

Monday, May 23, 2016

Be Prepared. A basic lesson learned by every Boy Scout, and one I would apply every time we went camping. I'd check my packing list, review our itinerary, inspect the car, etc. to make sure that all foreseeable problems were dealt with. Unfortunately the key word is foreseeable, and not every problem is. In reality, along with the obvious considerations, there are always unforeseen issues that pop up and undermine even a well-planned outing.

We deal with life the same way. We try to control every contingency. We want life to be safe, profitable, and as easy as possible. But then stuff happens, suddenly, out of the blue, some uncontrollable circumstance throws our world into a tailspin.

Several years ago, I got a call out of the blue from a troubled lady. She told me she was giving God one last chance, and I was the number she picked out of a church list in the phone book. We counseled for many weeks, and I was encouraged by the progress she was making. She was getting stronger, both emotionally and spiritually, and seemed to be dealing with her pain and issues well. Then, one morning, I got a phone call telling me that she had passed away, apparently as she slept during the night. I was shocked. She was doing so well, moving forward; and then it was over. Physiologically, her past choices had taken their toll.

"Be Prepared" Fortunately, this woman and I had talked about more than her emotional challenges. We had taken time to deal with the eternal issues of Jesus and the salvation He died to bring. She was prepared for the most important stuff. But are you?

Matthew 25:13 "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

Is it possible to be ready for death? ABSOLUTELY! For, in reality, death is a foreseeable event of life, an experience for which all of us should be prepared.