

ONE DAY AT A TIME

JACK BRIGGS

ARE FRIENDS FOREVER????

TOO MANY PEOPLE PUT OFF SOMETHING THAT BRINGS THEM JOY JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT , DON'T HAVE IT ON THEIR SCHEDULE , DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS COMING OR ARE TOO RIGID TO DEPART FROM THEIR ROUTINE . I GOT TO THINKING ONE DAY ABOUT ALL THOSE PEOPLE ON THE TITANIC WHO PASSED UP DESSERT AT DINNER THAT FATEFUL NIGHT IN AN EFFORT TO CUT BACK . FROM THEN ON , I'VE TRIED TO BE A LITTLE MORE FLEXIBLE . HOW MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE WILL EAT AT HOME BECAUSE THEIR SPOUSE DIDN'T SUGGEST GOING OUT TO DINNER UNTIL AFTER SOMETHING HAD BEEN THAWED ? DOES THE WORD "REFRIGERATION" MEAN ANYTHING ? HOW OFTEN HAVE YOUR KIDS DROPPED IN TO TALK AND SAT IN SILENCE WHILE YOU WATCHED JEOPARDY ON TELEVISION ? I CANNOT COUNT THE TIMES I HAD CALLED MY DAD ABOUT GOING TO LUNCH IN A HALF HOUR . I WISH I HAD KNOWN YESTERDAY , I HAD A LATE BREAKFAST , AND BESIDES , IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN . WE NEVER DID HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER . BECAUSE AMERICANS CRAM SO MUCH INTO THEIR LIVES , WE TEND TO SCHEDULE OUR HEADACHES... WE LIVE ON A SPARSE DIET OF PROMISES WE MAKE TO OURSELVES WHEN ALL THE CONDITIONS ARE PERFECT □□□ WE 'LL GO BACK AND VISIT THE GRANDPARENTS WHEN WE GET THE KIDS TOILET - TRAINED . WE 'LL ENTERTAIN WHEN WE REPLACE THE LIVING - ROOM CARPET . WE 'LL GO ON A SECOND HONEYMOON WHEN WE GET TWO MORE KIDS OUT OF COLLEGE .

LIFE HAS A WAY OF ACCELERATING AS WE GET OLDER . THE DAYS GET SHORTER , AND THE LIST OF PROMISES TO OURSELVES GETS LONGER . ONE MORNING , WE AWAKEN , AND ALL WE HAVE TO SHOW FOR OUR LIVES IS A LIST OF "I 'M GOING TO , " "I PLAN ON , " AND "SOMEDAY , WHEN THINGS ARE SETTLED DOWN A BIT . " WHEN SOMEBODY CALLS MY 'SEIZE THE MOMENT ' FRIEND , HE IS OPEN TO ADVENTURE AND AVAILABLE FOR TRIPS . HE KEEPS AN OPEN MIND ON NEW IDEAS . HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR LIFE IS CONTAGIOUS . YOU TALK WITH HIM FOR FIVE MINUTES , AND YOUR READY TO GO .

I HAVE NOT HAD ICE CREAM IN MONTHS . I LOVE ICE CREAM . IT 'S JUST THAT I MIGHT AS WELL JUST APPLY IT DIRECTLY TO MY STOMACH WITH A SPATULA AND ELIMINATE THE DIGESTIVE PROCESS . THE OTHER DAY , I STOPPED THE VAN AND BOUGHT A TRIPLE - DECKER . IF MY VAN HAD HIT AN ICEBERG ON THE WAY HOME , I WOULD HAVE DIED A HAPPY MAN .

NOW...GO ON OUT AND HAVE A NICE DAY. DO SOMETHING YOU WANT TO..... NOT SOMETHING ON YOUR SHOULD DO LIST.

IF YOU WERE GOING TO DIE SOON AND HAD ONLY ONE PHONE CALL YOU COULD MAKE, WHO WOULD YOU CALL AND WHAT WOULD U SAY? AND WHY ARE YOU WAITING???????

HAVE YOU EVER WATCHED KIDS PLAYING ON A MERRY GO ROUND OR LISTENED TO THE RAIN LAPPING ON THE GROUND? EVER FOLLOWED A BUTTERFLY'S ERRATIC FLIGHT OR GAZED AT THE SUN INTO THE FADING NIGHT? DO YOU RUN THROUGH EACH DAY ON THE FLY? WHEN YOU ASK "HOW ARE YOU?" DO YOU HEAR A REPLY WHEN THE DAY IS DONE, DO YOU LIE IN YOUR BED WITH THE NEXT HUNDRED CHORES RUNNING THROUGH YOUR HEAD? EVER TOLD ONE OF YOUR KIDS "WE'LL DO IT TOMORROW." DO YOU REMEMBER THEIR SORROW? EVER LOST TOUCH? LET A GOOD FRIENDSHIP DIE? JUST CALL AND SAY "HI"□□□□

WHEN YOU WORRY AND HURRY THROUGH YOUR DAY, IT IS LIKE AN UNOPENED GIFT.... THROWN AWAY...LIFE IS NOT A RACE TAKE IT SLOWER. HEAR THE MUSIC BEFORE THE SONG IS OVER.

SHOW YOUR FRIENDS HOW MUCH YOU CARE. SEND THIS TO EVERYONE YOU CONSIDER A FRIEND. IF IT COMES BACK TO YOU, THEN YOU'LL KNOW YOU HAVE A CIRCLE OF FRIENDS.

TO THOSE I HAVE SENT THIS TO..I CHERISH YOUR FRIENDSHIP. "LIFE MAY NOT BE THE PARTY WE HOPED FOR... BUT WHILE WE ARE HERE LETS DANCE!"