

## *Donna's Devotional*

### **Recognition**

*Therefore when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.—Matt 6:2*

Sometimes we believe that we are overlooked, that we don't receive the recognition we should. It is true that the most deserving people fail to be rewarded for their effort. It has been said that "the most important thing to be said about awards, is that Mozart never got one."

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was an accomplished musician by the age of six. With all his great accomplishments, it is almost unthinkable that a person of his abilities was almost destitute when he died. In fact, he was buried in an unmarked, mass grave.

Jesus reminded his followers that their motivation should be to honor the Lord rather than to receive honor from men. Jesus told us not to try to have our good works be seen by the right people. Instead, He explains that we are to *"lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."* Matt. 6: 20

The story of Mozart reminds us that our efforts may go unnoticed and our hard work unappreciated. We may become weary from not seeing the fruit of our labor. We may not experience apparent answers to our prayers.

Like Isaiah, we may say, *"I have labored to no purpose; I have spent my strength in vain and for nothing. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."*—Is. 49:7. Isaiah was reminded that God was in control and though his efforts seemed in vain, there was a purpose.

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*—Matt. 6:21