

Walking Toward the Farmhouse

A man was driving down a country lane late one night when a tire on his automobile blew out.



He opened his trunk only to discover he had forgotten to replace the jack the last time he had used it. He saw the light from a farmhouse in the distance and began walking toward it, hoping to borrow a jack.

On the way, he mused, "I'll knock on the door and say, 'I'm in trouble and would you please lend me a jack?' He'll say, 'Sure.'"

As he walked, however, he noticed that the light in the house had gone out. He thought to himself, "Now he's gone to bed and he'll be mad because I've awakened him. I'd better offer him a dollar for his trouble."

The motorist continued the imaginary conversation in his head as he walked. "What if he is away and his wife is alone? She'll be afraid to open the door. I'd better offer \$5."

That amount, however, seemed too high to him. "Five dollars! All right, but not a cent more. What are you trying to do, rob a man?"

By this time, he was on the porch of the farmhouse.

He knocked loudly. When the farmer in residence leaned out the upstairs window and asked, "Who's there?" the stranger yelled back at him, "You and your stupid jack! You can keep the wretched thing!"

Think about that story ...

Much of the struggle in life comes not from actual circumstances we encounter, but from our overactive imaginations.

I heard a senior citizen once say, as he reflected on his years, "I've suffered a great many catastrophes in my life. Most of them never happened."

Is that happening to you?

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7 KJV).

– Beecher Hunter