



Thursday Thought

by Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

6-9-16 Road Rage

Verse for the week: Romans 12:10 (NLT) “Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.”

We were leaving the civic center after the graduation of our son. The parking lot was crowded and there was a bit of a wait as we were trying to leave. We were looking forward to lunch with family and friends in celebration. Graduations are filled with mixed emotions; joy, excitement, and sadness. My wife had them all going through her. We were sitting in the vehicle and slowly advancing forward while my wife sobbed. As we neared the exit I saw a man waiting to pull out and decided to be a nice guy and let him out. As he pulled out he waved and I began to pull forward when out of my peripheral vision I see a car pulling out of a parking spot and racing towards the gap between me and the other guy. I kept moving forward but more slowly as we almost collided. I gently tapped the horn to let the woman know that we were there and to nonverbally say she was being foolish. She cut in front of us and as she did my wife immediately stopped crying and almost climbed into my lap as she began slamming on the horn. I pushed her back gently and said her name. She then responded with, “Well, she thinks she’s more important than anyone else!”

After everything happened we began laughing about the situation. There are so many things that I could write about but the one thing that stuck out was that “she thinks she’s more important than anyone else.” It’s not just this woman who thinks of herself so highly. If we are honest, we all have those tendencies. Think about the times you’ve gotten frustrated at the grocery store because the clerk was going too slowly, or there was a price check and we have someplace to be. What we need to do is calm down, slow down and realize that the world doesn’t revolve around us! Jesus said in Matthew 20:26-27 (NCV) **“Whoever wants to become great among you must serve the rest of you like a servant. 27 Whoever wants to become first among you must serve the rest of you like a slave.”** Wow, that’s deep! What he’s saying is what I already said, “the world doesn’t revolve around you!” If it doesn’t revolve around us, then who does it revolve around? Jesus also answered that question when He was asked what the greatest commandment was. In **Matthew 22:37-39 (NLT) Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.**

Question to ponder: When is the last time you acted as though the world revolved around you? What can you do to serve others today?