

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Well, there is certainly the **SHORT** of it, and the **LONG** of it!!!

Indeed, there are **SHORT** trips here and there, and there are **LONG** trips here and there!!!

Indeed, there are **SHORT** periods of time, and there are **LONG** periods of time!!!

Ah yes, a short trip may look like a trip to the grocery store, the neighborhood park, to church, or to a friend's garage sale. Ah yes, a long trip may look like a trip to another city, another state, another continent, or even "to the moon".

Ah yes, a short period of time may be a full second, a minute, a hour, a day, a week, a month, a year, or even more. Ah yes, a long period of time may be a full second, a minute, a hour, a day, a week, a month, a year, or even more.

Now, as far **FEBRUARY** goes it is a **SHORT** month, but because of various weather factors it can occasionally be viewed as a very **LONG** month. Indeed, **FEBRUARY** as a part of our journey or trip through the year is **SHORT**, but because of various weather factors it can occasionally be viewed as a **LONG** part of our journey or trip through the year.

THANKFULLY, the month of **FEBRUARY** also includes a day we call "Valentine's Day" which highlights the idea of the **HEART** and **LOVE!!!**

Let's take a moment, pausing to consider the **LONG** and the **SHORT** of it!!!

When we experience a short journey or a long journey, possibly we could call it a trip and when we are dealing with a short amount of time or a long amount of time regardless of its' duration the **LONG** and the **SHORT** of it is how much better the going is with our **HEARTS** enriched by the very precious wonder of **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE!!!**

Indeed, when we as Children in the Family of God make the choice to journey with God neither the distance nor the time are nearly as relevant as the relationship grounded in **LOVE** we have with **GOD!!!**

Indeed, with **GOD** through **JESUS** and the power of the **HOLY SPIRIT** we are blessed with a very precious kind of **COMPANIONSHIP** that has staying power whether we are on a short or long trip and whether or not the duration of that trip is long or short!!!

Now, what makes our **COMPANIONSHIP** with **GOD**, **JESUS**, and the **HOLY SPIRIT** so very precious is the gift of **LOVE!!!**

GOD'S companionship and love blossoming through relationship truly does make distance and time irrelevant because with **GOD** we will find an eternal relationship rooted in **LOVE!!!**

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana