

A TOP 10 LIST FOR AGING

David Letterman, comedian and television host of *Late Night with David Letterman* for 33 years – first on ABC television and then CBS – would nightly present a list of 10 items compiled by his staff that circulated around a certain theme.

Recently, I discovered such a list, written by an unknown author, that is appropriate for this time of year. People often dread the ringing in of a new year because it reminds them that they are getting older. Time *is* marching on, and their youthful vitality may not be able to keep up with the pace.



But, according to this list, there are some perks to aging that might be worth acknowledging – reasons to begin the year with renewed optimism. Here they are:

10. Kidnapers are not very interested in you.
9. In a hostage situation, you are more likely to be released first.
8. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
7. You enjoy hearing about other people's operations.
6. You sing with the elevator music.
5. Your health insurance finally starts to pay off.
4. You no longer think of speed limits as an annoyance.
3. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
2. Things you buy now won't wear out.

And finally, the No. 1 reason to face the New Year with renewed optimism ...

1. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

Well, that's a whimsical look as life takes an adult into his or her latter years.

But on a serious note, as a person moves through childhood, the teenage years, to a young adult, into middle age and more, he or she accumulates a lifetime of experiences and a certain amount of wisdom. Pray that God gives you opportunities to put it all to good use as you seek to serve Him in 2018 and beyond.

Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

The Apostle Paul said it: *Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us* (Philippians 3:13-14 NLT).

– Beecher Hunter