

Sept. 4, 2011 “Your Daddy Is The Pilot”

With this being my last sermon as your Pastor; not my last sermon and hopefully not my last sermon with you, but simply my last as Pastor I have a story of a Pastor who had trouble with the Organist. Every time he would preach, the organist would play something contrary to the message. For instance, he would preach on tithing and the organist played “Jesus Paid it All.” He preached against gossip and the organist played “I Love To Tell The Story.” He became disgusted and threatened to quit. The organist played “Oh, Why Not Tonight?” Finally, he had enough and resigned. He told the congregation that Jesus had brought him there and now Jesus was taking him away. With that, the organist played, “What A Friend We Have In Jesus.” You never know what Carol might do today, so I thought having Praise and Promise was a wise choice.

There is a story of a Pastor on a flight back from a Conference. Things started to get rough on the flight and it was announced that everyone should get to their seats and buckle up. It got rougher and rougher, with the plane dropping and rolling. People were crying out, screaming, praying, and holding on. During it all, he noticed the little girl next to him calmly sitting in her seat playing with her doll. While others were in a panic, she was calm and cool. Finally, he leaned over and asked her why she could be so calm with things were so scary. She answered, “My Daddy is the Pilot and he’s taking me home.”

The message I have for all of us today is that we face a rough ride in life and as things get scary, remember that your Daddy is the Pilot and He’s taking you home. God, our heavenly Father, our Daddy, is always in control and He’s guiding each of us through this life until He takes us to our heavenly home. In Joshua 1:9 our loving God assures us “Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Let’s face it, the ride can get rough. God doesn’t promise smooth sailing, He only promises that He’ll get us through. We see rough weather all around in various forms. We look at the weather; earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, heat, or parched earth. We see war and tension all around in foreign lands and at home as we approach 9-11. Families struggle with illness; broken bones, Cancer, Alzheimer’s, heart troubles, and much more. We work harder for less money. The bills and the stress pile up for many of us in this economy. Families face Empty Nests, kids in trouble, and husbands and wives on totally different pages in life. Troubles come to us from others and we bring them upon ourselves.

Because God is Good – All The Time, He isn’t surprised by these troubles; that’s why He sent Jesus to die for us on the cross in the first place. God knew what we would face and that we would need the right aircraft to travel through it all. Instead of a Boeing 747, God sent Jesus with a John 316. As we ride on Jesus through faith, He will carry us through all the storms. He died and rose to win the victory over all storms that life can bring. As you ride on Jesus, with your heavenly Daddy as the Pilot, it won’t matter what Pastor sits next to you, you, you can always sing “What A Friend I Have In Jesus.”

amen...pastor matthews