

A Child's Point of View...

One summer, during a violent thunderstorm, a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, could you sleep with me tonight?" The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring kiss.



"I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room." Finally, the boy said, in his shaky little voice: "The big sissy."



A Sunday School teacher had her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verses. Little Bobby, excited about the task, just couldn't remember the Psalm. When the day came the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23, Bobby was so nervous but when his turn came, he stepped up and said proudly, "The Lord is my shepherd . . . and that's all I need to know!"

When the mom of a seven-year-girl who was to walk the three blocks home from her playmate's saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon she decided to meet her. The mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

A little boy walked down the beach, and as he did, he spied a matronly woman sitting under a beach umbrella on the sand. He walked up to her and asked, "Are you a Christian?" "Yes." "Do you read your Bible every day?" She nodded her head, "Yes." "Do you pray often?" the boy asked next, and again she answered, "Yes." With that he asked his final question. "Will you hold my quarter while I go swimming?"

Points to Consider...

If you think you're too small to have an impact try going to bed with a mosquito in the room. ~ Anita Koddick

The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate.

~ Doug Larson

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



Why don't you stop wondering what's wrong with the world and read the manual?



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

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We'll Get Through This

Lord, our troubles are so great,
We don't know what to do;
The price for our iniquity
Is finally coming due.

The world is crumbling all about;
No safe place can be found.
Right is wrong, wrong is right;
The change is quite profound.

Lord, we need Your guiding light
To lead us out of here;
We'll focus on Your Word, and prayer,
To take away our fear.

Temptations of this dying world
We'll rule out and let go;
Give our burdens all to you,
Shed all worldly woe.

That's how we'll get through this, Lord,
Fixed on heaven above,
Assured of your protection, help,
And everlasting love.

By Joanna Fuchs



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

10:30 a.m. Summer Services
20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

Thot: "Are you ready for a change? We can talk, we can plan, we can read self-help books, but we still find it difficult to overcome and control many of the things that are inside us! Our key focus is not effort but surrender – to live moment by moment submissively trusting in the Lord rather than in self." ~ Jaime Fernandez-Garrido

Visitation!

A Baptist preacher visited a community member inviting him to come to Church on Sunday. The man produced fine peach brandy so told the preacher he'd love to attend Church **IF** the Pastor would drink some of his brandy and admit doing so in front of the congregation.



The preacher agreed and drank up. Sunday morning came and the man came to Church. The preacher recognized him and said: "I see Mr. Johnson is here with us. I want to thank him for his hospitality and especially for the peaches he gave me and the spirit in which they were given."

Something to Think About...



"Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another...humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God...casting all your anxieties and care on Him, because He cares for you." ~ 1 Peter 5:5-7

"Don't worry!" Ever notice when those words are received and we're in the midst of a size 10 meltdown over issues in life it seems the most impossible advice to take? Yes, we know Jesus promises we've no need to be anxious over what we will eat or what we will drink, or what clothes we will wear. (Read Matthew 6:25-34) which I think, at least on some intellectual level, we can accept the concept of – but what do we do when we are hungry, thirsty, or naked? What do we do when we're without answers – **We worry!**

The Apostle Peter certainly had his moments of worry, of fretting over mistakes, failures and deep needs. Yet through God's grace he was able to grow in his understanding and write, "*Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God*". You see, if we're to get past the worry and the anxiety in our lives we must do more than decide intellectually that it is a good thing; we must act on it. We have to get rid of the problem!

Peter says in our humility we must **cast** our cares upon God. The word "cast" here means to throw forcibly. It implies more than casually setting our concerns at Jesus' feet and casually walking away. Casting our cares upon God demonstrates forcibly tossing our cares and troubles as far away from us as they'll go; trusting our God who loves us knows exactly how to deal with all that concerns us. The Amplified Bible version of that same verse says, "*Casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns], once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully].*"

Such effort to cast our burdens on the Lord doesn't happen because we think poorly of ourselves, feeling debased. Living lives as useless, worthless beings, marginalized, but, because we surrender to God. Peter exhorts it takes grace to be submissive – to others and to God; but God is the author

of *that* grace – **if** we will *choose* to humble ourselves before Him and *choose* a relationship with Him over ourselves and our "wants". Such submission is an act of faith. We trust God to direct in our lives and to work out His purposes in His time. The key of course is that this occurs within a relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ who died on the cross to carry the weight, the burden of your sin, and rose again on the third day to give you access to His Heavenly Father, God, for evermore.

One of the benefits trusting in our relationship with God is the privilege of letting Him take care of our burdens. But unless we're willing to meet the conditions of humbly submitting we can't enjoy the wonderful promise of being freed from anxiety.

Notice this is a "**once and for all surrender of our cares**" to the Lord – past, present and future? When circumstances are difficult, it's easy to be anxious, but if we are, we miss God's blessings, and we become poor witnesses to those around us who seek resolve worries in *their* lives. And how can we bring God glory if we've no inner peace, if we haven't triumphant victory in our lives? Everything must be brought to Christ! No piecemeal approach will ever suffice to leave us freed from worry and anxiety. If we choose

to keep even the smallest of cares, they'll soon balloon into issues beyond our ability. We must, with faith, remind ourselves these are not ours – we've turned them over to the Lord, believing God **does** care and He's fully capable of handling our requests.

Some give God their requests and either include specific directions of how God is to handle them (not wise); or they expect God to do everything! It's essential we let Him work **in** us as well as **for** us if we're to be prepared when the answer comes to our struggles. God does this in four ways: equipping us with courage to face our anxieties honestly, never running away (Isaiah 41:10); giving wisdom for us to understand (James 1:5); giving strength to persevere and do what we must do (Philippians 4:13); and providing us faith to trust in Him to everything else (Psalm 37:5).

You may ask, "will the cares and concerns of this life keep knocking against the walls of my life? **Absolutely!** But as you consistently and deliberately cast your cares upon Him, you'll begin to see how far anxiety, fear, stress and worry move away from you as you learn to trust in Him.

Mark your Calendar...

5 Aug 18 - **Communion Sunday**

17 Aug 18 – **Friday Corn Roast**

FBC Strathroy @ 5PM

(Music with Grace)

Summer Sermon Series

The Parables of Jesus

"They were astonished at His teaching, for Jesus taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes." ~ Mark 1:22

Each Wednesday

Prayer & Bible Study 2p.m.

(Location announced each week)