

"Promises"
Advent 1
December 3, 2017
by Rebecca Enney

I will light this first candle on this little Advent Wreath for our story this morning.



BARABAS'S PROMISE

Yesterday morning Barabas and Gator were playing a game of Parcheesi. Uncle Floyd called up the steps to say he was running to the store for milk and asked Barabas to take out the trash because the dogs might get into it.

"Yes, I promise to take out the trash." Except . . . Barabas forgot. I mean Gator had three men home and Barabas had just sent Gator's fourth man back to the beginning! How could he interrupt the game now?!

They heard Uncle Floyd leave and just a few minutes later they heard another sound . . . in the kitchen . . . and they knew it was the sound of the dogs rummaging around in the trash!

"Ahhhh!" shouted Barabas. Gator went down with Barabas to clean up the mess. And it was a mess! They finally came back up to finish their game of Parcheesi and brought the dogs with them!

UNCLE FLOYD'S PROMISE

Now, Uncle Floyd has big plans for Christmas this year. He wants to promise to both boys that this will be the best Christmas ever. So when he got home and put the milk away and saw the trash had

been taken out, he came up stairs to talk with them.

"I reckon it is time to tell you my plans for Christmas," he said. They both looked up from their game. Uncle Floyd explained that he has arranged for Frank, Barabas's birth father, who lives in CA and is the janitor at Disney Internet Group on Lenkershim Blvd in No. Hollywood, Uncle Floyd has arranged for Frank to come at Christmas! Barabas always likes when Frank comes!!!

And then Uncle Floyd turned to Gator and said "I reckon you may not know what to think about this plan." And Uncle Floyd hesitated. "As you know, I have never met your mother, but we have been in touch weekly since you came to live with us some years ago."

Gator looked a little apprehensive. "As you know, your mother works at the Alligator Farm in Florida. She has a week of vacation over Christmas and I have invited her to come for a visit." Gator looked down at the floor and said "Do you know what she is really like?"

"I reckon I do not. But I believe her story. She has been clean and sober for almost two years now. She is very excited that she can visit you! I reckon you, being 12 years old, are mature enough to give it a try?"

GOD'S PROMISE

Advent is a time of Promise, when God says He will be with us, through bad times and through good times. Sometimes, we fail at our promises, but the fact is that GOD never fails at His promises. His promise is to be with us at ALL times, good or bad.

THE END