

“Jostling For Position”

[Mark 9:30-37](#) & [James 3:13](#)

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By Rebecca Enney

Pastor Ed is teaching the Sunday School class this morning because his wife, The SCS Teacher, has the Equestrian Flu. Pastor Ed asked the children to line up at the door and follow him to the Chapel where they could see the Crucifix. A Crucifix is a cross that shows the body of Christ when he died, when he was crucified.

There seemed to be a lot of commotion behind him as each of the children tried to position themselves in the front of the line. It was as if they had all taken mean pills before church this morning.



“Let me go first. I’m the tallest,” stated Barabas.

“Like what is so great about being tall?” fussed Running Chairs. “I have the most to say you know. Like I should be first.”

“That is not polite Running Chairs,” complained Elizabeth. “Just move back a little bit. Don’t crowd me.”

Polly started to say “Let Harry and Linda go f . . .,” but Haman shoved her aside so he could go ahead of her. After all, Haman firmly believes he is greater than his little sister.

“Oh for crying out loud,” said Sam. “You guys are all a bother! It’s not a problem being at the back of the line.” However, when Sam said this, he made sure that he was in FRONT of Obadiah.

Obadiah lingered behind them all, at the very back of the line.

On the way to the Chapel, Pastor Ed talked about how Jesus was crucified on the cross and three days after being killed, he would rise again. But the children did not understand. They were preoccupied jostling for position.

They finally arrived at the Chapel and managed to arrange themselves in the pews. Pastor Ed asked them this question: “What were you arguing about on the way?”

The children fell silent for they knew that their arguments amongst one another were poor behavior.

Then Pastor Ed asked Obadiah to come forward and said “Whoever welcomes Obadiah, welcomes Christ, and whoever welcomes Christ, welcomes God himself.”

And the children looked at Obadiah and felt shame for their lack of kindness to this odd newcomer.

Pastor Ed allowed for an awkward silence in the Chapel. Sensing that he was waiting for SOMEONE to do SOMETHING, Elizabeth came forward with gentleness born of wisdom and said “Obadiah, you are welcome to sit with me.”



After Obadiah sat down next to Elizabeth, Pastor Ed began their class. THE END