

Daily Devotional, August 1, 2020 Saturday--Lift Your Spirits Day

A Child Explains His Understanding of Psalm 23

A Mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed. The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy,

"Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is".

The friend said, "Well, who is she"?

"That's just Shirley Goodnest", Timmy replied, "and her daughter Marcy".

"Shirley Goodnest? Who in the world is she and why is she following us"?

"Well", Timmy explained, "every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it"!

Funny Religious Quotes

Some people are kind, polite and sweet-spirited --- until you try to get into their pew. [George Goldtrap, Madison, Tennessee]

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but the fly comes close. [Mark Twain]

Most of us spend the first six days of the week sowing wild oats, then we go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure. [Fred Allen]

Do you know the three times that most people are in church? When they are hatched, matched and dispatched. [Lowell B. Yoder, Holland, Ohio]

Quit griping about your church; if it were perfect, you couldn't belong. [Msgr. Joseph P. Dooley, Martins Creek, Pennsylvania]

If a church wants a better pastor, it can get one by praying for the one it has. [Rev. Robert E. Harris]

We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers. [Donna Maddux, Stillwater, Oklahoma]

Every evening I turn my troubles over to God - He's going to be up all night anyway. [Donald J. Morgan, Columbus, Ohio]

I don't know why some people change churches - what difference does it make which one you stay home from? [Rev. Denny Brake]

Young man, the secret of my success is that at an early age I discovered I was not God. [Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.]

To err is human; to blame it on somebody else is even more human. [John Nadeau, Medford, Massachusetts]

Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set. [Rev. Denny Brake]

Some More Actual Church Bulletins Announcements -

- 1) Don't let worry kill you. Let the Church help.
- 2) Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- 3) This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
- 4) The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.
- 5) The 1991 Spring Council Retreat will be held May 10 and 11.
- 6) Mrs. Johnson will be entering the hospital this week for testes.
- 7) Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who are preparing for the birth of their first child.
- 8) The Lutheran Men's group will meet at 6 PM. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and dessert will be served for a nominal fee.
- 9) The sermon title for today is: "What Makes God Sick: Pastor Joe Smith.
- 10) Even Temples have bloopers. After ringing cell phones ruined a service, our rabbi laid down the law in the latest temple newsletter: "Let's turn off the technology and turn on each other."

A Pet

This guy was lonely, and decided life would be more fun if he had a pet. So he went to the pet store and told the owner that he wanted to buy an unusual pet.

After some discussion, he finally bought a centipede, which came in a little white box to use for his house.

He took the box back home, found a good location for the box, and decided he would start off by taking his new pet to the bar to have a drink. So he asked the centipede in the box, "Would you like to go to Frank's with me and have a beer?" But there was no answer from his new pet. This bothered him a bit, but he waited a few minutes and then asked him again, "How about going to the bar and having a drink with me?" But again, there was no answer from his new friend and pet.

So he waited a few minutes more, thinking about the situation. He decided to ask him one more time, this time putting his face up against the centipede's house and shouting, "Hey, in there! Would you like to go to Frank's place and have a drink with me?"

A little voice came out of the box: "I heard you the first time! I'm putting on my shoes."

Barefoot Gandhi

Gandhi walked barefoot everywhere, ate very little, and often fasted, leaving him thin and with very bad breath. Thus he is often thought of as a super callused, fragile mystic plagued with halitosis.

HAPPY CONFESSION

A man with a huge grin approaches a priest. "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned," he says. "I've spent the week with seven beautiful women." "Do not fret, my son," says the priest. "All you need to do is take seven lemons, squeeze the juice into a glass, and drink the juice."

"Will that cleanse my sin from me?"

"No, but it'll wipe that stupid smile off your face."

Doctor, Doctor

Two doctors and an HMO manager die and line up together at the Pearly Gates. One doctor steps forward and tells St. Peter, "As a pediatric surgeon, I saved hundreds of children." St. Peter lets him enter. The next doctor says, "As a psychiatrist, I helped thousands of people live better lives." St. Peter tells him to go ahead. The last man says, "I was an HMO manager. I got countless families cost-effective health care." St. Peter replies, "You may enter. But," he adds, "you can only stay for three days. After that, you can go to hell."

GOOD EULOGY

The pastor asks his flock, "What would you like people to say when you're in your casket?" One congregant says, "I'd like them to say I was a fine family man." Another says, "I'd like them to say I helped people." The third responds, "I'd like them to say, 'Look! I think he's moving!'"

TOO MANY KIDS

Desperate for a child, a couple asked their priest to pray for them. "I'm going on sabbatical to Rome," he replied. "I'll light a candle in St. Peter's for you."

When the priest returned three years later, he found the wife pregnant, tending two sets of twins. Elated, the priest asked to speak to her husband and congratulate him.

"He's gone to Rome," came the harried reply, "to blow out that candle."

SHARING THINGS

The newly appointed priest was being briefed by the housekeeper on problems in the rectory that required immediate attention. "Your roof needs repair, Father," she said. "Your water pressure is bad and your furnace is not working."

"Now, Mrs. Kelly," the priest allowed, "you've been the housekeeper here five years, and I've only been here a few days. Why not say our roof and our furnace?"

Several weeks later, when the pastor was meeting with the bishop and several other priests, Mrs. Kelly burst into the office, terribly upset. "Father, Father," she blurted, "there's a mouse in our room and it's under our bed!"

One more week of shutdown, **One more** week of needing a lift. Hope these little bits of humor brighten your day and make looking forward to the next week a little easier. Blessings to you. Make the best of the week ahead by making a smile your friend, and the joy of Christ in your heart!