

The Oak Grove Oracle

(Family News & Views of the Oak Grove Church of Christ)

Meeting Weekly At Our Building Located At:

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"It's a Gift From God"

It would be my guess that most folks would say God's greatest gift to mankind was the gift of His Holy Son Jesus on Calvary's cruel cross almost twenty centuries ago (Jn. 3:16). However, without the gift of God's Word, the Holy Bible, we might not know about that gift of Jesus' life for our own, nor about the free gift of salvation, which Jesus' gift made possible (Rms. 6:23). Of course both gifts are tied together, because Jesus is the Living Word (Jn. 1:1).

This past week I was reminded of the exceptional nature of the gift of God's Holy Word. The occasion was the birthday celebration of our grandson Carson. He turned six last week, and we had a little birthday supper for him at our house to honor the occasion. Janice had purchased a nice Bible for him as his gift. He's in school now and beginning to learn to read, so what better book to get him started on than the Word of God?

After blowing out the candles on his cake, the time came for opening his gifts. When he opened the wrapping that contained his Bible, he said with joy, "oh, it's a Bible!" Janice then opened it to the presentation page and was helping him to read the inscription she had placed there. "Whose Bible is it," she queried? And they read together his name, "Carson Hunter McCain." "And who gave it to you" she asked? His answer caused all of us to erupt in laughter. "It's a gift from God," says he! Truer words were never spoken.

Sometimes little children have a simpler, purer understanding of faith and other spiritual concepts than adults. On the occasion of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the leaders of the Jews were very displeased that the children in the temple praised Jesus with these words, "Hosanna to the Son of David" (Mt. 21:15). Jesus then told the deluded, doubting Jewish leadership, "Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?" (Mt. 21:16).

Jesus said, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven." (Mt. 18:3). May God help us to be like pure little children who are thankful for the many spiritual gifts He shares with us. After all, He is the Giver of all good gifts (Jms. 1:17).

David A. McCain