

Ideas and thoughts on how to use the 2005-2006 International Theme

By Marilyn Ross

The Good, The True, The Beautiful

■ About our theme:

The Good, The True, and The Beautiful serves as *an ideal for the masterpieces of music, sculpture, painting and all the arts*, and unquestionably serves as *an ideal to create the masterpiece of life*. It, in fact, creates as an *art the art of life*. *In this definition and the realization of this definition the principle ideal of Beta Sigma Phi came of age, and formed for all time a firm and forward design.*

From our Pledge Ritual, we hear: “the torch was lighted from a fire that some call Truth, some call Beauty, and some call Love –“

The symbolic message of the story found in the Pledge Ritual is that each new member of Beta Sigma Phi is handed a torch which can guide her through her search for the Good, the True and the Beautiful.

In the Pledge Ritual of Beta Sigma Phi, we learn the first great lesson of our Sisterhood is **LOVE**.....that Love which springs between women united at the same distaff (*meaning we who share the Sisterhood of Beta Sigma Phi at the same point in time and who practice its ideals*). ...there shall be lighted from this Torch it is now your privilege to bear within your hearts, six others, six great perfections of your inner self, six ways of love. And in our Love shall be not only love for living creatures, but that all-embracing love for souls we never saw, souls gone from this earth long before, but whose messages have come down to us

In works of Art,
in Music,
in Architecture,
in Sculpture,
in Books and Pictures,
and the Dance,
all avenues of Loveliness to which we may open our hearts and our minds in gratitude and growth.

(It is through these messages (*listed above*) we can create ways to use the theme.)

Our Love, one for the other, shall *allow* us to:

- Embrace ideas

- Embrace people
- Grace both our hearts and minds to be courteous and respectful
- Do service free from self and selfishness
- Be slow to expose a fault
- Eager to find and to believe the True and the Good
- Share in whatever of good or of sorrow may come to any one of us
- Not only dream of noble things, but achieve them!
- Reveal to ourselves and our spirits the fullness of Beauty and Perfection for which we strive
- Crowns a woman in her queenly quest, enriching most who gives most

The ends of this fellowship shall be to:

1. advance each one of us in understanding of the **Good and of the True and of the Beautiful**, through appreciation and patronage (*support, encourage*) of the Arts (*human creativity or skill, i.e., Art, Music, Architecture, Sculpture, Books and Pictures, Dance and all avenues of loveliness-any EXPRESSION of Life*)
2. dedicate and to consecrate (*devote to sacred or serious use*) each one of us to make of her own life, both *in thought and in conduct*, a Work of Art, a Masterpiece of Beauty, a Thing of Truth and Loveliness, achieved through the renunciation (*give up, disown*) of selfishness (*overly concerned with one's own interest, having little concern for others*).

Lynn Terry, who wrote many of our rituals and who brought spirituality to our Sisterhood wrote compelling articles in regard to life as Art. They are all included in [The Strawberry Patch](#) as well as the complete copy of [The Living Masterpiece](#). I encourage you to read them, or perhaps use one as a program. Discuss with your chapter sisters the ideal we strive for in reaching for the Good, the True and the Beautiful as an Artist. Our goal as Beta Sigma Phi is to make our own life a Masterpiece, one of beauty, truth and goodness. Life is our canvas. We are the Artists. We hold the brush! It is a beautiful analogy and one we can easily work with in regard to this year's theme. So, have fun with being an Artist! Use art supplies; artist's palettes, colors, brushes and so forth.

.....

Following are **verbs** with ideas on how to use them.

As you read through the list, you'll get the idea. Add to it and enjoy creating a memorable social! Or, an interesting program. Or, ways to decorate your yearbooks and scrapbooks. Don't forget invitations to parties, rituals and various other sorority events we all enjoy. Again, with our International theme, sky is the limit on how you can use it. Remember to have fun! You get points on the Yardstick for using the theme, too. [This year our theme is especially](#)

meaningful to us because of the many times we refer to The Good, The True, The Beautiful in our sorority rituals and ideals.

