



## Monday Matters

### December 3, 2012

#### How Do You Chop Trees?

Two lumberjacks had a contest on who could cut down more trees. The contest began and the younger lumberjack began chopping down one tree after another without stopping. He noticed that the older lumberjack chopped trees for one hour and then took a fifteen-minute break.

At the end of the day when the felled trees were counted, the older lumberjack had chopped down one-third more trees than the younger lumberjack. The younger lumberjack asked the older, "How could you, taking a break every hour, cut down more trees than I did cutting nonstop all day?"

The older lumberjack said, "because when I stopped, I sharpened my axe."

"I was just too busy chopping to stop and sharpen my axe," the young lumberjack said.



**"Where Could I Go"**  
**The GVB/Jake Hess/Vestal  
Goodman/ETC.**

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#### Quote of the Week

"Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first hour for sharpening the axe."  
~Abraham Lincoln~

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**Meet the Nelson Family**  
**Anthony, Kristin, Leif, Juliana,**



Our lives are like that. We sometimes get so busy that we don't take time to "sharpen the axe" In today's world, it seems that everyone is busier than ever but less happy than ever. Why is that? Could it be that we have forgotten how to stay sharp? There's nothing wrong with activity and hard work. But God doesn't want us to get so busy that we neglect the truly important things in life, like taking time to pray, to read and study scripture or to listen to "the still small voice of God."

We all need time to relax, to think and meditate, to learn and grow. If we don't take time to sharpen the axe, we will become dull and lose our effectiveness. Prioritize your devotional life and watch how your "edge" will cut through the problems, obstacles and difficult situations, like a hot knife through butter!

### Soren, Mia and Evangeline



The Nelson's are missionaries to the natives in Alaska.

Read about "Saving Fingers - Saving Souls" at:

[NelsonNews.org](http://NelsonNews.org)

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