

THE MISSED WEDDING

A family with a young daughter had invited a new family from church over for Sunday lunch. While the adults talked, the young daughter showed their guest's son around the house. They walked past the living room and the daughter pointed to a photo. "This is my parents' wedding," she said.

"Did you go?" as the young boy.

"No," replied the young girl.

"Why not?" he asked.

"Well," she said, "We don't go to all the weddings!"



NEED A RIDE?



A minister was called to a nursing home to perform a wedding for an elderly couple. The elderly man met him at the door. He seemed anxious. The minister therefore sat down to counsel the elderly man and ask several questions.

"Is your bride a Christian?" the minister asked.

"I don't know for sure, the elderly man answered hesitantly.

"Well, do you love her?" the minister then asked him.

Shrugging his shoulder, the man replied, "I guess."

"Well, for the life of me, please explain why it is you want to marry this woman," the exasperated minister exclaimed.

"Because she can drive at night!"

BASEBALL WIN!

Coming home from his baseball game, Bud excitedly swung open the front door and hollared, "Anyone home?"

His father immediately asked, "So how was your game, son?"

"You'll never believe it, Dad!" Buddy exclaimed. "I was responsible for the winning home run!"

"Really," his father responded cheerfully, "How'd you do that?"

"I dropped the ball."

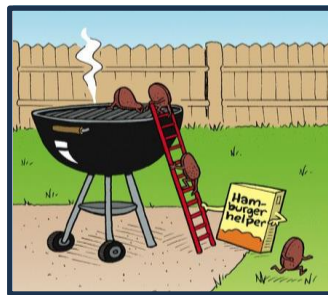


KNOWING MY MOM

A six-year-old boy ran up and down the supermarket aisles searching for his mom, shouting, frantically, "Marion, Marion!"

Finally reunited with his mom, she explained, "You shouldn't call me Marion, I'm your Mom."

"I know," he said, but the store's full of moms."



First Baptist Church Strathroy

Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

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July 2025



"For the nation or kingdom that will not serve you will perish; it will be utterly ruined." (Isaiah 60:12)

Love of God

O love of God, how strong and true!
Eternal, and yet ever new;
Uncomprehended and unbought,
Beyond all knowledge and all thought!

O heavenly love, how precious still!
In days of weariness and ill,
In nights of pain and helplessness,
To heal, to comfort, and to bless!

O wide-embracing, wondrous Love,
We read Thee in the sky above;
We read Thee in the earth below,
In seas that swell and streams that flow.

We read Thee best in Him who came
To bear for us the cross of shame,
Sent by the Father from on high,
Our life to live, our death to die.

O Love of God, our shield and stay
Through all the perils of our way;
Eternal love, in Thee we rest,
Forever safe, forever blest.

~ Horatius Bonar

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Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Services.

20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

Thot: "God's intention is to transform your life, your promised land, and your nation, and to use you to bring back the earth to Himself."

~ Sunday Adelaja, Nigerian-born pastor, journalist and author in Ukraine

THE WORLD'S LONGEST HOTDOG

15-year-old Max Donnelly got grounded leaving him with too much time on his hands, and a mischievous brain that didn't idle well. Naturally, when the fair came around, Max saw his shot to have fun. He'd heard someone say, "Nobody cares about hotdogs anymore." To Max, this was heresy. He'd restore their glory by making a hotdog so long, so ingenious, it would set a new record and end his grounding. Lined up like the world's saddest meat centipede, stuck together using the holy trinity: toothpicks, mustard, and hope, would be one hundred mini hot dogs, the world's longest hotdog. The fair was the perfect battleground. He began laying them out across picnic tables, end to end, like some greasy Jenga project. He took out the final dog - the crown link - as the crowd that had gathered cheered. Then tragedy struck. Seemingly from everywhere dogs - the four-legged variety - enjoyed the meal that had been laid out for them. The crowd laughed and Max sneered. He never even got a picture!



Something to Think About...

"...choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell, but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." (Joshua 24:15).

I recently saw a commercial promoting a bank. The woman was in a quandary - she wanted to save for a downpayment for a house, but she wanted to be able to go out for a gourmet salad too. What should she do?

As you consider your priorities in each phase of your life - family, work, church, community, you're probably now wondering, how do I prioritize my priorities? Before we go there, is there a priority you've overlooked? What is your priority in serving God? Have you made Him the highest priority in your life, surrendered your emotions, spirituality, intellect, and physical ability into the hands of God?

Our heavenly Father has called us to measure our responsibility to Him, to serve Him, through our love for Him, fixing our hearts on Him, obeying Him because you want to, not because you have to. We're then to make a clear decision to put God first in our lives. Jesus taught, *"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other"* (Matthew 6:24). In short, we can't have it both ways - we can't have our cake and eat it too! There's no room, either for neutrality. If we're to serve God faithfully, we must rid ourselves of the false gods, the worldly pursuits that draw us away from the Father, that lead us into all sorts of despair.

In Canada today, there's a great wave of change in the way our nation sees

God. Did you know that the peace tower at the parliament building in Ottawa has inscribed on it verses of scripture? Over the stained-glass window is inscribed, *"He shall have dominion also from sea to sea."* (Psalm 72:8), referring to the reign of Christ; approaching Parliament's front door, is the opening prayer of Psalm 72: *"Give the king thy judgments"* a prayer for the king of our nation to have Godly wisdom which would lead our elected leaders to have sound judgment as they govern; and from Proverbs 29:18 *"Where there is no vision, the peoples perish."* Canadians should know the rest of the proverb: *"Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction"* (NIV).

Today, the challenge is for Christians to rise up to faithfully look to the Lord, and as for Joshua and his family, choose to serve the Lord. The land in which we dwell today no longer worships the God of the Bible, no longer looks to the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. The land seeks other gods

and the god of our land is the god of the Amorites - reflecting false beliefs, an any god will do mentality - where our comfort, our satisfaction, our happiness is what matters. What deeply saddens me is that we see this behaviour in God's Church today! Let's face it, humanity is built to have a spiritual capacity to our being - everybody must worship something or someone - whether they recognize it or not, because we're all 'incurably religious.' If we fail to remain faithful, worshipping our heavenly Father, we'll have our lives entangled by the web of deceit of the enemy leading to idolatry and sin.

So, it's essential, as Christ's Church, for us to understand the landscape of our land today, to be equipped to live faithfully amid this ever changing, unique national identity we call Canada. Rick Hiemstra, Director of Research and Media Relations at the EFC, challenges us to recognize the signs of the times, to see the issues where "Evangelicals often feel evangelism is improper or impolite or harmful even as they deal with the cognitive dissonance of at the same time believing they should share their faith."

I believe today, perhaps as in no other time, we must dig into God's Word, make our number one priority to know and serve God, and choose this day whom we will serve. If we are to be light to a darkened world, salt to a tasteless society, we cannot do so by jumping into the mud with them. We must stand and profess, *"Therefore will we also serve the Lord, our God!"*

Mark Your Calendar!

July 1st - **Canada Day**

July 6th - Communion Sunday

June 12th - Pastor's & Deacons BBQ

Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Prayer Room)

Message Series

What Jesus Taught Us

