Ladies Aid Can our Losses Be Turned into Gains? May 7, 2009

based on As Long as I Live: Thoughts on Growing Older, Jacob Eppinga (CRC Publications, 1993)

READ Psalm 71

- 1. What are some of the losses of old age? Of middle age?
- 2. What do you feel are the most difficult losses? How would they or have they affected you?
- 3. How do you maintain your dignity when others see your losses as signs of true weakness, a weakness that is physical, mental, emotional, and as a person, etc.?
- 4. What can a church do to influence people's perspective on old age, or on those suffering loss?

How to Keep our Losses in Perspective

Actually, before we get to how, WHY should we keep them in perspective?

- 1. Take care of your health
- 2. Accept the signs of old age (Illustration)
- 3. Ignore others' judgments
- 4. Give the next generation room to grow and develop in its own way–yet still based upon Bible
- 5. Read God's Word

Some of our losses are our fault, and can be learned from, even overcome. Think of the times you were

-'too busy' to share the gospel with another, But now.... Psalm 71:14-16

-or too 'pre-occupied' to listen and teach your kids. But now.... Psalm 71:18