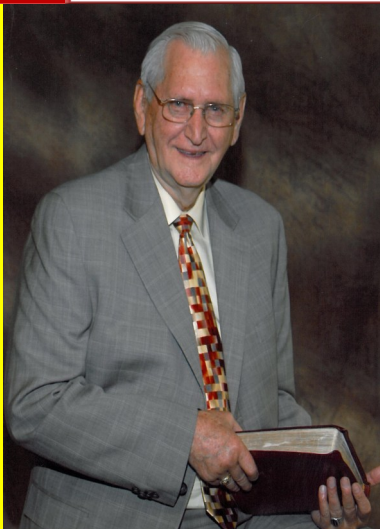


“So then
faith
cometh
by
hearing
and
hearing
by the
WORD
of God.”

Romans
10:17

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Mar. 2024



THE EMPTY EGG



Two weeks before Easter Sunday, a devoted Sunday school teacher asked her class of small children to bring a plastic egg to Sunday school on Easter. She instructed them to place something in the egg that symbolized the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus. The day came and there were several children in attendance. Each of them was eager to display the object placed in their egg. The teacher took each child's egg in turn, opening it and making a point which had reference to the resurrection. One child had placed within her egg a tiny flower. Holding the flower before the class, the teacher spoke of the new life that springs forth because of the first Easter.

A freckled face, red-headed little boy had placed a crayoned picture of Jesus within his egg. With delight, the teacher told the class how Jesus had died on the cross for the sins of the world. She told how that his lifeless body was taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb.

A beautiful, flaxen-haired little girl had placed a rusty nail in her plastic egg. This object gave the teacher opportunity to tell how Jesus was nailed to the cross, and how He so dreadfully suffered. Another child had put within his egg a small round rock. Seeing this object the teacher had to give thought as to what she could say about the rock and the resurrection. Finally, she remembered there was a great rock that sealed the tomb into which Jesus was placed. She also told her students that the rock was rolled back from the mouth of the tomb by an angel. Thinking she had done well in the applications she had made of the objects which the children had brought she was dumbfounded when seven-year-old Brian, a mentally challenged boy opened his egg. She was surprised, because there was nothing inside the egg. She searched for something to say, but could find no words.

Brian broke the classroom silence by saying, "It is full of emptiness just like the tomb of Jesus." And he began to quote ; "IN THE END OF THE SABBATH, AS IT BEGAN TO DAWN TOWARD THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, CAME MARY MAGDALENE AND THE OTHER MARY TO SEE THE SEPULCHRE. AND, BEHOLD, THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE: FOR THE ANGEL OF THE LORD DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN, AND CAME AND ROLLED BACK THE STONE FROM THE DOOR, AND SAT UPON IT. HIS COUNTENANCE WAS LIKE LIGHTNING, AND HIS RAIMENT WHITE AS SNOW: AND FOR FEAR OF HIM THE KEEPERS DID SHAKE, AND BECAME AS DEAD MEN. AND THE ANGEL ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THE WOMEN. FEAR NOT YE: FOR I KNOW THAT YE SEEK JESUS, WHICH WAS CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN, AS HE SAID. COME, SEE THE PLACE WHERE THE LORD LAY. " (Matthew 28:1-6)

Buck Nicholson



WATER, WATER,
AND MORE
WATER



On a long holiday weekend afternoon my wife and I went for a drive just to see God's beautiful handiwork. Our outing ended with a stop at Spreading the **WORD** studio where we were met with water surrounding the building. Upon further investigation we discovered a broken water pipe which had appeared to have been running at full strength for a couple of days. Water was everywhere! The floors were flooded and standing water covered most of the studio. We are blessed that none of the recording equipment was damaged or lost!

We are still in the process of repairing the building and when finished it will be better than before the flood. During this transition time God has blessed us with a remote location to recorded the broadcast and we are proud to report all broadcast have been distributed to all our radio station outlets on time! We covet your prayers during this time of re-building.

How to Spot a Christian at 50 Yards

Christopher Kolker MD

How are Christians supposed to act? If you look at the average church today, there's supposed to be kind of dour, always serious, and have something that resembles a frown on their face. That can be a turn-off for a lot of people, and I wonder if that's no small part of the problem as to why most churches are losing and not gaining membership.

I am reminded of a story: a few years ago, I saw a video of a Christian relief worker finally being released from jail in Sudan after four years of imprisonment and hard labor. He had the biggest grin on his face, and his obvious joy shone all the way from the Sudan to my living room.

Why was he so happy? He knew:

He was a prisoner, but now he was free. (Isaiah 42:7 He will *free captives from prison, and release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness*)

Whatever transgressions that he did, they no longer mattered.

His future away from imprisonment was now assured.

Everything was going to be okay.

Hugging everyone around him, he wanted to share his joy.

What a great feeling! Freed from the past, with assurances for tomorrow, of course he was happy.

But that's where you and I are.

We are all guilty of sin, and we deserve damnation. He probably wasn't guilty of anything more than being Christian, but each of us *fall short of the glory of God*. (Romans 3:23)

Our sins, no matter how heinous, don't matter. His blood washes all of them clean. (Romans 6:18 *You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness*)

All the things of this world are temporary. We have a permanent place to go where there is no sorrow or grief but eternal life.

Our future in Heaven is assured. (Revelation 21:4 *He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.*)

Everything is going to be okay.

This world can be rough, and we all know that to be true. Even during the deepest, darkest times, Christians know they are but temporary troubles. With our futures assured, Christians should be known for two distinguishing characteristics, even at 50 yards:

Those around them should feel the love and see the joy.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16.

Am I describing you?



Dear Brother Buck,
I have heard your program regularly for a long time and I have you locked into the app so I never miss you.
Blessings, Olivia P. Atlanta, GA

My name is Ellie and I get so bogged down with the challenges at work and at home and it can be frustrating and overwhelming sometimes. However, God gives me the strength I need to keep going in these times. I think all Christians need to recognize this.

Some time ago a new couple from California moved across the street from Doris and I. Fulfilling our neighborly duty we went over one afternoon and introduce ourselves to the young couple and invited them to come to church and worship with us. As the days past the young man would stop me in the yard just to visit. While visiting one day I learned the young man had been raised in our town, sat under my wife's teaching in Sunday School, was saved under my preaching and I was honored to preach at the funeral service of his father.

This was a reminder to me that we never know who's life we may touch and how far the seed that is planted might reach. We should live our lives everyday to try to help and teach other's along the way.

Dan, the young man, is quiet a poet and I will be looking forward to sharing his poetry with you from time to time. Maybe his poem below is just what you need to hear today.

Imagine my surprise
When I discovered that-
I was running from God...

I was running to him!

Dan Tharp



Spreading the **WORD** Ministry

I received a note from a listener who told of sharing the monthly newsletter from Spreading the **WORD** with his elderly neighbor. He explained his neighbor was in poor health and could not get out often but enjoyed the newsletter and the broadcast. We added his name to our mailing list and now he will receive his own newsletter.

Each month we send out hundreds of newsletters to friends and listeners all across the country. Perhaps you know of someone who you think would enjoy the newsletter, please send us their address and we will make sure they receive their own copy. As we have always stated, our mailing list will never be sold to some other company.

Maybe this would be a way to open the door for you to tell someone about Jesus. Help us Spread the **WORD** of Jesus through this small publication. Can we count on you?
