OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES AND SUCKLINGS

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger. Psalms 8:2 (KJV)

It is believed that Gittith, in the heading of Psalms Eight, is derived from the word Gath which means wine-press. If that be the case the psalm was to be sung in celebration of the grape harvest that God had provided. For us grown-ups it may not seem very long between planting and harvest but for a child it may seem an eternity: the longer the wait, the greater the celebration. The excitement of children can be contagious. In our church, revival often starts when our younger people get on fire for Jesus and as part of the older generation; I often get inspired by something that comes from the mouth of a child. One of my granddaughters helped me to plant some tomatoes while my grandson helped to plant some green beans. To hear their expressions of joy, when they saw the first tomato and the first little bean sprout that broke through the ground, was exhilarating to me. They make me stronger and help me to keep working the garden that it might produce. As the garden has started producing they love to help gather the vegetables that are coming in. One of the grandchildren gets her tomatoes and potatoes mixed up. She has been finding potatoes on tomato vines. Oh well, it gives me something to right about and remember. When we were planting the beans, my grandson missed the row with some of his seeds. They are in the corner of the garden. I have continued to hoe around those special plants and they now have small beans on them. He has seen God make those seeds to grow into a plant and now into little beans. I plan to pick those beans when they are ready and show him the beans within the pod and teach him that God will take those seeds and make new plants.

It is also a joy to hear them retell their Bible stories. My grandchildren have spent this past week attending VBS at the church where my brother in law pastors. They have retold the story of the disciples catching fish when they fished where Jesus told them to fish and having to call their friends with other boats to get all the fish to shore. Zacchaeus climbed up in a tree to see Jesus and Jesus told him to jump out of that tree cause he was going home with him. I am reminded of the little boy who has trying to quote the 23rd Psalm and he said “The LORD is my shepherd and I don’t reckon I could ask for nothing more.” Most of us would understand that easier than “I shall not want.”

Lord, help us not to ignore our children nor cast them aside. Way to quickly they will grow up and fall into the same old habits that we have. They will lose the wonder of all your creation. Let us be as Christ and suffer the children to come to us? May we have open arms and an open lap for them to sit in? Help us also, as little children, to consider the heavens, the works of your fingers and the moon and the stars, and stand amazed at your glory.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram