

OV daily devotions DAY FOUR (Tuesday - 6/11/19)

Crumbling Infrastructure! (Crumbling What?!)

Infrastructure refers to things like roads, highways, bridges, tunnels, culverts, electrical systems, power grids, rail systems, etc. All of these things are considered essential parts of what makes a society and community function properly. If you ever watch the History Channel or National Geographic Channel, you've probably seen shows about how quickly things can fall apart if they're not well maintained.

Try not to think about this as we drive across the bridges this week or as we drink the water in "colonial" Williamsburg. I sure they've done some work on the water system their over the past few hundred years!

One of the strengths of our country has always been its infrastructure, from the railroads and telegraph lines laid in the 19th century to the airports and multiple cloud platforms of today. Yet with age comes a increasing need to take care of these "unseen" things. If we want to remain strong, healthy, and vibrant as a society, we must attend to the seemingly unimportant, behind-the-scenes details.

As followers of Jesus, we too have an infrastructure that supports what people around us see. It is so easy to think that the only thing that matters is what is out in front. Yet that slick mask we wear will soon give us away if we have not maintained our quiet time with God. If you look at Jesus' life in the New Testament, you see how often He pulled away and spent time with His Heavenly Father. Even He needed to talk with God through prayer. Jesus Himself appears to have been a faithful student of Holy Scripture. Look how often he quoted it when He was teaching. He even used it as a weapon against Satan when He was being tempted!

It may be easy to fool people this week on tour; especially the new people we meet each day. How is it going to be when we get back on the bus? Will we see a life that reflects a daily walk with Jesus? Will the "superstructure" of our life be supported by a "substructure" that is grounded in a growing, "real" relationship with Jesus?

What grade do you think the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the US in 14 of 15 categories related to the condition of our infrastructure? (Circle one)

A B C D F

How much is it costing the US per year for maintaining highways and bridges?

- A. \$5 billion/year
- B. \$65 billion/year

C. \$500 million/year

D. 120 billion/year

How do you think God would have us judge the condition of our spiritual infrastructure?

What are the dangers of our country NOT maintaining our infrastructure? _____

What are the dangers of YOU NOT taking care of your spiritual infrastructure? _____

What do you need to do differently in your life if you are to remain a healthy, vibrant witness for Jesus? _____
