

Some 'Whoops' Moments

A young preacher had announced to his congregation that he was leaving the church to accept another call.

He was standing at the door after the service to greet the people, as preachers often do, when one of the elderly saints approached him.

Her eyes were swimming with tears as she said, "Oh, pastor, I'm so sorry you've decided to leave. Things will never be the same again."

The young man was flattered. Taking her hands in his, he replied with as much kindness as possible, "Bless you, dear sister, but I'm sure that God will send you a new pastor even better than I."

She choked back a sob as she said, "That's what they all say, but they keep getting worse and worse."



At another church, a woman was overheard telling her pastor after a worship service, "I'm deaf, and I hardly hear a word you preach, but I still come to get my plate full."

Hoping to console her, this pastor said, "Well, maybe you haven't missed much."

She replied: "Yes, that's what they all tell me."

That familiar adage, "think before you speak," is still the best way to fulfill the equally long-standing advice, "If you can't say something good, don't say anything at all."

That's what my mother told me, and my guess is that so did yours. And after all, mothers are always right.

He who restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding (Proverbs 17:27 NASB).

– Beecher Hunter