

Thursday, September 17, 2020
Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...

**"Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!
Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven."**

Psalm 148

It's like an orchestra! There's the string section, the horn section, percussion, brass, and so on. And they play in unison, creating music, not just sounds and noises. The sun shines and has been shining since the day it was created. The moon revolves around the earth and brightens the night sky. Rain falls from the sky, bringing refreshment to the earth. Animals are "mooing" and "oinking" and "neighing" and "howling." Birds are sailing through the air, building nests, coming to your bird feeders. Each part of creation is doing its thing, and in doing so they are giving glory and praise to God.

God is the Conductor of the orchestra. He tells the sun when to shine and the clouds when to diminish its light. He indicates when the music should become softer and quieter by turning the day into the night. At sunrise, He calls for a crescendo once again.

You and I are part of God's orchestra too! The music that we provide is when we love one another as Jesus has loved us. Our music is highlighted when we forgive those who have hurt us so that we may be true followers of Jesus. We share the Gospel with those who don't know about Jesus. We gather for worship. We pray for God's Kingdom to come. We move into action based on the gifts and abilities that God has given to us. We diligently study the Bible so that His Word may be firmly rooted in our hearts and lives. We think thoughts that are good and beneficial for ourselves and for others. We live with joy and praise no matter what the circumstances in life may be.

We are part of the orchestra that God is conducting. The Holy Spirit helps us to stay on the same page of music that God is on. We're not just bumping our way through life, haphazardly reacting to the events of the day. We are in God's orchestra, bringing a smile to God's face and glorifying His Name. It's a good day! The Conductor is in charge!

God's Peace!
Pastor Jim