How do you make the theme work for you? Simply use your choice of verb and with it, use its idea to carryout your plans on ways to use the theme. In addition to the artist idea, following are more for you:

1. Plan a social using the verb **FIND** (The Good, The True, The Beautiful). "X" marks the spot. Go with a **treasure hunt!**
2. **SEEK OR LOOK:** Use lots of yellow, our color for Vision. Have fun by using large eyeglasses (clown size!) magnifying glasses, reading glasses, use an optical theme.
3. **PATHWAYS** to The Good, The True or The Beautiful: Use a yellow brick road idea, trails, forks in the road; high road, low road; paths – garden paths, lanes
4. **CARRY** the G, T, B – use any kind of vessel: pottery, bowls, cups, bottles, teacups/saucers
5. **FOLLOW** the G, T, B – (FIRST REFERENCE USED IN THE PLEDGE RITUAL ... and then we say it each time we meet when we repeat together the Closing Ritual) – paths: yellow brick road, highway maps, pathways, directions how to get somewhere; Diotima & "I wandered by night through the quiet streets of an ancient city." Use a Greek theme! Go to a Greek restaurant. Wear togas! Decorate party areas with columns, grapes, ivy, torches. This is the perfect year to use an all Greek theme!
6. **LIVE** the G, T, B – daily activities; do something good, or true or beautiful for another; think of random acts of kindness! Keep it simple.
7. **DO** the G, T, B -- good deeds, be thoughtful & mindful of others; be kind, helpful and friendly to your fellow beings; be steadfast, faithful & fearless in the pursuit of the high ideal. Think of different ways you can make the day a bit more special for another. Send a card, write a note, say a prayer; bake something easy and take to a neighbor or the kids at school or in the neighborhood – for no reason other than to share your gifts, etc.
8. **SEE** the G, T, B – same as seek, use large eyeglass idea; use your camera, take snapshots of your favorite things and create a program around it; look through a favorite magazine and clip some of your favorites – recipes, hobbies, tips, etc., then share with your sisters. Or create a program of giving each chapter sister a magazine. Have each

sister clip some of her favorite things and make a collage on an 8 ½ x 11” piece of cardstock. After everyone finishes, go around the circle. I would venture a guess that everyone might learn something new about her chapter sisters!

9. **GIVE** the G, T, B – heart in hand with good, true and beautiful messages; give gifts from your heart – those things you cannot buy in a store, i.e., a note of friendship or admiration. Write anonymously to your secret sister or all members of your chapter telling them what it is you most admire about them. They would love it, just as you would!

Give beautifully wrapped gifts with inspiring, uplifting messages inside.

Use a message in a bottle; anything presented in or on a paper heart. You can never go wrong with hearts. Why? The first great lesson of our Sisterhood & the fellowship of Beta Sigma Phi is ... LOVE. And hearts are the symbol of Love.

Give a program on updating your wardrobe, or your makeup.

Use a small brown paper bag to create a Blessings Bag. Put in it a list of your **B**lessings, **A**ccomplishments and **G**oals. Give the best that is in you to your work, your life, and your world; give up the habit of selfishness. (A program or study of Humility would be informative.) Assume a queenly (*a woman known for her beauty and accomplishments...inside & outside*) quest (*seeking or a journey for adventure*).

Give a program with members of your chapter about places you've been, or places you'd like to go.

10. **Light** the G, T, B – use light bulbs, lamps, candles, flashlights, torches; In the Pledge Ritual we first hear about a light, “*a light dimly gleaming in the darkness. As I looked, I saw it was a torch, a glowing torch, moving, moving in the distance. Now I perceived that we, Diotima, the Wise Woman, and I, followed that torch.*” This is the year to use lots of torches. The flames can be gold, or in any color of our attributes. Be creative!

11. **BELIEVE** the G, T, B – Use a mystical type theme, clouds, stars

12. **SHARE** the G, T, B – knowledge, faith; your belief in Beta Sigma Phi, your chapter and your chapter sisters. Use the last 4 letters in the word ENTHUSIASM to make an acrostic to stand for I AM SOLD MYSELF. If you are sold on Beta Sigma Phi, your chapter, your chapter sisters, your chapter activities, then you can easily & enthusiastically share it with others! That is truly the best, most beautiful part!

