

Wonders of the World

A group of 6th grade students was asked to list what they thought were the Seven Wonders of the World. The following “wonders” garnered the most votes:

1. The Grand Canyon
2. The Empire State Building
3. The Panama Canal
4. The Great Pyramids of Egypt
5. The Taj Mahal
6. St. Peter’s Basilica, and
7. The Great Wall of China

While tallying the votes, the students’ teacher noticed that one boy hadn’t turned in his paper. She asked the child if he was having difficulty completing his list. “Yes,” the boy replied. “I can’t quite make up my mind because there are so many.” “Well,” said the teacher, “tell us what you have so far and maybe we can help.” The boy hesitated a moment, and then began to read from his paper: “I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. To see
2. To hear
3. To touch
4. To taste ...”

The boy hesitated briefly, and then added:

5. To smell
6. To love, and
7. To laugh

When the student finished reading his list, the room was so quiet you could hear a pin drop. The things that we overlook as simple and ordinary – like the ability to arise in the morning and get out of bed – are truly wondrous. They are a gentle reminder that the most precious things in life are truly gifts from God, and cannot be bought at any price.