

There Is So Much to Do!

There is so much to do! Sometimes, though, we pick the wrong things to do. If we think about our relationship with God, it will help us to choose good things.

I am a Grandma. My life is much different now than it was when I was a young girl, or when I was a busy mom with all of our children at home. When I was a young mother and realized that I was going to be spending a lot of time at home with children, I wanted to find ways to pass my time with contentment in my home. God has blessed me in this way! While many things have changed, many things have stayed the same. I still enjoy doing many past times that have become a part of my life.

One thing that has always been a part of my life is singing Christian songs. We have many beautiful songs in Zion that we can sing with our friends and families, or we can sing them by ourselves. We can always have a song in our heart! Reading is also a wonderful past time. Reading the *Shepherd's Voice* is a good way to begin a lifetime habit of reading Christian literature.

The congregation of God has always loved to be together. When I was a young girl, my family and I visited a lot. We visited older people, where we were taught to sit quietly and respectfully while the elders visited. We visited other families, where we children were able to play freely. We visited young couples, where we were given the chance to see the happiness that takes place when two people find helpmates and look forward to spending the rest of their lives together. My mother said that it's good to visit all ages, because the young people need the old and the old need the young. This is the way to develop lasting friendships with other believers. My husband and I still like to go visiting and have company in our home.

The many forms of electronics are one thing we have today that we did not have when I was young. I enjoy seeing pictures of our friends and loved ones who live far away, and it warms my heart to get a friendly text message or an email from a grandchild. I don't know much about the games that can be played electronically—I was never much interested in those—but I have noticed that many people like them. I'm sure some games are fine for believers to play, but I understand that there is a real danger in becoming too attached.

The Internet is an amazing tool. But it, too, can be a very dangerous place to “hang out.” It is possible to begin to love the world if we allow ourselves to visit the fashions, the sports, and the many other distractions the Internet has to offer. It is important to be watchful and to listen to the instruction that has been given regarding the use of electronics. Even in our free time, the devil would want to take our attention away from the most important matter in our life—being a believer.

What kinds of things do you do at home? How do you feel about the things that you do? Are some of the things that you do helpful to others? God has given each of us a gift. We have many ways in which we can share our gifts with others, especially in today's world. It makes your mom and dad happy to see you using your talents and gifts. We can also ask God to help us find good hobbies. “Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established” (Prov. 16:3).

Gloria Niemela

Something to do:

- Read or sing with your family, *Joyful Voices Clearly Ringing* (SHZ #430). It speaks of all that God has given us. If we look for hobbies with this in mind, we can find contentment in our lives!

- Visit with your family about what you like to do together.

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