



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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FIRST CHURCH OF GOD: 3RD. AVE. & HWY. 508 ONALASKA, WASHINGTON 98570

WHAT WAS IN JEREMY'S EGG?

Jeremy was born with a twisted body, a slow mind and a chronic, terminal illness that had been slowly killing him all his young life. Still his parents had tried to give him as normal a life as possible and had sent him to St. Theresa's Elementary School.

At the age of 12, Jeremy was only in second grade, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat, drool and make grunting noises. At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy irritated his teacher.

One day, she called his parents and asked them to come to St. Theresa's for a consultation. As the Forresters sat quietly in the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be

with younger children who don't have learning problems. Why, there is a five-year gap between his age and that of the other students!"

Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."



Doris sat for a long time after they left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read or write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. "Oh God," she said aloud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared with that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy."

From that day on, she tried to ignore Jeremy's noises and his blank stares. Then one day he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed loudly enough for the whole class to hear. The other children snickered, and Doris's face turned red. She stammered, "Wh-Why, that's very nice, Jeremy. Now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them of the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Miss Miller!" the children responded enthusiastically - all except for Jeremy. He just listened intently, his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises. Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them.

That evening, Doris's kitchen

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sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to shop for groceries, iron a blouse and prepare a vocabulary test for the next day. She completely forgot about phoning Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their Math lesson, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground we know that spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arms. "That's my egg, Miss Miller," she called out.



The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up, "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes that is new life, too." Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine."

Next, Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that the moss, too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom. "My Daddy helped me!" he beamed.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's she thought, and of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only she had

not forgotten to phone his parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another. Suddenly Jeremy spoke up.

"Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "but Jeremy - your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty too!"

Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh yes!" Jeremy exclaimed. "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then His Father raised Him up!"

The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the school yard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his casket, all of them empty.

John 11:25 (NLT) *Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again."*

**PLEASE PASS THE
BISCUITS.**

When I was a kid, my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when

she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work. On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage, and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed! Yet all my dad did was reach for his Biscuit, smile at my mom and ask me how my day was at school.



I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your momma put in a long hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides... a burnt biscuit never hurt anyone!"

You know, life is full of imperfect things... and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. What I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each others faults and choosing to celebrate each others differences, is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

So...please pass me a biscuit. And yes, the burned one will do just fine!

◆ *Received from Jude Cooper*

ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

PNA EVENTS

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
 MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM
 EVENING SERVICE 5:00 PM

MONDAYS

"WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT"
 LADIES BIBLE STUDY
 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
 2:00 PM

TUESDAYS

AL-ANON MEETING
 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 9th

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
 9:00 AM

LADIES LUNCHEON
 12:00 NOON

SUNDAY, APRIL 11th

REST HOME SERVICE
 @
 COOK'S HILL MANOR
 2:00 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 15th

O. C. Y. C. NIGHT

SATURDAY, APRIL 16th

FAMILY REVIVAL CONCERT
 6:00 PM

Please bring finger food for fellowship and refreshments following the concert.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24th

HAPPY RESURRECTION DAY

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 8th

YOUNG LIFE BANQUET
 6:00 PM

MONDAY, APRIL 11th

TEA & PRAISE
 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20th

SENIORS ON THE GO
 12:00 NOON

THURSDAY, APRIL 21st

AMERICAN LEGION
 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 16th

SCRAP BOOKING
 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, APRIL 24th

SUNRISE SERVICE
 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD
 7:00 AM

FRIDAY, APRIL 23rd

CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECTION
 SPRING FLING

9:45 AM — 3:00 PM

CHURCH OF GOD EVANGELISTIC
 CENTER,

2715 S. JACKSON ST.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

THE SCHOOL PLAY

Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott.



Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen.

On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. "Guess what, Mom," he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me ... "I've been chosen to clap and cheer."

YOUNG LIFE BANQUET

On Friday, April 8th Young Life will be holding a banquet at the High School Gym. The menu will be Prime Rib, mash potatoes, rolls, Caesar Salad and a very delicious dessert. The banquet will begin 6:30 PM. There is no cost to attend, but donations will be accepted towards the support of having Young Life in the Onalaska Community. If you would like to attend, please contact Pastor Lloyd @ (360) 978-4161



THE BASIC RULES FOR CLOTHES- LINES:

(if you don't know what clotheslines are, better skip this)

1. You had to wash the clothes line before hanging any clothes - walk the entire lengths of each line with a damp cloth around the lines.
2. You had to hang the clothes in a certain order, and always hang "whites" with "whites," and hang them first.
3. You never hung a shirt by the shoulders - always by the tail!. What would the neighbors think?
4. Wash day on a Monday! Never hang clothes on the weekend, or Sunday, for Heaven's sake!
5. Hang the sheets and towels on the outside lines so you could hide your "unmentionables" in the middle.
6. It didn't matter if it was sub zero weather ... clothes would "freeze-dry."
7. Always gather the clothes pins when taking down dry clothes! Pins left on the lines were "tacky!"
8. If you were efficient, you would line the clothes up so that each item did not need two clothes pins, but shared one of the clothes pins with the next washed item.
9. Clothes off of the line before dinner time, neatly folded in the clothes basket, and ready to be ironed.

