

Sound in the Footlocker

Sadie Sieker served for many years as a house parent for missionaries' children in the Philippines. Sadie loved books. Though she gladly loaned out some, others she treasured in a footlocker under her bed.

Once, in the quiet of the night, Sadie heard a faint gnawing sound. After searching all around her room, she discovered that the noise was coming from her footlocker.

When she opened it, she found nothing but an enormous pile of dust. All the books she had kept to herself had been lost to termites.

That story illustrates an important principle of life: What we give away, we keep. What we hoard, we lose. Love is a primary example.

Every day in the centers of Life Care and American Lifestyles, and in the work of Life Care at Home, associates are giving away -- not hoarding -- their most prized possessions: their time, their resources, their personal and professional talents, and their love.

In the process, they are laying up treasures in heaven, where moth and rust -- and termites -- cannot corrupt.

--Beecher Hunter