

# Lesson from a kindergartener

Little Blake Rogers, a kindergartener, helps us understand the meaning of true friendship.

Max Lucado, one of my favorite authors and a minister, tells the story in his book, *You Changed My Life: Stories of Real People with Remarkable Hearts*.

Blake and a friend named Maura shared a kindergarten class. One day, she started humming. Her teacher appreciated the music, but told Maura to stop. It's not polite to hum in class, the teacher said.

But Maura couldn't. The song in her head demanded to be hummed.

After several warnings, the teacher took decisive action. She moved Maura's clothespin from the green spot on the chart to the dreaded blue spot. This meant trouble.

And this meant a troubled Maura. Everyone else's clothespin hung in the green. Maura was blue, all by herself.

Blake tried to help. He patted her on the back, made funny faces, and offered comforting words. But nothing worked. Maura still felt alone.

So Blake made the ultimate sacrifice. Making sure his teacher was watching, he began to hum.

The teacher warned him to stop. He didn't. She had no choice but to move his clothespin out of the green and into the blue.

Blake smiled, and Maura stopped crying. She had a friend, indeed.

How valuable are good friends? As we consider those who are dearest to us – and their actions that prove their love and loyalty – we quickly admit their worth is priceless.



In a simple way, Blake Rogers gives us an insight into Jesus' great act of grace. Described in the Bible as a friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24) – Jesus willingly went to the cross in our stead.

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work. If one falls down, his friend*

*can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!* (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10).