

# **MercyMail** A Weekly Devotional by Steve Higginbotham

## **Why I Love the Church**

by Steve Higginbotham (April 4, 2019)

On September 27, 2013, my dad unexpectedly passed away. Following his funeral, we had the task of going through his things, and my sister found a survey from his high school years. It asked questions like, "Who is your favorite athlete?" and "Who is your favorite teacher." One of the questions that caught my attention was his answer to this question, "Who is your favorite author?" Dad's response was "A.J. Cronin."

A.J. Cronin? Who was A.J. Cronin? I had never heard of him. But because he was my dad's favorite author, I downloaded and read a couple of his books. I'm sure you can understand why I suddenly became interested in A.J. Cronin. I was interested in him because I loved my dad and my dad was interested in A.J. Cronin.

And that's precisely why I love the church.

You see, not only did I love my dad, I love the Lord, and the Lord loved the church so much that he was willing to die for it (Ephesians 5:25). If one I love so much, loved the church so much, how could I do otherwise?

(Permission to reprint these articles)