

Rest in Peace...

A father was at the beach with his four-year-old son Bob when he ran and grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore, where a seagull lay dead in the sand.

"Daddy, what happened to him?" Bob asked. "He died and went to Heaven," the dad replied.

His son thought a moment and then said, "Did God throw him back down?"



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

Mt. Brydges Baptist Church

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Letters between son and dad

Dear Dad,

School is really great. I am making lots of friends and studying very hard. With all my stuff, I simply can't think of anything I need, so if you would like, you can just send me a card, as I would love to hear from you.

Love,

Your son

The Reply:

Dear Son,

I know that astronomy, economics, and oceanography are enough to keep even an honor student busy. Do NOT forget that the pursuit of knowledge is a noble task, and you can never study enough.

Dad



"Fathers are far more than just 'second adults' in the home," says Dr. David Popenoe, one of the pioneers of research into fathers and fatherhood.

"Involved fathers bring positive benefits to their children that no other person is as likely to bring." Fathers have a direct impact on the well-being of their children. One of the most important influences a father can have on his child is indirect—fathers influence their children in large part through the quality of their relationship with the mother of their children.

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

**"A father to the
fatherless, a defender of
widows, is God in His
holy dwelling."**

~ Psalm 68:5

Dad

He never looks for praises
He's never one to boast
He just goes on quietly working
For those he loves the most
His dreams are seldom spoken
His wants are very few
And most of the time his worries
Will go unspoken too
He's there.... A firm foundation
Through all our storms of life
A sturdy hand to hold to
In times of stress and strife
A true friend we can turn to
When times are good or bad
One of our greatest blessings,
The man that we call Dad.

~ Karen K. Bover



June 2014

Look close at any father & you find the **boy** who loves his kids.

What's Inside...

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Join us each Sunday for Worship...

10:45am worship and praise

Thot: "By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong." - Charles Wadsworth

The Lighter Side...

Penny Trick



After tucking their three-year-old child in for bed one night, his parents heard sobbing coming from his room.

Rushing back in, they found him crying. He managed to tell them he had swallowed a penny and was sure he was going to die. No amount of talking was helping.

His father, in an attempt to calm him down, palmed a penny from his pocket and pretended to pull it from Sammy's ear. Sammy was delighted.

In a flash, he snatched it from his father's hand, swallowed, then cheerfully demanded, "Do it again, Daddy!"



Something To Think About..

The Apostle John's third letter begins "*To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth...*" In modern times, we don't get many personal letters. If it wasn't for the bills, advertisements and such, we won't see much come in the mail box at all. Usually, for those of us "hooked up" to the internet, we keep in touch with friends via emails; then of course there is *Facebook*, *twitter*, and *pinterest*.

Perhaps, you still get letters or you remember the last time you got a letter. Would you be like me and treasure receiving it and hurry inside to open and read what the friend has to say? Would you find yourself lost in visiting? So what if you got a letter from God? Have you ever thought about how that letter would look? John's letter to Gaius reveals a little of what that letter might be like. Dear friend is the way he begins...

"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you." (vs. 2) God too would begin with similar sentiments. He is concerned about our lives. Our health – physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual health! You matter to God! God knows that there are struggles in your life – past, present and coming to a theatre near you. He recognizes that the daily grind can wear you down and He wants us to remember that it is by faith we rise above the turmoil and persevere. Do you hear God in John's words... *"I have no greater joy than to hear that all my children are walking in*

the truth." (vs. 4) And again, *"Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers..."* (vs. 5) God wants us to see that the key to our lives lies not in selfish ambition or our own success. Rather, it is in reaching out to those who come across our path – even strangers.

We are reminded that the great love God has shown us in giving Jesus to die for the wrong we have done – even while we were strangers to Him – is the kind of compassion He wants us to show to others. When the time comes to leave this world, think about what it is that those who knew you – who raced, walked or crawled across your path in this life – will have to say about you. I can't imagine a better epitaph than, "he (or she) was always faithful in what he/she did for others." No, we can't change the whole world, at times, maybe not even change the smallest details of our life, but we can chose to let God be the center of that life and His very nature is to pour out beyond the limits of any vessel in which it is held and spread throughout. Are you willing to let God overflow in your life and to be one who cares and is caring for those God brings across your path?

"Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil, but do good." (vs11a) God is concerned about what we do – even in the hidden, private areas of our lives (like when we don't think anyone is watching). While none of us is perfect; and all of us require forgiveness – from God first and also from one another – let's not forget that God is always waiting for us and watching over us. God has no place in the life of anyone who willingly chooses evil.

The emphasis by John in speaking to his "dear friend" reminds us that God wants that kind of relationship between you and me. Can we let God into our lives and recognize that GOD CARES – He cares about your health; He cares that you serve rather than seek to be served; He cares that you seek to live righteously through faith in Him and will His Spirit within you. Catch up with God today by reading His letters to you. You'll love the time you spend with Him.

Mark your Calendar...

June 1st – Communion & Commissioning for Samantha

Wednesdays 7pm – Bible Study continues on Revelation - **Deepening Life Together**

June 7th – BBQ & Yard Sale

June 12-14 – CBOQ Assembly

June 15th – Father's Day

June 29th – Godwink's Café Sarah & Nathan Montgomery MAF ministries & BBQ 5:30pm