

I'M OKAY

A farmer loaded a cow in his truck and headed to market. A couple of kilometers along the road, he lost control of the truck and ended up overturned in a ditch by the side of the road.



When the police officer arrived, he found the cow suffering with two broken legs and he went ahead and put it out of its misery. Circling the vehicle the officer found the farmer lying on the ground. With his gun still in his hand, he asked the farmer, "Are you okay?"

The man took one look at the officer, another at the gun, and quickly jumped to his feet, loudly proclaiming, "Nothing broken here, I'm okay!"

RUNNING LATE

A man was stopped for speeding and taken to the cells to be dealt with by the Chief of police. "I can explain..." said the arrested driver.



"Save your excuses", said the cop. "The chief will deal with you when he gets back. Lucky for you the chief's at his daughter's wedding. It means he'll be in a good mood."

"Don't count on it," said the driver. "I'm the groom!"



Tracey was visiting her grandparents for Easter and couldn't wait to update them on all that had been happening to her. She told them, "I've had a terrible time! First off, I got tonsillitis, then appendicitis and pneumonia. After that I got Rheumatism, and to top it off they gave me hypodermics and inoculations. I tell you; I thought I would never get through that spelling bee!"

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen!" (Luke 24:5)

First Baptist Church Strathroy

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



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

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"Fear not, I am the First and the Last, the Living One. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore" (Revelation 1:17-18)

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The Way of the Cross Leads to God

He carried the cross to Calvary,
Carried its burden for you and me,
There on the cross He was crucified
And, because He suffered and bled and died,

We know that what'er our cross may be,
It leads to *God* and *Eternity*...

For who can hope for a 'crown of stars'
For how could we face the living Lord
And rightfully claim His promised reward
If we have not carried our cross of care
And tasted the cup of bitter despair...

Let those who year for the pleasure of life,
And long to escape all suffering and strife,
Rush recklessly on to an "empty goal"
With never a thought of the spirit and soul...

But if you are searching to find the way
To life everlasting and eternal day -
With Faith in your heart take the path He trod,

For the *way of the cross* is the *way to God*.

~ Helen Steiner Rice



Sunday, 11 a.m. Services

20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

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Thot: "Long-lasting victory can never be separated from a long-lasting stand on the foundation of the cross."

~ Watchman Nee

A TROUBLING GRADE

It was the last day of college before the Easter break and a student was writing his final midterm. On his examination paper, he wrote... "Our God only knows the answer to these questions and he's not available until Easter Sunday!"

The following week, on return to class, the professor returned the paper with the following notation: "He's alive! God gets an "A"; you get an "F".



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Pray for the ministry, support them and/or volunteer to help share the Good News. Call: 519-690-1615; email info@keybibleclubs.ca. Donate at donate@keybibleclubs.ca. 345 Pond Mills Road, London N5Z 3X7



Something to Think About...

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows... He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed" (Isaiah 53:4-5)

The science of identification through examination of fingerprints uses ridge patterns containing sweat ducts on the frictional skin on the palm surface of our hands, fingers, even the soles of our feet and toes, each unique, to subsequently identify each individual from anyone else. Have you ever considered the fingerprints of God? It's easy to discover the fingerprints of God around us if we will but open our eyes to see. They're found in the sunrise or with the breaking of ground for those first plants in spring. Perhaps you discover the Godwinks' of God in those quiet moments of reflection, or He's there as you drive to work and He keeps you calm in the midst of the parking lot they call a highway. One of the great moments to witness the fingerprints of God is when you first hold your new-born baby – made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26) who created the inmost being of this little life, knit together in the mother's womb (Psalm 139:13).

As we approach Good Friday and celebrate the resurrection of Christ at Easter, have you ever considered that these momentary pleasures are gifts from the heavenly Father who loves you? Each whisper, the essence of what eternity will be like with God; that we're not alone or forgotten. The most notable of God's fingerprints is Jesus at Calvary. Had Jesus not died on the cross, these little moments would be empty distractions instead of eternal promises. All the fingerprints of God would be unrecognizable. But Jesus, *"the image of the invisible God"* (Colossians 1:15), has opened our eyes to see the fingerprints of God as He reaches out to a hurting, searching world. Why did Jesus die on the cross? First, Jesus *"did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28). Christ died

on the cross in our place, He bore our sorrows and pain, He took upon Himself our shame. Without His substitutionary grace, we would suffer the death penalty for our sins. Jesus died for our sins because we've all sinned, bringing the common consequence of death. We're all headed for judgment, condemnation, eternal death before God intervened. Secondly, without the atoning sacrifice of Jesus, we're left without hope, without forgiveness; our righteousness a pile of filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6), and our best efforts, minus the blood of Jesus at the cross of Calvary, deserving of death. That's why Jesus did what He did for you and me. *"He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed"* (Isaiah 55:6) shows us the great love of our heavenly Father who sent His Son and took our punishment upon Himself. We did nothing to earn forgiveness. It's by God's amazing grace alone.

Without the atoning sacrifice of Jesus, our Saviour, we're left destitute before the Creator of the universe, undeserving and unable to measure up, devoid of any virtue worthy of the Father looking beyond our sins.

The Apostle Paul lists several virtues bestowed upon us that we can never attain by ourselves. They are counter-intuitive to the way of the world. True love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)

each distinguished from other lists of virtues by their source: the Holy Spirit as opposed to the human ideas and efforts of man.

This year, will we pause on Good Friday and consider how God vindicates the suffering servant as His power and authority find expression in our weakness? God's action through Jesus takes on an ugly, repulsive form, offered freely to those for whom He suffers. Then, as the Christian community gathers on Easter Sunday, these words from Isaiah become our appropriate response in describing both the suffering and the role its central character, Jesus, lives out for a broken and hurting world in need of redemption that *"for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and seated at the right hand of the throne of God"* (Hebrews 12:2).

Mark Your Calendar!

March 3rd – Communion

March 9th – Men's Breakfast (8:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays 1:30pm

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks' Café)

Message Series

Life in Christ

Friday March 29th – 10:30 a.m.

Good Friday Service

The Sorrowing Servant



Sunday March 31st – 11 a.m.

Easter Service

The Living Christ!