

Wednesday, December 20

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13 11-13

Text for Today: But now abide faith, hope, love these three; but the greatest of these is love.

This year Jeannie and I experienced the “empty nest syndrome”. The first few weeks were quite difficult. We just weren’t accustomed to having so much free time. No ballgames. No loud teenagers running in and out of the house. The silence was deafening.

We reflected on the times when the boys were growing up. As with all children there were times when we weren’t sure we would ever see them off on their own. These children could never survive in the real world. Well, the boys have done just fine thanks to hope, faith, love and the help of our Christian family.

We are very excited about having both Jon and Jordan home this Christmas. I think most parents will agree that the best nights sleep comes when they and their grown children are all under the same roof.

We recall the fondest memories of Christmas past: Getting together with family and watching the cousins play together. It was comforting to have everyone together under the same roof. As we watched the kids play we realized that our children and their cousins were the hope for the future. God’s special gift entrusted to us.

The coming of Christmas is filled with wonder, peace and hope that exceeds our expectations and lifts us from darkness into the light of Christ. The Child of Hope is Jesus. The one whose birth, our hope, we celebrate at Christmas.

Prayer – Loving Father, may the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake. Amen

Keith Backes