Pastor's Weekly Devotional- September 11, 2014

"Sleepless Nights"

Ever so often we all experience a restless night for reasons unknown to us. So we pass the time watching TV, or eating a peanut butter sandwich, drinking a soda and enjoying potato chips.

The Psalmist knows all about this. He tells us about his sleepless nights. He writes: "If I am sleepless at midnight, I spend the hours in grateful reflection." (63:7 Message).

Sleepless nights can affect us in two ways:

- It can be <u>Negative</u>. Problems we face seem bigger than normal. Anxious thoughts roam freely and our minds become out-of-control roaming over everything.
- Then there is the <u>Positive</u> side to sleeplessness. Like the psalmist, we can use this time
 to lift our burdens and cares to God in prayer. In fact, our days are often filled with many
 distractions while it would be easier to pray while we lie awake in bed without any
 distractions.

Do you know that the great King David whom God loved and said that "he was a man after His own heart" suffered from insomnia at times? He wrote about it in several of the Psalms. However, he used it for his good. During those sleepless nights he meditated on God and His Word. As a result, God would speak to his heart and give him counsel and directives for himself and his work as king. He says: "The Lord's counsels are at night and gives me instructions." (Psalm 16:7)

So the next time you are tossing to and fro in bed and cannot sleep, get up and read the Bible and pray. One of those nights could be the night God may intervene in a problem area of your life and give you the solution you need.

Have a blessed week! Pastor Sewdin