



FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

51 North Franklin Road • Indianapolis, IN 46219 • 317.897.1298

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 12, 2018

A VETERAN!



YESTERDAY WAS VETERANS DAY. I'M VERY THANKFUL FOR THOSE WHO'VE SERVED OUR NATION. I DO NOT HAVE THAT DISTINCTION AND NEVER WILL. I'M TOO OLD TO BECOME A VETERAN. WHEN I CHECKED WITH A MILITARY RECRUITMENT CENTER, I FOUND THAT THE MILITARY SERVICE IS NOT INTERESTED IN "OLD" GUYS LIKE ME. IN FACT, IF YOU WANT TO JOIN THE MILITARY, YOU HAVE TO FINISH BASIC TRAINING BEFORE YOUR THIRTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE NEEDED A GENERAL, GOD CHOSE AN EIGHTY-YEAR-OLD MOSES. (SEE EXODUS 7:7). IT WOULD BE HIS DUTY TO BRING GOD'S PEOPLE OUT OF EGYPT TO THE PROMISED LAND. IT PROVED TO BE A VERY DIFFICULT TASK, BUT HE'D BEEN THROUGH A 40-YEAR BASIC TRAINING COURSE THAT EQUIPPED HIM TO SERVE AND DID SO UNTIL HIS DEATH AT THE AGE OF 120.

AMAZINGLY ENOUGH WHEN IT CAME TIME FOR A NEW GENERAL, GOD CHOSE AN EIGHTY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD VETERAN TO REPLACE MOSES. NUMBERS 27:18 RECORDS GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS TO MOSES, "TAKE JOSHUA THE SON OF NUN WITH YOU, A MAN IN WHOM IS THE SPIRIT, AND LAY YOUR HANDS ON HIM." GOD KNEW THAT THIS "OLD" GUY WAS SPIRIT GUIDED AND WOULD PROVIDE GREAT LEADERSHIP AS THE ISRAELITES ENTERED THE PROMISED LAND. HE'D FAITHFULLY SERVED ALONGSIDE MOSES AND WOULD NOW REPLACE HIM.

THEN TOO, THINK OF CALEB, ONE OF JOSHUA'S BEST FRIENDS. AS THE ISRAELITES ARE SETTLING AND SPLITTING UP THEIR NATION INTO TRIBAL TERRITORIES, CALEB ANNOUNCES TO JOSHUA, ". . .NOW BEHOLD, I AM EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS OLD TODAY. I AM STILL AS STRONG TODAY AS I WAS IN THE DAY MOSES SENT ME; AS MY STRENGTH WAS THEN, SO MY STRENGTH IS NOW, FOR WAR AND FOR GOING OUT AND COMING IN. NOW THEN, GIVE ME THIS HILL COUNTRY . . ." (JOSHUA 14:10-12). HE WAS UP TO THE CHALLENGE AND PREPARED FOR CONFLICT AND CONQUEST AT THE AGE OF 85!

I THINK THAT TOO OFTEN WE "RETIRE" OUR VETERANS AND CONSIDER THEM INCAPABLE, INEFFECTIVE OR OLD FASHIONED. THE TRUTH IS MANY OF OUR "OLDER" MEN AND WOMEN HAVE GREAT SPIRITUAL DEPTH AND CHRISTIAN LIFE EXPERIENCE. LET'S REMEMBER THAT THESE VETERANS ARE A BLESSING AND BENEFIT TO ANY CONGREGATION AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR SERVICE.

LOOKING UP!

PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE