

Christmas Love

Edited, from a story about a state school "Christmas" program.

Because the state school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas," I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment - songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer. So, when my son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love," I was slightly taken aback by its bold title.

Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates. Those in the front row - center stage - held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class would sing "C is for Christmas," a child would hold up the letter C. Then, "H is for Happy," and on and on, until each child holding up his portion had presented the complete message, "Christmas Love."

The performance was going smoothly, until suddenly, we



noticed her; a small, quiet, girl in the front row **holding the letter**

"M" upside down - totally unaware her letter "M"

appeared as a "W". The children in the audience snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were

laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W".

Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and we all saw it together. A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, we understood the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, there was a purpose for our festivities.

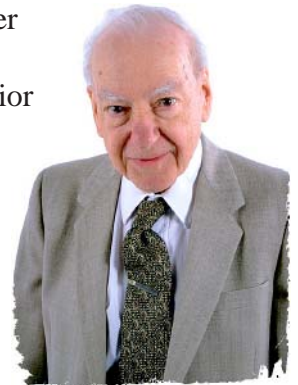
For when the last letter was held high, the message read loud and clear:

"CHRISTWAS LOVE"

And, I believe, He still is.

Hmmmm....

An old-timer was having fun at a senior citizen's seminar when the young moderator asked him what kind of plans he had for the future. The old man said, "Honey, at my age I don't even buy green bananas."



The grandson of Ruth Kirby told his mother that he had been baptized. Mum knew he hadn't been formally baptized, so she probed further into

the issue. She asked him to explain what he meant by "baptised." Little Blake then enlightened his mum, "Last night in the bathtub I put my face under the water and thought about Jesus."

The Golden Rule

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Matthew 7:12

How much trouble could be avoided if we as Christians did what the Lord Jesus Christ expects us to. For example, if we would consistently live by "the golden rule," our marriages, family life, and relationships at work and school would dramatically improve.

Firstly, we need to understand that IT IS A SIN for a Christian not to make an effort to live by "the golden rule." We should be thoroughly ashamed when we live for self.

Secondly, in order to live by this rule of love we must learn to see the other person's point of view, put ourselves into their shoes so to speak. We do not all see things alike, but all too often we expect others to think and feel as we do and then judge them when they don't. **It is blindly arrogant to think our opinion is always right.**

Some people like ice cream (a lot), others don't. Husband, if your wife likes ice cream - buy it for her. You don't have to like it, but you shouldn't think she's "silly" if she does. In fact, you should do more than humour her, you should agree that ice cream IS GOOD - for her.

We have a responsibility to LEARN to make allowances for the needs, feelings, and desires of others. All Christians are obligated to develop this kind of consideration, and the rewards will be well worth the effort.