

The Tribal Gatherings

Carl Frost and his family were living in Nigeria during the late 1960s. When electricity became available in their village, each Nigerian family got a single light in their hut. Awed by this technology, the people began staying inside in the evenings rather than gathering around the tribal fire.

Author Max De Pree relates how this change had an adverse effect on the heritage of the people: “The light-bulb watching began to replace the customary nighttime gatherings by the tribal fire, where the tribal storytellers, the elders, would pass along the history of the tribe. The tribe was losing its history in the light of a few electric bulbs.”

Our children and grandchildren need to snuggle up beside Dad or Grandpa, or sit on Mom’s or Grandma’s lap, and hear of the values and experiences of their ancestors.



Maybe it’s a story of faith in God in the midst of adversity, or a small incident of kindness. Among the joys of chatting with our residents in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home is to hear them offer their accounts of episodes from the past.

Let’s make time to share family stories, including His story, with young minds whose lives can be shaped for eternity.

Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, and give attention to know understanding (Proverbs 4:1).

– Beecher Hunter