

## Making Memories

---

The holidays are a time for personal reflections and remembering good times from the past. Everyone is busy enjoying the moment, usually unaware they are making memories. Upon further reflection, we are making memories every day we live. Hopefully, in the year 2009, we will make memories all of us, individually and as a congregation, will want to look back on with joy and thankfulness to God. What can each of us in the Karns congregation do this year to further our personal growth and the Lord's body?

The first step in improving our individual spirituality is to become less selfish and more committed to the Lord and His church. The familiar song, "None of Self and All of Thee" traces one's spiritual progression from "All of self and none of Thee" to the title. Most of us are in the middle categories, namely "Some of self and some of Thee" and "Less of self and more of Thee." Let's each strive to focus less on self and more on Thee this year.

The next step in making 2009 a memorable year is for the people at Karns to grow closer to each other as a church family. As a start, get to know every person by name in the congregation from the youngest among us, Charlotte Baldwin, to the oldest (name withheld). We cannot genuinely care for someone if we don't know him or her.

If we are to have special memories of this year we must be able to look at the congregation next January, and see people in the classes and assembly who were contacted and invited by members of the Karns congregation. These may be people we have visited, sent cards or talked with on the telephone, communicated with via e-mail, or personally shared the reason for the hope that is in us. If we visit those who move into our community, invite neighbors and friends, and share our faith when we have the opportunity, surely the Lord will bless our efforts.

In the coming year, we will make memories. Let each of us strive to make the kind of memories that will warm our hearts here and that will last forever. (Just in case you did not notice, not one scripture was explicitly quoted above but I had a verse in mind. What verse do you think best fits the above?)

For the elders,  
Don Denton