

"The Prayer"

October 21, 2018

by Rebecca Enney

Pastor Ed has brought a basket of letters to the Sunday School class for the children to say a prayer over before they get mailed this week. (We can pretend the other children in the class are her too.)

"This is not just ordinary mail like advertising or junk mail or bills to pay. These are letters signed by adults here at church. They are being sent to the Senators and Representatives who are in a position to help poor people."



"Stop it!" Barabas loudly whispered to Gator. "You stop it!" Gator said back.

Pastor Ed noticed. "We will bow our heads to say a prayer of blessing over these letters because . . . "However, there was now a scuffle going on between Barabas and his brother Gator.

"Listen Gator! Stop bumping me with your tail! You are doing it on purpose! Stop it!"

"YOU stop it! It is just a tiny bump and I can't help it! You are making a big deal of

nothing!" Gator snarled back.

"Boys!" Pastor Ed said. "What's going on here? You are disrupting the class!"

"He has been bugging me all morning!" Barabas complained.

"Like you haven't been asking for it! He woke me up like an hour early this morning playing with the dogs in our room, making them bark and all!"

"It seems like you brothers are having a hard time getting along today."

This happens you know. It happens to brothers and sisters your age and to brothers and sisters that are adults. It happened to James and John in the Bible lesson this morning. It seems they each wanted to sit in the best place beside Jesus.

Jesus told them that sitting there would be very difficult. He said that being in that special seat did not mean they would be like a King and get everything they wanted. It would mean they had to be like a servant, like a slave!

Barabas kind of already knew that he was making a big deal of very small bumps. And Gator really already knew he was doing it just to annoy Barabas. It's the kind of thing that brothers and sisters do on purpose. It is a foolish thing to do, because small things, done over and over, can become big things.

This makes me think of a hungry person. I suppose you could miss one meal and it would not be a big deal, but if you missed a meal every day, day after day, this will become a big thing! Jesus said we need to HELP HUNGRY PEOPLE!

Pastor Ed prayed: "Good and Dear Lord, stop our small grievances and help us to do your will, to reach out to the hungry, the poor and to all in need. Help these letters let our leaders know how very important it is to feed the hungry and house the homeless. We ask for you to bless these letters and to inspire the leaders who read them, to be servants and slaves just as Christ has instructed. Amen" THE END