

This is the Day...Friday

June 10, 2022

It Will Buff Out

“God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them.” (Hebrews 6:10)

One of my favorite stores to shop in as a child was John’s Toy and Hobby Shop at the Acres Center Shopping Center in Gastonia. I never had any money to buy anything, but it did not matter. I loved to just walk-through John’s Hobby shop and see all the cool toys and gadgets on the shelves. One of my brothers also loved the store and would often go there to pick up supplies to find his control line airplanes. I was always excited when my brother was willing to take me along.

One Saturday afternoon, we were pulling into a parking space at the shopping center parking lot and my brother accidentally scrubbed his front bumper against the side of another car. As we got out of the car to examine the damage, we found no damage on my brother’s car and only a small scrap on the other vehicle. But my brother was still worried about his mistake and what dad might say. After just a few minutes, the owner of the other vehicle showed up. In a very nervous voice, and even a tear in his eye, my brother explained what had happened and showed the other owner the damage. And then we waited for the owner’s response. To our relief, the owner of the damaged car put his hand on my brother’s shoulder and simply said, “It will buff out.”

How often do we raise a fuss or get stressed over things in life that really don’t matter? We allow ourselves to get all worked up over events that will not matter in a few days or even a few minutes. Most of the things we do in life probably won’t matter in the years to come. But the things we do for each other, the ways that we respond to life in the name of our Lord, will matter for eternity.

Each day is filled with choices for how we will respond and deal with life. We can choose to “make a mountain out of a molehill,” or we can have the attitude of the owner of that damaged car. His choice to show compassion to a young person had a lasting effect and revealed the truth of God’s compassion and forgiveness offered to each of us who occasionally make mistakes. I am sure that God will not forget that man’s compassion and love.

On this day which God has given you, think twice before you respond to life’s events. Consider how your response will affect the other person. Show compassion and love in all circumstances. Just remember that, in life, most of the things that happen will buff out.