13. **DREAM** the G, T, B – clouds, positives, wishes; make a wish list of any kind
14. **ACHIEVE** the G, T, B – use medals, blue ribbons, trophies; incorporate races as in Indy 500 or Kentucky Derby. There are always the Super Bowl and Basketball Championships too. Wear letter jackets or sweaters from high school days; share all the achievements thus far in your life. This would make a great program. Ask each sister to share her life's greatest achievements with the chapter.
15. **CROWN** the G, T, B – Decorate with crowns, tiaras, robes, jewels; plan a chapter 'Queen(s) for the Day'. Treat yourself with a visit to a spa; or better yet, plan your own social using a spa theme.
16. **TREASURE** the G, T, B – treasure boxes, jewels; books, poems, special gifts others have given you.
17. **PLEDGE** the G, T, B – promises, virtues
18. **TOAST** the G, T, B – cheers, balloons, bubbles, champagne glasses; bread (toast – trace a pattern on brown cardstock) with written verses re: the good, true & beautiful. You can really have fun with this! Plan a champagne brunch. Make 'toast' shaped invitations. Have each member write some G, T, B favorites of hers on a smaller piece. Share 'toasts' around the table.
19. **A CALL TO** the G, T, B ... -- megaphone, telephone, computer, emails – use these for any kind of invitations; plan &/or participate in a parade and publicize to the world, the Good, True & Beautiful things about Beta Sigma Phi. We all need to publicize more! We are our own best publicity!!! You know how to do it!
20. **REFLECT** the G, T, B ... use candles, in fact, create a program on candles; go with mirrors; plan a program around setting a table filled with items that reflect. Then state and plan ways YOU can reflect the G, T, B!
21. **LOVE** the G,T,B. The Bible says, "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. . . And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9) Share with members of your chapter things you consider true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy. Have each sister follow your lead. How insightful this could be. Our minds are like computers, they reflect what is fed into them!

22. **ADMIRE** ways to be G, T, B or tell your chapter sisters why you admire them, or each share with the group your hero or heroine and why you admire them. Share their stories and successes.
23. **SHOW** the G, T, B. Have a Show and Tell program. By your thoughts and conduct, show others how much they mean to you. Bring craft items you have been working on to give to others and share your craft or hobby with your chapter sisters. Make it a Show-and-Create time. Make cards to take to nursing homes or children at your local hospitals.
24. **PAINT** the G,T, B! Use colors of the jewels, palettes, paint buckets, brushes, berets, any form of artistic display, i.e., easels. Take a trip to an art museum for a cultural program. "You are the artist. You hold the brush!"

Favorite quotes you can use:

☛ "The torch was lighted from a great fire. Some call it **Truth**. Some call it **Beauty**. Some call it Love. Those who FOLLOW it learn all of these."

--from the Pledge Ritual

☛ "It shall be that Love which makes us slow to expose a fault and eager to find and to believe **the True and the Good**."

-- from the Pledge Ritual

☛ "The tools for the Art of Living are thought, speech, and action, and the pattern is in **the Good, the True, and the Beautiful**."

-- Nu Phi Mu Ritual of the Badge.

☛ **Beauty** – the second lesson of our Sisterhood. Use crystal prisms, lots of sparkle! Focus on the colors of our attributes. Our spectrum of **beauty** are the six magic hues from one white light – the light of the torch. How about using a rainbow theme?

☛ "For by the light of love all things are **beautiful**."

-- Ritual of Jewels

☛ "By the Torch of Learning & from its pure white flame of love within your heart six flames of color, six torches, each hued according to its own ray, each a part of the white flame of Ultimate **Beauty, Love and Truth**."

-- Ritual of Jewels

☛ "The sum of all these colors shall be **Beauty**. With them we shall paint loveliness on the canvas of life. And the sum of these rays shall be light, that

perfect luminosity (*clear, readily understood*), effulgent (*radiance, brilliance*) **Beauty, Love and Truth.**

--Ritual of Jewels

☞ “Will you unfailingly, keep the torch burning bright and steady within your heart and living in **BEAUTY** shed its light throughout the world?”

