

An Unexpected Blessing

Blessings can come at unexpected times in unexpected places.

Wednesday of this week was one of those times – at the Chick-fil-A restaurant in Cleveland, of all places.

That's one of the regular breakfast stops for me. It was about 7:20 a.m., and I stepped to the counter and ordered a meal of oatmeal and fruit. The cashier took the money, prepared for me that all-important requirement – a cup of coffee – and handed it to me. I found a table and waited for the meal to be delivered.

Shortly, a member of the wait staff – a young woman, probably a college student – brought it on a tray and set it on the table.

As she turned to walk away, the side of her hand inadvertently touched a corner of the tray, bumping it into the cup of coffee, spilling much of it on the table and a portion of the tray. She was unaware of what she had done, as she had already turned her back and was walking away.

I was left with trying to deal with all that coffee in unwanted places.

In the line of people waiting to order their food (about 5 or 6 feet from my table) were a father and his son, who was probably about 6 or 7 years old.

Witnessing what had just happened, the boy, without hesitation, went to a nearby stand, picked up a handful of napkins and walked up to me.

“Maybe these will help you, Sir!” he said, then smiled and returned to his father.

The napkins, of course, were exactly what I needed.

Such a demonstration of kindness – by this little boy – touched me deeply, for several reasons. This youngster:

- Showed a level of maturity beyond his years.
- Revealed, by his action, the training and example that he had received at home.
- Displayed a caring heart for others that will guide him for a lifetime.

I don't know what the future has in store for him, but there is reason to believe that it holds great promise.

(more)

Isn't it easy to see why Jesus loved children, and made time for them?



Chapter 19 in the Gospel of Matthew tells of an event when Jesus was in Judea beyond the Jordan River. Great crowds had followed Him, and He was healing them.

Little children were brought to Jesus that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked the children. What was Jesus' response?

“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

We adults can learn much from kids like that little boy in Chick-fil-A, who counted it joy to help a stranger.

– Beecher Hunter