

A Sign to a Hurting Child

In the early morning hours of Friday, Jan. 2, something happened that every parent fears.

A beautiful, 30-year-old woman, Meghan Snyder – the daughter of Life Care associate Cathy Lowe, a receptionist in the corporate offices – was struck and killed by a train at a railroad crossing in McDonald, Tennessee.

In addition to a grief-stricken mother, the accident victim left behind two sons, Tanner, age 6, and Austin, 5.

In the days following this tragedy, the 6-year-old, in going through his toy box, pulled out a statuette of a white-bearded figure dressed in a garment like a robe of the Middle East and wearing sandals.

He went running to his grandmother, holding up the statuette, to proclaim, “Look, Nana! I’ve found God. He’s gonna watch over Mommy!” He took the figure of the man and placed it beside a picture of his mother.

Later, Tanner asked his grandmother, “Can I talk to God?” She assured him he could.

“And can I talk to Mommy, too?”

“Yes,” she answered. “You can talk to Mommy, too.”

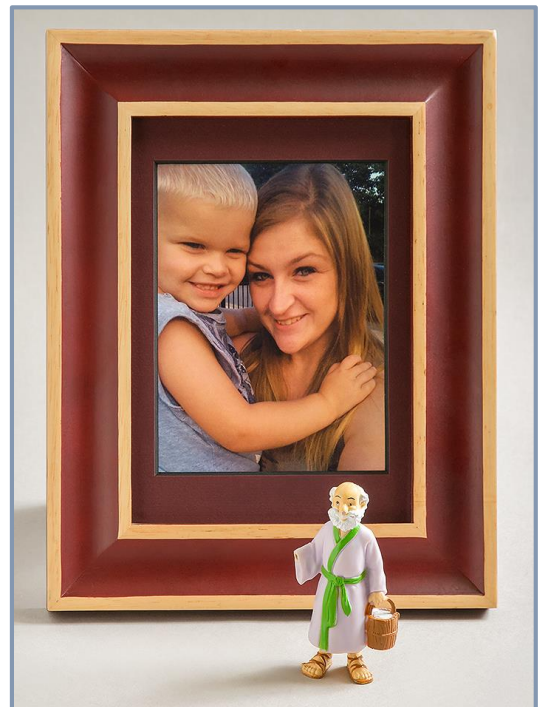
Nobody knows where this statuette came from; it was the first time anyone had seen it.

Obviously, God used this little boy to speak peace to his grandmother and others about where his mother had gone.

The insight in one so young is striking.

Burdened by the trauma that he had experienced, this youngster felt he could turn to God; that he could talk to God, and God would hear him. God could help him deal with his emotions.

Tanner also believed that God afforded him the way to yet connect with his mother.



(more)

Do we as adults have such childlike faith? Have we found God – committing our lives to Him as Lord and Savior? Do we truly believe that God loves us supremely and wants to converse with us, freely and often? Are we pursuing His presence in the bad times *and* the good?

I believe the heart of our Lord was touched by this child's proclamation and his questions.

Such a conclusion has affirmation in the 19th chapter of Matthew. Jesus was surrounded by great multitudes of people while He taught and healed the sick. Some little children were brought to Him that He might put his hands on them and heal them, but the disciples sought to keep them away.

“But Jesus, said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven,’” (Matthew 19:14 NKJV).

We can learn much from children.

– Beecher Hunter