

Thought for the Day

January 9 – January 13, 2012

January 9, 2012

SUFFICIENT

One day a man went to a Rolls Royce dealership to shop for an automobile. The salesman said, “This is the most famous car in the world. Some Rolls Royces are still running after fifty years.”

The customer bought the car and drove it home. Then he realized that he had forgotten to ask how much horsepower the car had. He could not find that answer in the car’s manual. So, he phoned the salesman. The salesman did not know the answer but promised that he would wire the home office in London for an answer. Back came the answer in just one word: “Adequate.”

A synonym for adequate is the word “sufficient.” God’s promise to St. Paul and to us is: “My grace will be sufficient for you” (2 Cor. 12:9).

January 10, 2012

A TRUE FRIEND

A farmer was out plowing one spring morning. The spring thaw had just occurred and there were many muddy valleys in his field. In one particularly wet place his tractor bogged down. The harder he tried to get out, the deeper he sank. Finally he walked over to his neighbor’s house to ask for help. The neighbor came over and looked at the situation. He shook his head and then said, “It doesn’t look good, but I tell you what. I’ll try my best to pull you out. But if I can’t get you out, I’ll come sit in the mud with you.”

Have you ever tried “mud-sitting” with a friend? It may be the best thing you can do. “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2).

January 11, 2012

*T*HE HISTORY OF TEAMWORK

At a Midwestern fair, there was an event called the horse pull. Strong horses were hitched to a sled on which were placed various weights. The grand champion horse pulled 4,500 pounds. The runner-up pulled just over 4,400 pounds. Someone was curious about how much weight these two horses could pull together, as a team. So they were hitched together to a sled. As a team they pulled over 12,000 pounds!

Having a partner or a team inspires us to efforts that we might not make alone. King Solomon offered a similar perception: “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: if one falls down, his friend can help him up...” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10).

Is someone near you facing a challenge that would be manageable with a helper like you?

January 12, 2012

*L*EAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

An overweight business executive decided it was time to shed some excess pounds. He took his new diet seriously, even changing his driving route to work to avoid his favorite bakery. Nevertheless, one morning he arrived at work carrying a gigantic coffee cake. His staff scolded him but his smile remained cherubic. He said, “This is a very special coffee cake. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window was a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, ‘Lord, if you want me to have one of those delicious coffee cakes, let me find a parking place directly in front of the bakery.’ And, sure enough, the eighth time around the block, there it was.”

The Lord can help us avoid temptations, especially if we do not create them.

January 13, 2012

A POLITICALLY CORRECT THANKSGIVING

In today's politically correct environment where you have to be so careful to avoid offending anyone, we can understand why a fourth grader gave the following report to his class on the origins of the Thanksgiving holiday:

“The Pilgrims came here seeking freedom of you know what. When they landed they gave thanks to you know who. Because of them, we can worship each Sunday, you know where.”

These words of Jesus should serve as a warning: “If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory...” (Luke 9:26).