

## THE JOY OF CAMPING

Some young boys from the city headed out to the wilderness for their first camping trip. They were very excited until as the heat of day waned the mosquitoes came out. The mosquitoes were so fierce, the boys had to hide under their blankets to avoid being bitten. Then one of the boys saw some lightning bugs and said to his friend, "We might as well give up. Their coming after us with flashlights!"



## ISRAELITES OUT OF EGYPT

A little boy was asked by his mom what he had learned in Sunday School. "Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a bridge, and all the people walked across safely. He used his walkie-talkie to radio headquarters and call in an air-strike to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved!"



"Now, son, was that really what the teacher taught you?" his mother asked. "Well, no, Mom – but if I told it like the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

## THE FIRST MAN

A Sunday School teacher asked little Willie who the first man in the Bible was.

"Hoss," he responded.

"No," said the teacher. "It was Adam."

"Ah, shucks!" little Willie replied. "I knew it was one of them Cartwrights."



## AUTOMATION

A man placed his coins in a vending machine and watched helplessly while the cup failed to appear. One nozzle sent coffee down the drain while another poured cream after it.

"Now that's real automation!" he exclaimed. "It even drinks for you!"

## KISSING

An older lady was visiting her friend and spoke to her friend's son: "You're so sweet, little boy. If you give me a kiss, I'll give you a bright new penny."

The little boy, with a sour look on his face, responded, "I get twice that from Mom just for taking cough medicine!"



"I found a great job for the summer. I'm a grief counselor in a swimsuit store."

**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

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



# GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

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The Lord watches over you and keeps you from all harm. He is your shade and your protector. He will watch over your coming and going forevermore.

~ Psalm 121:5-8

## What's inside...

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## God on the Mountain

Life is easy when you're up on the mountain

And you've got peace of mind like you've never known.

But then things change and you're down in the valley.

Don't lose faith for you're never alone.

You talk of faith when you're up on the mountain.

Oh, the talk comes easy when life's at its best.

But it's down in the valley of trials and temptation

That's when faith is really put to the test.

For the God on the mountain is still God in the valley.

When things go wrong, He'll make it right. And the God of the good times is still God in the bad times.

The God of the day is still God in the night.

The God of the day is still God in the night!

By Tracy G. Dartt



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**Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Services**

**20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario**

**Thot:** "If the Lord be with us, we have no cause of fear. His eye is upon us, His arm over us, His ear open to our prayer - His grace sufficient, His promise unchangeable." ~ John Newton

## WHO ARE YOU?

At the entrance to a restaurant, a meek little man of advanced years touched the arm of a man putting on an overcoat. "Excuse me," he said, "but do you happen to be Mr. Damen Smith from Newport?"

"No Sir, I'm not!" the man answered impatiently.

"Oh – er – well..." stammered the first man, "you see I am, and that's his overcoat you're putting on!"



## SEEING IS BELIEVING

Did you hear about the man who swallowed his glass eye and was rushed to a stomach specialist? The specialist peered down the unfortunate fellow's throat and exclaimed, "I've looked into a lot of stomachs in my day, but I must say, this is the first one that ever looked back at me!"



### Something to Think About...

*"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber."* (Psalm 121:1-3)

When this psalm was written, to look up to the hills didn't offer much for protection. Robbers dwelled in them, waiting for innocent travelers to become their unsuspecting victims meaning journeying through these roads caused anxiety. But the faithful people of God looked above the hills to the great God who created all things. When travellers caught sight of Jerusalem, nestled in the mountains, they knew that God dwelt there in His sanctuary and provided protection for all they needed.

Our lives can be like mountainous territory. We sometimes don't know what lies in wait for us today and as we look into the future, we wonder what dangers lurk? Yet, the Lord is our helper; He promises He protects us. Friends and relatives can offer limited assistance, used as instruments for God's purpose, but God knows everything and has all the power necessary to rescue us – our *"help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth"*. So why should we fear or worry or wonder?

And our God is not a distant God. The Psalms also tell us *"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit"* (Psalm 34:18). In Psalm 121:3 we're reminded, *"He will not allow your foot to slip"*. So often we fear and fret because our lives seem to be in the midst of those mountains – our feet are unsteady leaving us to slip and slide, to stagger, to be shaken, in our circumstances. We become weary and defeated. But our God has provided everything we need to prevail including how to avoid temptation that causes us to sin. When we have Jesus as our Saviour, He give us the

Holy Spirit who directs and empowers us. God's Word lights our path so we do not slip. Yet at times, we choose to sin. Almighty God could stop us from disobeying, but He doesn't interfere with our free will. Instead, He upholds us, enabling us to walk in His way. He waits for us to call out to Him and when we do His promise is sure that *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9).

In a recent article, *A Prayer of Protection*, Ashley Moore wrote, "God refers to Himself as the Good Shepherd, who lays down His life for the sheep. And He says we are the sheep of His pasture (John 10:11-14). Sheep are rather defenseless animals. They do not have sharp teeth or claws to ward off predators. They are covered in heavy wool that makes them susceptible to overheating if not groomed regularly and vulnerable to drowning if they fall into deep waters. They are known for getting themselves into precarious situations. And they need a shepherd's constant care and protection to stay safe and alive." As we consider the Lord's ability to protect us, even in treacherous times, whether those troubles originate with others, external circumstances, or our own sin, where we can find ourselves in danger and afraid, we know we have a loving Sheperd who watches over us and leads us to safety. He reminds us we can always trust Him, that He will always protect us – especially when we're frightened or struggling with doubts. And we know the LORD never sleeps but watches over us to protect and lead us all the time. Just as He promised to keep Jacob, who became the father of the twelve tribes of Israel, and He protects Jacob's descendants, *"The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry"* (1 Peter 3:12). We know, too, that *"for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose"*.

(Romans 8:28). God is our only trusted source for strength and our shield from the enemy's constant fiery darts. Dr. David Jeremiah wrote, "When we are tempted to seek blessing & contentment in the things of this world, we need to look to God's promised blessings. Look around you today and count your blessings. Thank God for His provision and commit all your needs to Him." He is our Good Shepherd, He protects His flock, even at the cost of His own life. God, your Father, protects YOU!

### Mark Your Calendar!

July 1<sup>st</sup> – **CANADA DAY**

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Communion

July 15<sup>th</sup> – Pastor & Deacons BBQ  
FBCS Godwinks' Café 5 p.m.

### Wednesdays 1:30pm

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks' Café)

### Message Series

Experiencing God –  
God's Family, Equipped by Christ

**All Welcome!**