

He who has the Son has life; John 5:12

Today I Gave Blood

By Ron Williams, Huntsville, Alabama

For several years, I have been giving blood from time to time because I have O+ that is so needed in emergency situations. Usually, I give blood either at the American Red Cross center on Washington Street or at the Huntsville Hospital where I go to visit church members.

Because I was in Kenya, Africa, last year on a mission trip, I have been unable to give blood for one full year. Numerous times this past year I have been called to come and give blood only to have to tell them that I could not do so. Last Saturday, October 2, exactly one year had passed.

Today I gave blood. In doing so, it made me think about my blood compared to the blood which Jesus gave on the Cross of Calvary. Think with me for a moment:

» I gave about a pint of my blood--Jesus gave it all (in the sense of the total sacrifice of His body for our sins).

» My blood was hopefully without any major defects since it will be used for surgeries and such--Jesus' blood was pure and sinless and was used to atone for the sins of all the world.

» I sat in a nice comfortable chair in a quiet, air-conditioned building with the best equipment used to ensure sanitary conditions as my blood came out--Jesus' blood was shed on an old rugged cross in the stifling heat with sinful men shouting for Him to die.

» My blood came out of my arm via a needle--Jesus' blood came out of wounds spread over His body as He had been inhumanely beaten, whipped, and abused prior to being nailed on the cross!

» After I gave blood, I sat around eating a snack and drinking something to give me energy to go back to my work and normal activities--Jesus' blood was shed so that He died and His body was later taken down and placed in a borrowed grave.

» I plan to give blood again in the future so that others can benefit in a medical emergency--Jesus gave His blood ONE TIME to fulfill the needs of the entire world until He comes again!

Today I gave blood. Almost 2,000 years ago, my Savior gave His blood and the world has never been the same since. I wish all my friends could appreciate the difference His sacrifice can make in their lives!

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. (Ephesians 1:7).

Sign up today to give a pint of your blood and know that it will help a few. While giving, remember that Jesus' blood saves us all.



A Skunk in my Basement

A little old lady called the police station begging for help. "I've got a skunk in my basement!" As a solution, the policeman told her to crumble up some bread and make a trail of the crumbs up the stairs, through the house, and out the door. The policeman then instructed her to leave the house for an hour.



An hour later the lady called the police again. "I need help!" The same policeman asked her, "Maam, did you crumble up some bread, make a trail up the stairs, through the house, and out the door?" "Yes," she replied. The policeman asked, "Then, what is the problem?" The lady cried out, "I now have TWO skunks in my house!"

Problems are inevitable. But as sure as we may experience problems, and as sure as they might multiply, there is a God who will inevitably see us through. He is our Rock and Deliverer (2 Samuel 22:2). We can know assuredly that when we face problems—or the multiplication of problems—God will take care of us. Be patient, be positive, and have faith in Almighty God!

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" —Romans 8:28

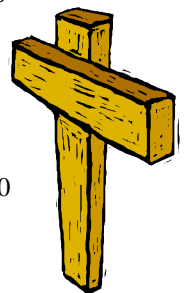
My Stomach Hurts

A little girl went up to her mother one day while holding her stomach saying, "Mommy, my stomach hurts." Her mother replied, "That's because it's empty. You have to put something into it!" She then prepared a bowl of soup.

Later that day the preacher and his wife came over for dinner. The preacher began to feel bad. Holding his head he said, "I have such a terrible headache!" The little girl looked up at him, giving him a sweet smile, and said, "That's because it's empty. You have to put something into it!" —CleanLaugh List

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING MAN

God's Grace	- Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	- Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	- Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	- Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	- Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	- Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	- 1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	- James 2:24
Christian's Hope	- Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	- Revelation 2:10



Neighborly News

We're So Blessed



- If you own just one Bible, you are abundantly blessed. 1/3 of the world does not have access to even one.
 - If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive the week.
 - If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people around the world.
 - If you attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest or torture of death, you are more blessed than almost three billion people in the world..
- If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.
 - If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace, you are among the top 8% of the worlds wealthy.
 - If your parents are still married and alive, you are very rare, even in the United States.
 - If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.
 - If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer God's healing touch.
 - If you prayed yesterday and today, you are in the minority because you believe in God's willingness to hear and answer prayer.
 - If you believe in Jesus as the Son of God, you are part of a very small minority in the world.
 - If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot read anything at all.

Be thankful to the Lord!

“Be ye thankful . . .” –Colossians 3:15

