

HEAVENLY

A little boy learned at church that once you go to heaven, you can't return to earth. Several weeks later, his father was reclining in a new chair that massaged his back while he was sitting in it. "I feel like I'm in heaven!" his father commented. "You went to heaven, Daddy?" the little boy asked in confusion. "What went wrong?"



CHECKING METERS

Two gas company servicemen were checking meters in the neighbourhood. They parked at one end of the street and worked their way to the other end. While at the last house, a woman watched out her window as they checked her gas meter. When they were finished checking the meter, the older worker challenged the younger coworker to a race back to the truck. As they came running up to the truck, they realized a woman was huffing and puffing right behind them. They stopped and asked her what was wrong. In between gasps of breath, she explained, "When I saw you two check my meter and then take off running, I figured I' better run too!"



WEDDING VOWS

During a playdate, a mother checked on her daughter and friend and overheard them playing wedding. The vows went like this: "You have the right to remain silent; anything you say can and will be held against you; you have the right to an attorney. You may now kiss the bride!"



PROPOSAL?

A young man got down on one knee before his long-time girlfriend to exclaim, "Without you, everything's dark and dreary ...the clouds gather and the wind beats the rain...then comes the warm sun...you are like a rainbow..." Exasperated, the young woman interjected as the young man paused for a breath, asking, "Is this a proposal or a weather report?"



DUST TO DUST

A little boy had heard at church that people come from dust and when they go back to heaven, they go back to dust. He told his mom, "When I said my prayers last night, I looked under my bed and someone was either coming or going!"



First Baptist Church Strathroy

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



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

First Baptist Church Strathroy

20 Centre St. W. Strathroy, Ontario N7G 1T5 519-245-0291 / 519-317-8659 (cell)

firstbaptistchurchstrathroy@gmail.com

www.FirstBaptistChurchStrathroy.ca, Edited by Pastor Dave Adams



Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;

There is no shadow of turning with Thee. Thou changest not;

Thy compassions, they fail not.

As Thou has been Thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

Sun, moon and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide.

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow – Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

~ Thomas O. Chisholm

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Our God is GOOD - All the time!



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Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Services.

20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

Thot: "God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile." ~ Max Lucado

FIRST JUMP

A young man had just enlisted and was to have his first parachute jump. His sergeant reminded him, "Count to ten then pull the first rip cord. If it snarls, pull the second cord for your auxiliary. On landing, our truck will pick you up.



The young paratrooper took a deep breath and jumped. He counted to ten and pulled the first cord. Nothing happened. He pulled the second cord. Again, nothing happened. As he careened crazily earthward, he said to himself, "I'll bet that truck won't be there either!"

ARRIVAL

Arriving unexpectedly at the pearly gates, a man was asked how he got there. He responded, "Flu!"



Something to Think About...

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." (James 1:17)

To say that God is good means that God always acts in accordance to what is right, true, and good. God doesn't just behave well, showing goodness, His very nature is good. That God is good by nature means that there's no evil in Him; that His intentions and motivations are always good. He always does what's right, and the outcome of His plan is always good.

God's Word tells us not only that God is good and does good, but that His goodness extends from His nature to *everything* that He does. *"The LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations"* (Psalm 100:5). But what does that then mean for you and me? How are we impacted by God's goodness?

I remember many years ago considering the purchase of a sofa. The salesman came over and started telling me how much this sofa was what I needed in my home and then proceeded to make claims of it that just weren't possibly true. I didn't get the sofa; the salesman lost the sale. One of the tricks of the enemy, Satan, is to sell us a bill of goods that isn't true, working to convince us that God's holding out on us, that He can't possibly love and care for us or He would do whatever we ask, when we ask. When Satan approached Eve in the Garden, he suggested that if God really loved her, He would permit her to eat of the forbidden tree. When Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness, he raised the question of hunger, "If your Father really loves you, why are you hungry?" He questioned God's goodness that He would let Jesus suffer in order to receive the Kingdom when Satan offered it to Jesus simply if He'd bow down to him – no cross required! We see the lie because, first, Satan didn't own what he offered, and secondly, Jesus always was heir to the

kingdom but *"emptied Himself by becoming a servant...becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross"* (Philippians 2:8). Too many times we let Satan have his way in our hearts because, like the Israelites of long ago, *"They forgot what [God] had done, the wonders He had shown them"* (Psalm 78:11). We forget His promises!

Since God is good, promising to give every good gift and every perfect gift from Himself in our time of need; and because God does not change, we don't need anyone else to meet our needs, including Satan. Warren Wiersbe wrote, perhaps considering the example of Jesus in the wilderness, "It's better to be hungry *in* the will of God than full *outside* the will of God."

As Christians, we believe that God is interested in the decisions we make, how we live our lives, the direction we take. If He's interested in our welfare, desires to give us every good and perfect gift, why is it so hard to discover His will for our lives? Sometimes we treat God like an automated information centre on which we push the right buttons and our need is met. But God wants to be involved with our lives through a relationship built in

faith and trust. In times when you seek His will, God intentionally draws you into a more intimate relationship with Him. As you diligently pray and come to a conclusion that not only shows you the direction to go but brings you peace, you emerge from the situation amazed at the goodness and grace of God. God is indeed good, His mercies never fail!

Only as we start to doubt God's goodness or fail to accept that He is forever the same of character, of goodness, are we attracted to Satan's ploys. The natural desires rise up within us and we submit. Such evil behaviour is the absence of the goodness of God because even when God has said no to our request, it's for our good; God knows the pain and suffering that we'll avoid if we obey our Father's will. Everything good in this world comes from God. And, if it comes from God, it must be good, even if we don't see the goodness in it immediately. All that Joseph went through was not always clear to him, but in the end, he could testify to his brothers, *"You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good..."* (Genesis 50:20). The value of a gift is measured by the intent of the one who gives the gift. When God gives His gifts to us, He does it in a loving, gracious manner because He is good. There is only one who is good – God! He invites you to seek Him and to *"taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him"* (Psalm 34:8).

Mark Your Calendar!

July 1st – **Canada Day**

July 7th – Communion

June 13th – **Pastor & Deacons BBQ**

Godwinks Café at 5 p.m.

Weekly Services at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks' Café)

Message Series

That Ol' Time Religion!