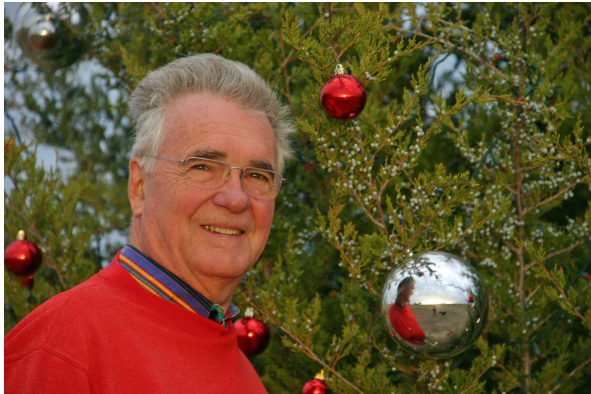


# *'Tis the Season to put your Best Foot Forward!*

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We all sense what putting your best foot forward means. It means creating actions, thoughts, expressions and accomplishments in ways that have the most favorable impressions on the recipients of such things that come from us. Having just celebrated a spirit of Thanksgiving among our

families, friends and loved ones, our communities in general are moving toward more celebrations of joy and occasions in which a best foot forward is very much in order.

Our family has a few thousand friends in the community, our church, in social organizations and connections across the nation, and even internationally. Most of our friends celebrate Christmas and the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. Some of our very good friends celebrate Chanukah. In fact, Suzanne and I are attending a Chanukah Party among our friends in Fort Worth this month at the Congregation Ahavath Sholom in the Jewish community. A few of our friends have other religious expressions or even a few deny the presence of God.

To all of these, it is appropriate to put forth our best and loving foot forward this season to have them know that our source in joy is through the spiritual commitments we understand with God. Even for our friends who do not know God, we want them to hear that we do know God, and that He invites them to accept his love. We can do this with the gentle spirit by which we show our fondness for them in the fellowships we share.



It's a reminder to see God's word in [Deuteronomy 30:19-20](#), *Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying Him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.*

Making these choices in our lives is an aspect of the putting our best foot forward. The land given to our ancestors is an analogy of whatever is our personal near future. Is it advancing somehow in our professional life? Is it enhancing the quality of life we show in our immediate family? Is it taking initiatives among the people in our immediate community to serve that community in better ways, in ways that bring honor and glory, not only to God, but to how we continue learning to love one another!

Come on, friends. Join me in an effort to put your best foot forward. If you do, my confidence is that you will be blessed, and that you will not be de-feeted!



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