

When Did Your Congressman Last Visit You?

Have you noticed that politicians are already getting ready for the next campaign? Just about the time we get one political campaign finished we find ourselves in the midst of another one. If you are like me about the only time I ever hear from my Congressman is when he or she wants either my vote or my money.

Let me ask you a question. When you were last sick or in the hospital did your Congressman pay you a visit? Did he or she call or send a card even. No? Congressman don't typically visit the sick and bereaved unless they are related to them or they are big donors. When crisis hits your family it is not a politician that comes to visit you it is a pastor.

People complain from time to time about churches asking for money. They erroneously think that is all we talk about. To be fair we do take up a weekly offering here as we are preparing to do so once again. I will admit to you that a portion of what you give today goes to pay our staff and support staffs salaries and benefits. We don't apologize for that. The Scripture teaches in I Timothy 5:17,18, "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages."

Our pastors spend countless hours visiting hospitals, performing funerals, visiting the bereaved, counseling and ministering to our needs. Our support staff works hard to make our church run smoothly and effectively. None of them ever looks to make sure you are a giver before they launch out the door to meet you at the point of your need. They do so willingly and gladly. On our part their service is worth what we pay them.

So as our ushers come forward this morning to take up the offering, think about all our staff does to enrich our lives week after week. They more than your Congressman or any politician are there for us when we need them. They truly are worthy of their wages. Let's give a gift today to show our sense of gratitude for all they do for us.