--Ritual of Jewels

☞ “...the six flames of **BEAUTY** you now bear within your heart shall be visible to the world only as the white light of Love shows through and about our lives and in our purpose and ideals. The jewels are the six symbols of the Spectrum of **BEAUTY**, Love and **TRUTH**.”

☞ “We shall learn that “**Beauty is Truth, Truth Beauty.**” The Ultimate **Beauty** – that **Truth** is the shadow of Perfection, the form and color of eternal **good.**”

--Ritual of Jewels

☞ “Diotima, the Wise Woman of Mantinea, instructs us, “Keep your observances **beautiful** and perforce your lives will become **beautiful.**”

--Exemplar Ritual

☞ “**Beauty** is a way of seeing, a way of Thinking, a way of Feeling, and altogether a way of Being. In its light we have found the radiance of **Truth...**”

--Ritual of Jewels

☞ “In our encounter with the **Beautiful** we have learned to speak out our own rapture, our own wonder and to stand before the vision of our own ideas and exclaim; “I, too, am an artist.”

☞ “Again, we accept the six pearls, reflecting the six rays of **BEAUTY** which together compose the spectrum of the white Light of Love and Loveliness.”

--Exemplar Ritual

☞ The Beautiful in Life. . .

Some talk of it in poetry
Some talk of it from the soil
Some build it in a steeple
Some show it through their toil
Some breathe it into music
Some mold it in their art
Some shape it into bread loaves
Some hold it in their hearts.

© Use diamonds. “Use glittery paper for the flame of the torch...Diamonds—the most valuable of gems, its **BEAUTY** still is enhanced by polishing and shaping. It’s a slow work perfected in long-time, requiring

skill & unremitting patience. Refer to info found in the theme: “A Diamond Celebration – Our Future Shines.” You can find it in [The Strawberry Patch](#).

🕒 Ideas Decorating With A Torch

🕒 Lynn Terry’s Comments on the Rituals

🕒 Miracle pills of truth: Proverbs. Start a years’ collection. They are fun to collect (proverbs, not pills)! 😊 Look in newspapers, magazines, greeting cards, books, try the Internet. Collect pill bottles, decorate & insert a couple of proverbs you have written on small pieces of paper & distribute to your chapter sisters. Or, plan a program around the “Miracle Pills of Truth” using Proverbs. Or, try a fortune cookie. Making homemade fortune cookies aren’t all that difficult & I’ll share my recipe with you.

Ideas for discussion:

🕒 Thus the ideal **good** is seen to be a composite thing. It is not virtue only, or pleasure only, nor integrity only, or self-realization only; it is the synthesis of all these things. The ideal good is the rational happiness that is compounded of virtue and pleasure, of integrity and the continuing expansion of life.

--F. H. Giddings

There is a vast difference between what is good and the Good.

- 🌟 Are all good things a part of the good?
- 🌟 Is the concept of good attainable?
- 🌟 How does religion relate to good?
- 🌟 Is the good different for different people?
- 🌟 Do we try to fool ourselves by calling tastes, sounds, and other physical elements good?
- 🌟 Do people normally grow toward the good?

🕒 The high-minded man must care more for the **truth** than for what people think.

--Aristotle

What is **true**, that is straight and right, is very different from the abstract concept of truth. Both are important.

- 🌟 If it works, what is true?
- 🌟 How much do you need to know to know the truth?
- 🌟 Are there things which are almost true?
- 🌟 Can you speak the truth without telling what is true?
- 🌟 Is truth strictly the province of religion?
- 🌟 Contrast realism and truth.

Beauty can belong to things only by being contributed to them by some living soul. --George Santayana

- ✿ What is beauty in art?
- ✿ What is beauty of poetry?
- ✿ What are beautiful actions?
- ✿ What is a beautiful person?
- ✿ Why is nature beautiful?
- ✿ What is spiritual beauty?

