



## Monday Matters

April 13, 2015

### How Many Lives Do I Have?

Recently we went to see a movie called "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel." Part of the storyline revolved around the residents staying at the hotel. Generally they were old, spending their last days or years in this hotel until they died. They seemed to have given up on doing anything new. Each morning the hotel manager would shout out each resident's name. If they responded, he knew they were still alive. By the end of the movie the vast majority of characters had found another reason to live, another dream. One person asked the question, "How many lives can you have." Someone responded by saying, "As many as you want."

It has been almost two years since I retired from being a church business administrator. I had looked forward to those days, no schedule/agenda for the day. We bought a small farm out in the country with the idea that we could do as much with it as we wanted or as little.

The day quickly came when we added two horses and two more dogs. Now we had obligations to take care of them. But this was retirement. Time to lay around in the hammock and read a good book.



I went into town one day to mail a package at the Post Office. There was a sign advertising an opening for a rural carrier position, one day a week. I love driving country roads and thought,

"Why not?" I would be paid to drive the back roads. I got the job. And it breaks up the monotony of laying in the hammock and reading a good book.

I decided to continue publishing Monday Matters which started over three and a half years ago. Preparing and writing this blog continues to stimulate my brain and I enjoy the challenge each week of finding something to say that could be of help or inspiration to someone out in cyberspace. And it breaks up the monotony of laying in the hammock and reading a good book.

So here my week is filling up and I still need to work on the old farmhouse and mow the grass, a two day project. And this helps break up the monotony of laying in the hammock and reading a good book.

Within the last month I have been asked to be the volunteer manager of the financial affairs of Cindi's Hope, Inc. This organization is located in Kenya, Africa, and is established as a safe haven where girls can be housed, fed, clothed, educated, and their basic physical and spiritual needs met. It is a new challenge for me and at least initially will require a fair amount of my time.

Now the hammock might end up staying in the barn and the book remaining on the bookshelf. What I have found is retiring can be as much as one wants or as little. I have found what C.S. Lewis once said, "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

As the movie said, "How many lives do you have?" "As many as you want." Don't stop living just because you are old. Find another life, another dream to live until the good Lord takes you home.



Lord I Offer My Life To You

RN



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**Buggy Horses**

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