

“John 3:16”
February 17, 2008
By Rebecca Enney

This is the Church Secretary! Her work is very important to Pastor Ed and all the ministry he does. He probably could not get much done without her help! Right now he is working on his children’s story for Sunday. The lesson is about John 3:16.

“FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY NOT PERISH BUT MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE!”

Some people have said that THAT verse, John 3:16 is like the ‘gospel in a nutshell’. That means that if you had to condense all the words of the Bible into one sentence, that particular sentence would probably do it.

“FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY NOT PERISH BUT MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE!”



Ring, ring, ring went the telephone. “Pastor Ed’s church. This is the Church Secretary. How may I help you?” she said as she always does when she answers the phone. “Oh yes Sunday School Teacher, I’ll be happy to remind him to pick up a bale of hay and a quart of milk on his way home.” The Church Secretary wrote a big sticky note and placed it on Pastor Ed’s desk and told him to take the note with him when he leaves for home.

“Church Secretary! Where is that ‘nutshell’ I used 6 years ago for my sermon? I can’t find it anywhere!” The Church Secretary looked up ‘nutshell’ under the ‘n’s’ in her file.

“Stored in box in the boiler room.” her file said so she paged the sexton, that would be Uncle Floyd, and asked him to bring the ‘nutshell’ to the office.

Uncle Floyd brought the ‘nutshell’ box up from the boiler room and gave it to The Church Secretary, who placed it on Pastor Ed’s desk. “Thank you!” said Pastor Ed.

Ring, ring, ring went the telephone. “Pastor Ed’s church. This is the Church Secretary. How may I help you? . . . Pastor Ed would love to baptize your little boy. What is his name? . . . Blair Steven, what a nice name! . . .” she said as she wrote the information down. “Pastor Ed will meet with you tomorrow and you can plan the service!”

“Church Secretary, help!” said Pastor Ed. “How do I get this blankity blankity computer to find a file that I can’t remember how I named?” The Church Secretary asked him a few questions, tapped a few keys and lickety split, she had the file! “Thank you!” said Pastor Ed.

Ring, ring, ring went the telephone. “Pastor Ed’s church. This is the Church Secretary. How may I help you? Sure Uncle Floyd. I’ll watch for Barabas to get here after school and let you know.”

“Church Secretary! Could you show me how to print this important verse in a very tiny font?” So the Church Secretary typed John 3:16 in a very tiny font. And she printed it and Pastor Ed cut it out and rolled it up and then he got the nut out of the box and placed little paper in the nutshell.

“Don’t forget the hay and the milk!” the Church Secretary called after Pastor Ed as he left without the sticky note.

Ring, ring, ring went the telephone. “Pastor Ed’s church. This is the Church Secretary. How may I help you? . . . No Uncle Floyd. He’s not here yet. Oh! He just walked in!”



“I like your shirt Barabas!” said the Church Secretary as she hung up the phone. “You need to wear that to church on Sunday.” Barabas looked down at his shirt. “Oh yeah . . . ‘the gospel in a nutshell’. Then Barabas said

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