

Longest Yard Sale

An interesting phenomenon is occurring in our part of the country this week. It is billed as the World's Longest Yard Sale, and it probably lives up to that name. U.S. Highway 127, stretching 450 miles from Covington, Kentucky, to Gadsden, Alabama, is the scene. The concept is to pull people off the interstates and back into the heartland of rural, scenic America.

Events encourage businesses, churches, organizations and residents to participate by having yard sales, sidewalk sales and special promotions for a continuous stretch from one end of the sale route to the other. It provides lots of fun for vendors and shoppers alike. The amount of traffic during this time, August 7-15, indicates the idea is working.

The World's Longest Yard Sale is built on the premise that one man's junk is another man's treasure. It draws folks together to barter and haggle over things that may have been stored in a garage or an attic somewhere for years.

Life is not U.S. 127, but it is a road to be traveled. What are some treasures -- some of which we may overlook or take for granted -- that we encounter along the way? Some would include:

- Family relationships which are far above any price that can be offered.
- Friends, who often make the journey possible and certainly pleasant. Each new mile marker brings us more.
- Careers that generate satisfaction and fulfillment.
- Learning opportunities. They make existence interesting.
- Faith -- in God and one another -- that offers peace and hope to every crook or turn that we encounter.
- Service -- the simple act of touching or enriching the life of another -- that offers great reward.

These are the truly great treasures that we can collect along our road.

--Beecher Hunter