

“Friends”

[John 15:15](#)

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By Rebecca Enney

I don't know if you remember, but last week Barabas woke up in the hospital after his surgery. He and Uncle Floyd had agreed it would be a good thing to donate some of the special growing thread from his face to Aunt Gertrude to help her neck heal.

You will be happy to know that Aunt Gertrude and Barabas are both doing well and will be going home from the hospital tomorrow. Right now Aunt Gertrude is at her last physical therapy session because her neck fatigue is almost 100% corrected!

And Barabas has company. His friend Sam has come to visit!



“Hi Barabas.” said Sam. “How do you feel?”

“Okay.” said Barabas.

“When will you come back to school?”

“Not tomorrow, but on Wednesday.”

“You're lucky you got out of school work.”

“Actually, Mr. Gym Teacher comes to tutor me.”

“Oh, that's too bad. I think Uncle Floyd and my dad are planning a camping trip for when school is out for the summer.” said Sam.

“Oh wow!” said Barabas. “That will be fun!” And they talked about the last time they went camping.

After Sam left, Running Chairs came for a visit.



“Like I know that you must be sick because you are in the hospital and all, but you look just like you always do except, you know, for that big bandage on your face, you know, from where that scar is from when you . . . oh, that’s right, my mommy said I should not mention about that scar, I’m sorry, but I’m glad you are okay. I think it was a really good thing you did to donate that special, you know, growing thread to mean old Aunt Gertrude.”

“Oh! Aunt Gertrude isn’t mean.” said Barabas, remembering that he had just learned that it was HER that paid for his vase replacement. Not that he has told anyone about that secret he now knows. He had always thought she was mean, but now he knows better. Now they are friends, well, in an old lady giraffe and a second grade boy kind of way.

“How is school?” he asked. And Running Chairs told about how it was so hot at school last week that Mr. Gym Teacher had the window open and three big bumble bees flew in and buzzed around some of the girls and they screamed and Mr. Gym Teacher needed the janitor to help get the bees out! And then they had a fire drill! It seems Barabas missed a really good week at school!

After Running Chairs left, Elizabeth came to see Barabas.



And she was full of jokes! “Why are dogs such poor dancers? . . . Because they have two left feet!” And “What goes up the steps on it’s head? . . . A tack in the bottom of your shoe!” And “What did the man say when he saw the three holes in the ground? . . . Well, well, well!”

Barabas was still smiling after Elizabeth left. She is his best friend in the world! He feels really good that he has such terrific friends. Friends share everything. Friends love you wherever you are.

In today's lesson in John, Jesus told his followers "I have called you friends because I have shared everything with you, because I love you."

Barabas now knows that he is loved, by his friends, by Uncle Floyd and even by Aunt Gertrude. And Barabas knows he is loved by Jesus.



I hope you know that Jesus is your friend!
THE END