

## ***Thinking Aloud . . .***

Once upon a time there was a farmer in Kansas who raised two sons both of whom joined the Navy. The farmer had hoped they would become farmers and he was haunted by the question of how a farmer in the middle of Kansas, where there is almost no water, could raise two sons who joined and loved the Navy.

The question bothered him enough that he sought the counselor where the boys had attended high school. He too was perplexed, but several weeks later they both visited the farm asking to see the boys' room.

*I think I've got it!"* he said almost immediately.

There hanging on the wall was a large picture of the ocean and in the middle of the ocean was a tall sailing ship. *"Lay down on the bed,"* the counselor said, looking at the picture out of the corner of his eye. *"The first thing you see when you walk into the room is that picture. The last thing you see at night laying in the bed is that picture. The first thing you see in the morning when you get up is that picture of the ship on the ocean.*

*Did the boys have this picture for a long time?"*

*"Oh, yes,"* said the farmer, *"since the oldest one was three years old."*

***This is David Thomas thinking aloud*** that if we were to think about the **Bible** that long, we might all become saints!

The Bible promises *"Blessed is the man [whose] delight is in the law of the lord and on his law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree planted by streams of water"* (Psalm 1.1, 3). *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path"* (Psalm 119.105). *"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you"* (Psalm 119.11).

The old habits of daily Bible reading, memorizing verses or even larger sections like the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes, attending a classes to study God's word, or choosing a verse each day from a scripture "Promise" box gave important guidance to the direction of life choices.

*Rather than pictures of athletes and rock stars on the walls of their children's room, maybe parents ought to go back to the old tradition of hanging Bible verses on the walls.*

*And maybe hang some verses on the parent's walls!!*

What verse would you choose to hang in a prominent place in your office or shop?