The Beauty of Friendship

The beauty of friendship is like the beauty of flowers...
There are many kinds, and yet each has unique beauty to offer.
There are friends who share our paths during certain stages of our lives, while others stay close to us year after year.
Some are vibrant, admired for their strength, while others are delicate whispers of color whose gentleness has a special place in our hearts.
I'm grateful for the color, beauty, and joy your friendship adds to my life.
--Author unknown

"Where else than in Beauty, in Goodness and Truth need you seek for an essence?"

--from The Living Masterpiece by Lynn Terry

'Manner, not gold, is a woman's best adornment.'

"Flowers reflect the human search for meaning. Does not each of us, no matter how our life has gone, ache to have a life as beautiful and true to itself as that of a flower?"
--Philip Moffit

Because a friend said, "Come with me," we, too, were privileged to share the circle. And because we shared, we learned. Many roads were opened to us—the roads to the Good, the True and the Beautiful.

"Words are good, but they are not the best. The best is not to be explained by words; the spirit in which we act is the great matter."
--Cicero

Grant us that we may follow to our goal the torch which stands for everything lovely, beautiful and perfect in womanhood, that everlasting burning flame of true love.

History is the witness of the times,
The torch of truth
The life of memory
The teacher of life
The messenger of antiquity.

--Cicero

“The guiding torch of Beta Sigma Phi symbolizes Life, Learning and Friendship. It is an age-old yet ever new formula that radiates the sun in the form of inspiration toward a truly beautiful life.”

--Edith Castrechini
Massachusetts Chi – Boston

A true Beta Sigma Phi is ever a defender of the weak and a champion of the right. Thus will we show to the world a sorority that every member can be proud of and thus will we live true to ourselves and our Sisters.

To acquire Beauty, there must be a giving out for what we have taken in. The useful and the beautiful are never separated and if we, by sharing our Sisterhood with another can bring beauty into her life, then we have been useful! ...with maturity there should be warmth and beauty and the mellowed sweetness of aging wine.

With Beauty life is instilled
With Love life is enriched
With Truth life is fulfilled.

Good books and good friends make up the ideal life.

--Robert Louis Stevenson

A book and a friend – they should charm at the start and be TRUE to the end.

This is my favorite quote about friendship:

“Mrs. Browning the poet said to Charles Kingsley the novelist, “What is the secret of your life? Tell me, that I may make mine beautiful also.”

Thinking a moment, the beloved old author replied, “***I had a friend.***”

“What is beautiful is good, and who is good will soon also be beautiful.”

--Sappho

A Beta Sigma Phi is known by her graciousness, charm, poise, hospitality, friendliness, loyalty, leadership, self-expression and APPRECIATION OF THE LIBERAL ARTS.

The Book of Beta Sigma Phi

**The True is what is,
The Good is what ought to be,
The Beautiful is what is, as it ought to be.**

Make a Pearl

Most of us can afford to take a lesson from the oyster. The most extraordinary thing about the oyster is this: Irritations get into his shell. He does not like them; he tries to get rid of them. But when he cannot get rid of them he settles down to make of the one of the most BEAUTIFUL things in the world. He uses the irritation to do the loveliest thing that an oyster ever has a chance to do. If there are irritations in our lives today, there is only one prescription: Make a pearl. It may have to be a pearl of patience but, any how, make a pearl. And it takes faith and love to do it.

--Harry Emerson Fosdick

“I always seek the GOOD that is in people and leave the bad to Him who made mankind and knows how to round-off the edges.” --Goethe’s Mother

“For the heart that is free, life is a celebration of BEAUTY. A festival of the spirit.
--Flavia

It is in loving that we find what is most BEAUTIFUL in ourselves. It’s not so much the few great moments, but the great many simple pleasures, that bring TRUE happiness in life.

The TRUE BEAUTY of any day is its reflection in your heart.

TRUE success is found not in the destiny but in the journey.

Love is the heart of BEAUTY... the soul of happiness ... the very essence of Life. A GOOD example is great gift to give others.

The only TRUE gift is a portion of thyself.

--Emerson

Beta Sigma Phi is..

An ideal

It is truth

It is beauty

It is love

And it is Friendship.

