



"A Reason to Smile "

August 2024

Did you ever have one of those days when it's cloudy out and you're feeling a bit gloomy? Or perhaps life threw an unexpected curve ball and it threw you off your game?

Or maybe you're finding yourself in a bit of an emotional rut, and you just plain feel lousy? Stop and look around and soon you'll see that even on a cloudy day there is a reason to smile and say, "thank you G-d!"...Let me explain with a short story...

"A Reason to Smile"...

A blind man sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." Some people just walked by, others stopped to put a coin or two into the hat, but at the end of the day, there were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind man. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The blind man recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it." End of story.

Both signs told people that the man was blind. But the first sign simply said the man was blind. The second sign told people that they were so blessed that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative.

And if you know of somebody whose burden is heavier than yours don't hesitate to reach out and share a kind word, you'll both feel better.

When life gives you a reason to cry, show life that you also have a reason to smile. Not always an easy feat, but one that takes a bit of effort from the heart. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. And if by chance life sends you lemons, make the world's best lemonade, and enjoy the drink.

One of the most beautiful things in the world is to see a person smiling and even more beautiful is, knowing that you are the reason behind it!!!.....

Thought for the day...."Trusting G-d's timing"

Remember: G-d doesn't promise us a life without challenges. But G-d does promise that He will always be with us through them. Today when challenges come our way, and they will, we need to use them as a way to grow closer to G-d. G-d allows us to go through struggles so we can experience His comfort, His faithfulness and His Presence. And remember G-d's timing is usually not our timing. We are in a hurry, but G-d isn't. He takes time to do things right - He lays a solid foundation before He attempts to build a building. We are G-d's building under construction. G-d is the Master Builder and the Grand Designer and He knows what He is doing. Today when we are feeling impatient, remember that G-d's timing is ALWAYS perfect! It is up to us to "let go and let G-d" not always easy. The road of life is traveled easier with G-d at our side.

And before we close a little humor to keep you smiling, from "the Moshe Files"....

"Help I Need A Push"

"Jim" is in bed sleeping, all of a sudden, he hears a knock at his front door.

He rolls over and looks at his clock, and it's 3 AM.

"I'm not getting out of bed at this time", he thinks, and rolls over.

Then, a louder knock follows.

"Aren't you going to answer that?" says his wife.

So, Jim drags himself out of bed and goes downstairs.

He opens the door and there is man standing at the door.

It didn't take Jim long to realize the man was drunk.

"Hi there," slurs the stranger, "can you give me a push?"

"No, get lost, it's 3 AM. I was in bed sleeping," says Jim and slams the door.

He goes back up to bed and tells his wife what happened, and she says, "Jim, that

wasn't very nice of you. Remember that night we broke down in the pouring rain on the way to pick the kids up from the babysitter and you had to knock on that man's house to get us started again? What would have happened if he'd told us to get lost?"

"But the guy was drunk." says Jim.

"It doesn't matter." says his wife.

"He needs our help, and it would be the right thing to help him."

So, Jim gets out of bed again, gets dressed, and goes downstairs.

He opens the door, and not being able to see the stranger anywhere he shouts,

"Hey, do you still want a push?" and he hears a voice cry out "Yeah please."

So, still being unable to see the stranger, he shouts, "Where are you?"

And the stranger replies: "I'm over here, on your swings."....lol.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, May G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in his loving care. Amen.

Should you need an ear to listen, a shoulder to lean on, (or perhaps have some good humor to share, I know you have some good jokes, send a copy my way) please do not hesitate to give us a call. Available 24/7, all of us are listed in your FOP book. And don't forget to visit our website: www.chicagopcm.org

All our contact numbers are printed in your FOP books.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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