

*It was a holy experience. I saw where people had turned the breezeway into a TV
room, where Mom made all of our breakfasts and dinners, where I slept with a
window open so the ceiling fan could cool the house (the one window AC was only
for special occasions like weddings in July). All the experiences--- good, bad, and
indifferent—were relived.*

*I have always believed that space and time never forgets. How could they?
There is too much life in those spaces--- every Christmas with plastic (over please)*

race tracks and Playskool and Lego sets, every anniversary celebration, and remembering the one time Dad cried in the breezeway when his friend died.

For God, home is important too. Jesus said he is preparing a place for us, has been for 2,000 years. Returning to a safe home was very important during the exiles of the Israelites. Jesus spoke about the importance of building a home on stone, not sand. And, of course, Jesus said, 'In my Father's house are many dwelling places...'

This week, I invite you to reflect about the holy spaces that have been important in your life. A beach. A lake. A mountain. A town. These are the places that built you. They are holy in many ways. And then, I invite you and myself not to take the present spaces in our lives for granted. No doubt, we will look back on 2020 as horrific on many levels, but there were and are the tender moments too that we will remember long after this virus becomes a simple measles vaccine.

God is at work now. God is transforming our lives. May we trust him to build a good house on solid rock, a holy place in which to dwell. Forever.

Prayer:

God of holy spaces, creator of all good things, redeemer of the world, help us not to take you or your love for granted. May we appreciate all you have given us even when many important things seem to slip away. You are all we have right now. And we proclaim that you are enough. Amen.