Beta Sigma Phi is an emotion, a bright burning flame within us, inspiring us, leading us on ever upward to higher and nobler ideals of womanhood.

Beta Sigma Phi is...the golden dream of TRUTH and the silken cords of love combined.

Beta Sigma Phi is ... Life! Not something to be borne because it was given to me, but a rare tool to be used for the GOOD of others.

Friendship is a BEAUTIFUL thing; burning, not as a brilliant flame, but like embers on a hearthstone—steady, warm and glowing. There is nothing finer than old friends, dear friends, who, down through the years share each other's thought and ideals, who are understanding, and are glad in each other's companionship.

TRUE love doesn't consist of holding hands – it consists of holding hearts.

YOU deserve a lifetime of BEAUTIFUL tomorrows.

A TRUE friend never gets in your way unless you happen to be going down.

By rewarding small kindnesses, all that is GOOD in a person is reawakened. BEAUTY is sprinkled all around us.

The Blossoming Years

--by Pinky Mattner

Washington Xi Kappa – Pasco 1960

You offered me your helping hand,
And gently handed me a rose;
And led through the twilight,
To where Love and BEAUTY grows.

And as we walked together
Through the Path of Friendliness;
The rose that you had offered,
Grew leaves of Tenderness.

You showed me smiling faces,
Filled with tolerance and Love,
And Faith, that the rose that I was holding,
Would blossom with Blessings from above.

And as we walked together,
New courage showed its face;
And all my fears did vanish,
And a leaf of Confidence took its place.

Then as you showed me Tolerance,
And led me through still another door,
Where other hands were offered,
Truly, I was afraid no more.

Then as I looked upon the BEAUTY,
Of the rose, I proudly still retain,
Two more leaves had sprouted,
Love and BEAUTY were their names.

And still another leaf had sprouted,
Its name was Thankfulness,
That you had so greatly led me
To paths of Loveliness.

And now, I too may offer,
To help lead others gently one by one,
And as the years do vanish,
Blossoming years they will become.

Get very GOOD at what you love to do, because you can never get good enough
at something you are not suited for.

Nothing in life “costs too much.” The TRUTH is is you can either afford it, or you can’t.

A simple TRUTH: It’s impossible to be depressed when you take action!

After the verb ‘to Love,’ ‘to Help’ is the most BEAUTIFUL verb in the world!
--Bertha Von Suttner

The essence of all BEAUTY, I call Love. --Elizabeth Barrett Browning

I am so glad you are here. It helps me realize how BEAUTIFUL my world is.
--Rilke

The night sky opens to let snowflakes fall, reminding us of the incredible BEAUTY only the winter-time can bring. --Flavia

Remember it all, and be thankful for the GOOD times. --Flavia

Use a wee bit of the lacy web of illusion that is called BEAUTY, every day of your life.
--Dorothy Ross (Mrs. Walter W. Ross – wife of the Founder)

People who achieve TRUE success rarely worry about being successful.

Winning is the result of GOOD judgment. GOOD judgment is the result of experience.

THE ROAD WE TAKE

-Author unknown

As Sisters in Beta Sigma Phi
Our faith will grow stronger as days go by,

Though the road we take seems obscured in dust
Toward a better world we march full of trust.
Wherever we go, whatever we do
May we follow the **Beautiful, Good and True**,
Down the road we take which will still be ours.
Give us skill and grace to pave it with stars.
If the path to our goal seems dark and long,
May friendship bring loveliness, laughter and song,
So darkness will end and the morning break
And the sun shine again on the road we take.
With a vision clear, and a spirit sweet,
And an earnest purpose to guide our feet,
Forgetting the rocky path we have trod.
May the road we take lead the way to God.

Our guiding torch is still shining forth, lending its light to the Good, the True and the Beautiful.

...in the search for what is TRUE, you must look into your own heart.

Faith is the expectancy of GOOD.

Without encouragement we cannot move forward toward the Good, the True and the Beautiful.

The fundamental guides upon which all acts are based are the Good, the True and the Beautiful.

“The ideals which have always shone before me and filled me with the joy of living are Goodness, Beauty and Truth.”

