

Good Sunday morning Church of the Apostles Family and Friends...

One of my favorite authors is Max Lucado. It is said that "Max Lucado is a preacher with a storyteller's gift – a pastor's heart and a poet's pen. Max's message is simple: God loves you; let him. Max serves the people of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. He preaches and writes to the hurting, guilty, the lonely, the discouraged. Some of my favorites are his children's books. Max has written just shy of 100 books. The most recent is *Grace for the Moment, A Family Devotional*.

Let me share one with you that is very fitting for the time we are in:

HOLD ON

Our time on earth is like a shadow

-1 Chronicles 29:15

God lives forever. He has no beginning and no end. But He knows the beginning and end of everyone who has ever lived. He knows every moment of their lives. And He knows the answer to their every question.

"How long am I going to be without a friend?"

"How long am I going to be sick?"

"How long am I going to struggle to get along with my family?"

Do you really want God to answer? He could, you know. He could answer exactly how many weeks, or days, or hours. "A few more months without a friend." "Two more years of illness." "The rest of your life with your family."

But God doesn't usually do that. He asks us to trust Him. He uses our times of loneliness, sickness and struggle to teach us to turn to Him for help. Although our troubles sometimes seem to last forever, they really don't – but heaven does. So hold on.

Growing in Grace: (This is a thought that goes along with each daily devotional)

God's time is very different from our time. To us, one bad day seems like a thousand years. But because God is eternal, a thousand years are just like one day (2 Peter 3:8). Think of it this way: your day is like a grain of sand, but God's day is like the whole beach!

If you find that you would like to read some of Max's books, just let me know. I have many of them in my office at the Church and would be glad to share them with anyone who would like to become familiar with this gifted and inspirational writer.

PRAYER: "May I never forget that Thou hast my heart in Thy hands." Amen (Puritan Prayer – *The Valley of Vision*)

May you all have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend. Let us never forget!

Blessings for your journey,  
Pastor Narda