

The Home Stretch 1-21-09

The countdown is on. I go back to the doctor on Feb. 12th for my final check-up. That's about 22 days, 18 hours, 27 minutes, and 17 seconds from now, but who's counting? At that time I should be released to get rid of my brace and start driving again. Oh ya!!! Once again, you'll see me cruising the streets of Grinnell in my beautiful 1988 maroon and rust colored Toyota Camry. That is if I can get it to start again.

As I get closer to the 12th, it is pretty tempting to stop wearing my brace and start driving again. It's easy to start thinking, "Oh, what's a couple more weeks." I'm trying to hold out though. Actually, Holly is making sure of that, so no need to worry.

In general it's easy to look ahead in life. We can't wait to graduate from high school and then college. Then we can't wait to get married and have a family. We can't wait to get that dream job and then we can't wait to get that promotion and raise. In the short term, we can't wait for the weekend or for vacation and the list goes on and on. Well, as the old saying goes, "Don't wish your life away." I think it is so easy to get caught up in the future that we forget to see what God is doing today.

James touches on this subject when he says: "*Now listen, you who say, today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, If it is the Lords' will, we will live and do this or that.*"

The truth is, we don't really know what the future will bring. There will be good times and bad times. However, we do know what is going on in our lives right now and I know that God wants to use each of you in a special way right now in whatever situation you are in. So, let's remember to not always be wishing for the future and try to look for the positives in your current situation and how God wants to use you. C'mon it can't be that bad and even if it is pretty bad I bet some amazing spiritual growth can take place through that tough time.

God Bless,

Dan