--Albert Einstein

“To love the Beautiful, to desire the Good, to do the best.”

--Motto of Moses Mendelssohn

“I have been overwhelmingly impressed with the wonderful character of our organization. It is as if every Beta Sigma Phi carried in her hand a vessel that contained the very wine of life. Through its crystal walls beautifully gleamed the things that constitute our sorority—vibrant life, profound learning, loving friendship, and the eternal qualities of the Good, the True and the Beautiful.”

--Mrs. Walter W. (Dorothy) Ross

“Today is our day. Let us make it a GOOD day, a TRUE day, a BEAUTIFUL day. Yesterday is gone – tomorrow is not yet come, but today is here, NOW. It is ours to make good or bad, true or false, beautiful or ugly. It is fresh canvas on which we may give expression to our fondest hopes and highest ideals.

Let us make it better than any yesterday – an inspiration for every tomorrow. Let our thoughts and words and actions today be Good, True and Beautiful.”

--Virginia Young – The 1st Editor of *The Torch*

BEAUTY does not come from creams and lotions. God can give us BEAUTY, but whether that BEAUTY remains or changes is determined by our thoughts and deeds.

--Delores Del Rio

You cannot know the TRUTH of the universe until you have found truth within yourself and applied your concept of it in your every word and action.

It is my belief that first, in the search for what is TRUE, you must look into your own heart. As Gibran says, in “The Prophet,” – “Your hearts know in silence the secrets of the days and nights. Your ears thirst for the sound of your heart’s knowledge. You would know in words that which you have always known in thought.”

“...Our guiding torch is still shining forth, lending its light to the Good, the True and the Beautiful.”

--Dorothy Ross

“Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is BEAUTIFUL; for BEAUTY is God’s handwriting – a wayside sacrament. Welcome it in every fair face, in every fair sky, in every fair flower, and thank God for it as a cup of blessing.”

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

SCULPTURING

“It is something to be able to paint a particular picture, or to carve a statue, and so to make a few objects BEAUTIFUL; but it is far more glorious to carve and paint the very atmosphere and medium through which we look. To affect the quality of the day—that is the highest of arts.” --Henry David Thoreau

from the Bread of Life by Dr. A. Purnell Bailey...

“While a friend was being entertained in India by a very gracious woman, her associates were especially impressed by the **beautiful** characteristics of the cultured Indian woman.

One of them was so caught by her poise, dignity and sweetness that she said in leaving, “You are so **beautiful**.”

The Indian woman replied very quietly, “Why shouldn’t I be? I’m 72 years of age!”

The believer is not to bear old age but to use it. Is there anything more **beautiful** than a face, now grown old, but chiseled into tenderness, sympathy and experience?

There are special qualities of age – our poise, our experience, our sympathy – qualities that are forged out of hard experiences. God has his own **BEAUTY** shop.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. (Psalm 90:12)”

Q: Why do we seek the Good, the True and the Beautiful?

A: To help us keep hope and faith and charity alive.

--Elsie Guenther

The Mizpah

By Betty Clark

Missouri Gamma Master, Independence

Joining hands we prayed for blessings for each other,

Blessings ages old, yet ever new.

Thoughts of Sisterhood swelled to fill the air.

Hands clasped tightly, hearts full of love,

Both revealed depths of feeling, of closeness.

Thus joined, one hand so warm the other so cold,

We shared hallowed thoughts of all that is Good and True,

Of all that is Beautiful.

We prayed for each other heartfelt blessings that were to stay with us,

always in loving guardianship.

‘May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent, one from the other.’

Beauty of style and harmony and grace and **good** rhythm depend on simplicity.

-Plato

How many times have each of us heard this one?

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched’ they must be felt with the heart.”

-Helen Keller

Beauty is whatever gives joy.

-Hugh Nibley

Beauty is the promise of happiness.

-Henri B. Stendhal

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful; for beauty is God's handwriting....thank God for it.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

A thing of beauty is a joy forever. Its loveliness increases; it will never pass into nothingness.

-John Keats

Beauty is not cause. It is.

-Emily Dickinson

Beauty is power; a smile is its sword.

-Charles Reade