Berry Chapel Baptist Church

By Steve Williams
Mitchell County

I hear the story of a little girl who asked her mom, "is Jesus a rose?" Not really, she answered," "Why?" Because explained the little girl," I heard them singing in Sunday School he's a rose." No corrected the mother, "You heard them sing He Arose."

Here we are entering into the Easter Season, and what an exciting season it is, or at least it is for me. This is a time when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was Jesus Christ who died for our sins just as the Bible said He would, and He was buried, but He is not a coffined Christ, but He is a Living Christ, He was buried but Thank God He Arose.

Since death was not able to keep a hold of Him Christ has the victory and the assurance that He is with us. He is with us in every time of confusion to guide us, in every time of sorrow to comfort us, in every time of temptation to strengthen us, and in every time of loneliness to befriend us. The same forgiving voice that said to the sinful woman, "Go and sin no more," speaks forgiveness to us today. The same strong voice that said to the storm, "Peace be still," will calm the storms in our lives today. The same loving voice that said to the repentant thief, "today shalt thou be with Me in paradise," will call all who believe in Him home to be with Him in heaven forever more. AREN'T YOU GLAD HE AROSE?

Words of Wisdom:

- Listen you'll Learn Something
- The man who gets ahead is the man who does more than necessary and keeps doing it.
- The man who walks close to God leaves no room for the devil to come between.
- A rumor is like a check, never endorse it until you're sure it's genuine.
- Only you can damage your character.
- An atheist can't find Christ for the same reason a thief can't find a policeman.
- A handful of common sense is worth a bushel of learning.

Question of the Month:

Wouldn't you rather be patient on the highway than be a patient in the hospital?

The True Meaning of Success:

- Coming together is a Beginning.
- Keeping together is a Process.
- Working together is Success. Henry Ford

What is Palm Sunday?

The last Sunday before Easter is called Palm Sunday. It's the beginning of Holy Week. The service on Palm Sunday honors our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. On this day our Lord rode a young donkey and the people took palm branches and went before Him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

What is Good Friday?

It is the last Friday before Easter. It was on this day that Christ died for all our sins. It is called "good" because of the atoning sacrifice of our Lord, for He bore our sins in His own body on the cross of Calvary.

Which One Of These Persons Are You:

There are three kinds of people in the world: the wills, the wants, and the cant's

The wills do everything. The won'ts hinder everything, The can'ts fail in everything.

Which kind of person are you?

Steve Williams is the Pastor of Berry Chapel Baptist Church in Spruce Pine.

Anne Ministries

Beauty for Ashes

By Christy Ogburn
Avery County

One woman's story…..I have been on a long journey of guilt, regret, and grief since my abortion at 17 years old. I did marry my baby's father later and God has blessed us with children and grandchildren. I know that God brought Anne Ministries into my life. God has used His written word, Chastity's testimony, and the Bible study "Forgiven and Set Free" to help me start healing. I know God has forgiven me, and I must forgive myself. It's ok to grieve for my baby. I know my journey of healing is not over but I have my God to help me until He places my baby, Sawyer, in my arms one day.

This testimony is from one of our post-abortive mothers that has been through the Bible study "Forgiven and Set Free" and attends our Beauty for Ashes Support Group that meets monthly at the ministry. The month of April is Abortion Recovery Awareness Month. We want to encourage and extend God's healing grace to those hurting from abortion. Abortion affects both men and women. Statistics tell us that one in four women will have had an abortion by the age of 45. Worldwide, there are 125,000 abortions per day. With these statistics it is very likely you know at least one person affected by abortion. You may even be the person affected. Many are suffering silently. They need to know God forgives the sin of abortion. They can forgive themselves and accept God's gift of forgiveness and healing in their life.

Anne Ministries offers a safe and confidential place for God's healing to take place in the lives of those that have suffered from a past abortion. The ministry offers one on one support and group support for both women and men. The ministry is committed to helping those that are hurting from a past abortion to find hope and healing through Jesus Christ.

Our Post Abortion Support Group has recently named the group "Beauty for Ashes". It has been such a blessing to be a part of this beautiful group of ladies. I have been able to witness God taking what was ashes and now seeing God bring so much beauty into the lives of these precious women.

A beautiful verse and promise of what Christ will do for those that are hurting are found in Isaiah 61:3, "*To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified."*

If you or someone you know is hurting from a past abortion reach out to Anne Ministries. Contact Chastity at 828-742-1973 or email anneministries@gmail.com to find out more about abortion recovery and receive the support you need to start on the path to healing.

Chastity Anne Ogburn is a follower of Jesus Christ. She is the founder and director of Anne Ministries offering pregnancy support and recovery services in Avery County. She is the author of "His Grace Covers All", a memoir inspired by God. Chastity and her husband Jay attend Emmanuel Baptist Church in Newland. They have six children and two grandsons. For more information or to contact Chastity visit anneministries.com or email anneministries@gmail.com

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