10. IRONED?! Well, that's a whole other subject!



A POEM

*A clothesline was a news
forecast
To neighbors passing by,
There were no secrets you
could keep
When clothes were hung to
dry.*

*It also was a friendly link
For neighbors always knew
if company had stopped on
by
To spend a night or two.
For then you'd see the "fancy
sheets"
And towels upon the line;
You'd see the "company
table cloths"
With intricate designs.*

*The line announced a baby's
birth
From folks who lived inside -
As brand new infant clothes
were hung,
So carefully with pride!
The ages of the children
could
So readily be known
By watching how the sizes
changed,
You'd know how much they'd
grown!*

*It also told when illness struck,
As extra sheets were hung;*

*Then nightclothes, and a bath-
robe, too,
Haphazardly were strung.
It also said, "Gone on vacation
now"
When lines hung limp and
bare.
It told, "We're back!" when full
lines sagged
With not an inch to spare!
New folks in town were
scorned upon
If wash was dingy and gray,
As neighbors carefully raised
their brows,
And looked the other way
But clotheslines now are of the
past,
For dryers make work much
less.
Now what goes on inside a
home
Is anybody's guess!
I really miss that way of life.
It was a friendly sign
When neighbors knew each
other best
By what hung on the line.*

◆ Received from Ruth Bushnell

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Kyle Rote, Sr., was an all-pro National Football League player of the 1950s. He was the captain of the New York Giants for 10 years.

After Rote's death, his son, Kyle Jr., said of all the compliments and awards his dad had received, one stood above the rest: 14 of the elder Rote's former teammates named their sons Kyle.

Citation: Kansas City Star (8-16-02);
submitted by Kirtes Calvery,
Raytown, Missouri

Q
U
I
Z



There were several who came up with the answer to last month's quiz. Ruth Bushnell, Katie Jackson, Pastor Jeanne Hossler, Mert Horrocks Betty Lou Collier from Norman, IN, and Phillip Massey. The answer is found in the second chapter of Esther, vs. 21-23. **Bigthan** and **Teresh**, planned to kill **King Ahasuerus, Mordecai**, Esther's cousin, told Esther and she in turned told the king and **Bigthan** and **Teresh** were hung.

Here is this month's quiz.

*I was just a young child
I wasn't very old.*

*When God said I was to be a prophet
And I was to be brave and bold.*

*I thought that He was mistaken
That I had not correctly heard,
But God said once again
That I was to go and speak His every Word.*

*You would think that God's people
Would love to hear His Word,
But most of them acted
As if they never heard.*

*They kept on sinning
And refusing to repent
They refused to listen
And so into captivity they went.*

*My eyes were filled with tears
My heart it was broken
They refused to listen
To the words that I had spoken.*

*Now my name is in the Book
It's there for all to see
And if you are correct this time
A candy bar will be given to thee.*

DON'T IGNORE THE KIDS

The 12-year-old boy stood patiently beside the clock counter while the store clerk waited on all of the adult customers first. Finally he got around to the youngster, who made his purchase and hurried out to the curb, where his father was impatiently waiting in his car.

"What took you so long, son?" he asked.

"The man waited on everybody in the store before me," the boy replied. "But I got even."

"How?"

"I wound and set all the alarm c l o c k s while I was waiting," the youngster ex-



plained happily. "It's going to be fun at five o'clock."

◆ Received from James Sparks

Three old guys are out walking.
First one says, 'Windy, isn't it?'
Second one says, 'No, it's Thursday!'
Third one says, 'So am I. Let's go get a coke.'

THE DRESS

Jennifer's wedding day was fast approaching. Nothing could dampen her excitement - not even her parent's nasty divorce.

Her mother had found the PERFECT dress to wear, and would be the best-dressed mother-of-the-bride ever!

A week later, Jennifer was horrified to learn that her father's new, young wife had bought the exact same dress as her mother! Jennifer asked her father's new young wife to exchange it, but she refused. "Absolutely not! I look like a million bucks in this dress, and I'm wearing it," she replied.

Jennifer told her mother who graciously said, "Never mind sweetheart.



I'll get another dress. After all, it's your special day."

A few days later, they went shopping, and did find another gorgeous dress for her mother. When they stopped for lunch, Jennifer asked her mother, "Aren't you going to return the other dress? You really don't have another occasion where you could wear it."

Her mother just smiled and replied, "Of course I do, and dear...I'm wearing it to the rehearsal dinner the night before the wedding."

◆ Received from Joe Downs