

Pastor's Corner – July 2021
Rich and Miserable

We're too young until we're too old
We're all lost on the yellow brick road
We climb the ladder but the ladder just grows
We're born, we work, we die, it's spiritual
Enough is never enough
American dream never wakes up
Too much is never too much
We won't be happy 'til we're **rich and miserable**

Is that an oxymoron? Is it the result of dreams or aspirations that have gone completely haywire on the road to happiness?

Let's start out by defining the word **rich**. In today's society, we could define the word by just saying money. Lots of money...tons of money...so that you're swimming in butter at least that's what they keep telling us in the world outside these church doors.

But think about this...each of us attend Monticello or Bethel UMC on Sunday to learn something about God's word that will prepare us for the day and week ahead.

My goal is to preach God's word every Sunday to help us face the daily struggles that the devil may throw at us.

But what about you? What makes you happy? What makes you tick? We all have different likes and dislikes...different strokes for different folks!

Here's your challenge:

I want you to forget about whatever it is you might face outside these church walls when presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ to someone. I want you to think about what you will give. What will you be willing to give to change the word **miserable** to **joyful**? What will you be so rich with that you're willing to share it with the entire world and I want you to come up with one word, write it down, and I want you to give it to the WORLD.

“All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.” Deuteronomy 16:17 (NRSV)

Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” -Mark 10:21 (NRSV)

In Christ,

+Pastor Ben