

Safety or Security

By Pastor Bill Hayden

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Given the choice in life of safety or security, which would you choose? Before you answer, let's look at the difference between the two.

Safety is defined as the condition of being protected from, or unlikely to cause, danger, risk, or injury. Conversely, security is defined as the state of being free from danger or threat.

Many people move here to the Villages for several reasons, one of which could be the feeling of living in a safe environment with other seniors in a gated community. Some people never lock the doors of their homes because of this. This feeling can give a person a false sense of security and make them vulnerable to people who do not respect others' property.

There is something that every human being hopes for. It separates us from the rest of creation. It causes us much anxiety and much joy. It shapes the decisions and investments we make in the future. It exposes the fact that we are deeply spiritual beings. It is one of our most foundational quests. As different as we are from one another, we are the same. We are all looking for something in which to place our hope. We're all in search of security.

There are only two ways to look for hope. You can seek it horizontally, thinking that something in creation will give you security, peace, and an inner sense of well-being until you hit the wall. You can seek it vertically, entrusting your life into the loving hands of your Creator. Without fail, people put their hope into the creation all the time. They look to other imperfect human beings, or the success of their career, to satisfy their hearts and give them security. None of the pursuits and achievements from creation are made to meet the soul's needs. They are made to point us to the One who can bring us the security and peace our souls long for.

John 14:27 AMP Peace I leave with you; My [*perfect*] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [*Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.*]

Please celebrate with us this Christmas Season at the Villages Community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium every Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life and enjoy coffee and cookies with friends. The chapel is a place for needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace. You can view our worship services on YouTube at www.villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club