

daily bread and DAILY BREAD



This is “a day in the life” of our favourite local farmer, Bryce. Two days really. At the beginning of each day he jots down some thoughts, about daily bread and DAILY BREAD (Bryce likes to use block capitals). He calls them his “ramblings and reflections” for his co-workers and those who pray for them on the farm. Bryce once said to me, “I follow the sun; when it’s up, I’m up and working”.

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I wake up with a happy heart, overwhelmed by thinking about my Creator's care of every detail in my life.

Over time on this farm from working with a revolving number of young people who come for seasonal jobs, I have developed for 'me' some goals of how to live my life on this farm. The goals are written on the white board in the farm shop lunchroom. We talk about them from time to time and I often challenge my own life to live them out:

- Safety first
- Choose your attitude
- Be there

- Make their day
- Pay attention to detail
- Perfect is good enough
- Confess and forgive
- Have fun

It is interesting how they have generally stood the test of time and yet how they have contemporary meaning too.

Safety first:

Covid-19 has totally impacted our safety first thinking these days. We talk about it and make changes everyday.

Choose your attitude.

I used to think that my attitude was just a result of what I was dealt with. Discovering that I had a choice about my attitude was a good thing.

Be there.

That was thought of long before cell phones were invented. I think we all are challenged daily on how to use our technology to our best advantage. This farm is a better place now that we are all connected by our electronic devices. May we all use our devices wisely.

Make their day.

Isn't it a good feeling when one goes above and beyond what is expected and does something good for us. And how about the goodness that happens when we seek to make someone else's day and they just make our day right back at us. The other day the crew here phoned this lady Edith who lives in the middle of 'next to' nowhere in Acadia Valley and we all got blessed for chatting with her. Covid-19 fresh reminds us all to look out for our seniors and those in isolation.

Pay attention to detail.

Isn't it good when we do a task well in great detail.

Perfect is good enough.

So while we are paying attention to detail why not seek the good feeling of perfection. Don't settle for less than the best in the tasks that we do each day.

Confess and forgive.

I need to hear that. Don't carry around the baggage of all the wrongs in life done to us or that we have done to others. Hit the 'delete' button often. Life is just better that way.

Have fun.

Work at Saanichton Farm can be busy and stressful. Let's find ways to have some fun and embrace the journey in this game that we call Life.

The farm mission today is to keep milling wheat and get the new crop into the ground. I thank everyone for your huge efforts yesterday and to those who had our backs too. Tillage started in earnest. We had a few hiccups. Two flat tires on one of the tractors in the same day was unusual. The one tire was plain worn out and got a puncture wound but fortunately Jill and I had brought a new set of tires for that tractor last month. We had just mentioned in the morning that we should change those tires the next day that it rains. The other flat tire was a deer antler at the end of the day and we should fix that to get going again soon this morning.

Yesterday we welcomed back for the 2020 season ... Don H.. Don HAPPILY 'wore' 20 acres of field dust on his body for team Saanichton farm yesterday. In another life Don did all of the glass work for SBF Phase II - the skylight windows are part of the backdrop for Chris's 'near one man' church services during covid-19 at SBF.

Yesterday marked the debut of the newly created shovel plow. Thank you Grudecki family for the extremely generous offer to have that implement. Peter thank you for your engineering abilities and for all the work that you did to design and build it during your Christmas break. Tristan, thanks for painting a pretty green dress with yellow boots on the newly created plow.

Today we add the disc and harrows to the mix and I hope that wheat seed is going into the ground by tomorrow.

DON cultivated land with PETE A (3 Peters, 3 Brian's working here right now. Lol) and TRISTAN. Meanwhile GEOFF and BRIAN T have the Phase II grain mill drains installed and the foundation blocks are placed ready to receive the 2nd seacan that can arrive next week from Vancouver. Then our FLOUR GIRLS: MARISA and NICHOLA, with part time assistance from RACHEL, can have expanded space as they develop the grain mill project so that BAKER BOSS Yaap over at Portofino bakery can be HAPPY. I reckon that if BAKER BOSS ain't happy, then the whole town going to be suffering and trying to find DAILY BREAD somewhere else. Good luck with that.

When covid-19 first happened in China our crew would sometimes watch LIVE the Chinese 8 day hospital build during our break. It was a phenomenal build going 24/8. Yesterday felt like that again as I watched GEOFF and BRIAN T advance the Phase II grain mill project here, only this time WE were building the project LIVE.

And let's not forget BRIAN D coming in yesterday on his day off to get the antlers out of the tractor tire to keep the field work going so that wheat seeds can get into the ground, so that we can have FAITH AND HOPE in GOD for another HARVEST this fall. And MIKE for researching all the power requirement options and SOLUTIONS required to set up the 25 HP, 3 phase motor needed to run the mill.

AND what about those amazing fresh cookies made by ROSEMARY Gaunt. How cool was that? THANKS ROSEMARY!!!! Grandpa always said: Feed a man and he might come back tomorrow. And the ladies will know that a way to a man's heart is thru his stomach!

But wait a minute. It's not all guys and stomachs now. There are 6 gals and 3 Brians and 3 Peters... and a handful of other guys now, so I guess that we have actually become a kinder, gentler MORE BETTER, balanced, workforce now.

Lots to be thankful for. And as aunt Betty reminds me: We are all in God's care and keeping.

Bryce