

IF YOU'RE THE MOTHER OF A SMALL CHILD

you know...

☑ A 3-year-old boy's voice is louder than 200 adults in a crowded restaurant.

☑ When you hear the toilet flush and the words 'uh oh', it's already too late.

☑ The spin cycle on the washing machine does not make earthworms dizzy. (It will, however, make cats dizzy.)

☑ Garbage bags do not make good parachutes.

☑ Play dough and microwave should not be used in the same sentence.



ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

A mother examined her son, Sammy's hand when he came in from playing in the yard. "I've never seen a hand so filthy".

Without hesitating, Sammy quickly held up his other hand, "Take a look at this one!"



MAKING A CHANGE

A mother was upset with her son's procrastination. Not cleaning his room, never finishing his homework, failing to complete his chores around the house. "Jack, you have to make A change!" she told him. "Sure Mom," Jack said, "Will next Monday work?"



A LEG UP

A missionary was serving the Lord on an island inhabited by a cannibalistic tribe. One day he was captured by the tribe.

"Going to eat me, I take it," said the missionary to the chief.

"You won't like me." He took out his pocket knife, sliced a

piece from the calf of his leg, and handed it to the chief. "Try it and see for yourself," he urged.

The chief took one bite, grunted, and spat. The missionary went on to serve on the island for another 50 years. Unknown to the chief, he had a cork leg.



BIRTHDAY CAKE

Bobby had been to a friend's birthday party. On his return home, his mom, knowing his weakness for cake, looked him straight in the eyes asking, "I hope you didn't ask for a second piece of cake."

"Nope!" replied Bobby, "I only asked Mrs. Jones for her recipe so that you could make some just like it, and she gave me two more slices of her own accord".



First Baptist Church Strathroy

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



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

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For behold, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth... (Song of Solomon 2:11-12).

Renewed in God's Love

Lord, renew in us your love,

Each and every day...

Let it be the first thing we ask
When to you we come to pray.

Remind us of your hope,
How it will never pass away
build us up in confidence
so we will never go astray.

Fill us with your peace,
quiet the troubles in our mind
take away the barriers
so your calmness we can find.

Remind us you are the God,
Of yesterday and today
How you have our tomorrows
so we need not be afraid.

Lord, renew in us your love,
each and every single day...
May it be the first thing we seek
so by your side we'll always stay!

By Deborah Ann Belka (© 2026)

What's inside...

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Sunday, 11 a.m. Services

20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

Thot: "The key to continual and deeper spiritual renewal and revival is the continual re-discovery of the gospel." ~ Timothy Keller

SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT

A little boy never said a word for six years. One day his parents served him a cup of hot chocolate. They watched as a strange expression came upon the little boy's face and then were amazed when out of left field the little boy exclaimed, "This hot chocolate is not good!"

His parents were astonished; raving with one another that their son could speak. They said to him, "Why did you wait so long to talk?" He replied, "Up until now everything's been okay."



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Life can be filled with challenges. Don't let your worries get the best of you. Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.



Something to Think About

"Revive us again, O God of our salvation; put away your indignation toward us! Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" (Psalm 85:4, 6)

Today's world is in turmoil. It reminds me of how Charles Dickens described his time in *A Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times; it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness". As we cry out to God today, looking for a revival, we usually point our fingers at those who are the source of the problem – that's anyone but ourselves. But the psalmist goes on to tell us, "*Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him*" (Psalm 85:9), causing us to pause and reflect that change begins in us as we fear the Lord of righteousness and worship with awe the One who has saved us from our sins.

History records again and again that real hope for the world does not come through conformity to our way of thinking but through the moral and spiritual renewal of the heart of those who surrender to God. The change needed comes alive in us as we get right with God and we bear witness of Christ to those around us. Programs and activities, fine-sounding sermons and invitations are no substitute for a spiritually enriched life lived out in the image of God through His Spirit in us. In fact, many 'programs' designed by humankind apart from God aggravate issues that lead others away from the Gospel rather than leading them to Jesus. Yes, we have a need to have spiritual revival in our land, in our world. We need revival in our government, in our marketplaces, in our streets and in our schools, in our marriages and in our homes. But such revival that we expect from our society must first be met within our own hearts.

God speaks out to us in His Word, instructing us that, "*If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn*

from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14). And Jeremiah recorded God's call to all who would turn to the Lord, saying, "*You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart*" (Jeremiah 29:12-13).

What is it we must do that God will answer our cry for revival? First, we must seek Him with all our heart, and earnestly seek Him through prayer and change the way we are living our lives. Scripture is clear that we are all sinners, prone to following wicked ways. But our gracious God has given us a way of escape from the lure of sin by turning to Jesus, accepting His sacrificial gift of life and confessing our sins.

In our land there is nothing so lacking as the transformation of God's people from their conformity with the world around them. The apostle Paul instructs us that what we need is a renewal of the mind to discern what is the will of God [see Romans 12:2].

Many voices today are seeking your attention, offering many different answers to what is happening today. God has shown us what we must do. Today we hear His call, "*Come, let us return to the LORD; for*

He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up" (Hosea 6:1). God's plan calls to get our attention today. We have wandered from our first love; we've chosen temporal over eternal; we've become satisfied with this life and no longer hunger for heaven.

What shall we do? It's not enough to bring lip-service to our faith. We must be cut to the heart seeking the mercy of God through His steadfast love. We must confess that we have sinned against God, forgotten our vow to accept Christ as our Lord. We must accept Him as our only mediator before God and commit to the salvation that has been given to us. And We must live life seeking a spiritual renewal, seeking the Spirit to guide us in our way, and so return to the Lord. We can never expect those who have never known Christ to behave like Christians when we, as professing believers are not carrying the banner of faith high, proclaiming truth and living out the life we profess in Jesus. Are you ready for a revival? Today, will you cry out to God, "*Father, will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?*"

Mark Your Calendar!

May 3rd – **Communion Sunday**

May 9th – **Men's Breakfast** (8:30 a.m.)

May 10th – **Baptism Sunday**



Wednesdays

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Prayer Room) **1:30 pm**

Midweek Study (FBCS Prayer Room) **7 p.m.**

Messages this month...



Builders in God's Kingdom