



Prime Timer's Newsletter

Mission Statement: Provide opportunities for the senior members to be involved in the fellowship, service and evangelism activities of Meadow view, assisting the congregation in its outreach and growth.

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Saying I'm Sorry

The strength and fragility of life

BIBLE THOUGHT: "(He) made himself nothing...being made in human likeness (Philippians 2:7, NIV).

I have often wondered at both the strength and the fragility of life. Like me, I'm sure you have observed both a strong will to live that overcame great threats to life and, on the other hand, you have seen how easily life can be taken from a body. It is amazing how the Lord exposed Himself to all this in His willingness to take on the human form.

The Gospel of Matthew paints a picture full of promise and hope, but also alarming in the vulnerability Christ accepted. In chapter 2, Jesus is described as the King of Jews, Messiah, and Ruler who will shepherd His people Israel. Yet, even as those descriptions of strength and future power were being used, Jesus was just a child in the shadow of danger and death, with no royal court to attend to Him, nor military guard to defend Him. He was at risk of being killed by the tyrant named Herod.

Recently, I heard a brother speak of God's great passion to be reconciled with those He had created. Today's passage, read in view of the events recorded in Matthew 2, helps us appreciate that great passion.

---Chris Frizzell, Granbury, Texas

Up in Kansas when high school senior Emma Sullivan posted a rude tweet about their state's governor, her school principal asked her to apologize.

Emma stirred quite a brouhaha when she refused. Some folks questioned her courtesy. Others trashed the school for squelching her freedom of speech. The rumpus stirred memories of my own cheeky past.

During my first fling at newspaper column writing, barbs I slung at one group stung the club sponsor. Our school's principal, the venerable R.B. Norman, summoned me to his office and strongly recommended that I go apologize to the lady I offended.

Like Emma Sullivan, I could have refused, but later I was glad I didn't. Telling that sweet teacher "I'm sorry" salvaged what became a life-long friendship. One of my sons got named for her husband, and many years later at her request I preached her funeral.

A couple of years later my column-writing pen still was sharper than my judgment. "Write a column for our paper," junior college journalism teacher Ned Toomey urged me, "and you can have carte blanche." He meant I could write anything I wanted to without fear of being censored. Looking back, I wonder which of us was more foolish – him or me.

That school year was still young when I fumed in my new

column about the restricted hour for our campus student center. In that tirade I referred to the often-unavailable coffee as "witches' brew." The good ladies who slaved in the student center came to the president and threatened to resign en masse.

Again I got summoned to the top man's office. With a smile on his face, Dr. Joseph Ray taught me a lesson that has blessed me all my days. "Son," he said, "you'll convince a lot more people by chuckling than by scowling." As I left his office, he gently advised me to drop by the student center to tell those wounded ladies that I was sorry.

In both instances, did I have to eat some crow to say "I'm sorry"? You bet. Did it bless both me and the people I said it to? Without a doubt. Did it violate my rights of free speech? You've got to be kidding.

Emma Sullivan refused to apologize to Governor Brownback. I hope she has at least calmed down enough to tell her principal that she's sorry for rejecting his excellent advice.



June Activities:

Potluck Luncheon: Monday 3rd @ 12:00 p.m.—Guest speaker: Mitch Kovalcik
Please bring something to donate toward the Food Pantry

Mission Printing, Arlington, TX: Thursday 9th

Steering Committee Meeting: Monday 17th @ 2:00 p.m.



Seconding Coming:

To be ready for the Lord's coming is a necessity!

To deny the Lord's coming is heresy.

To fix a date for His coming is lunacy.

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