

# the Proclaimer

May 2017

Volume 30 Issue 5



**Inside this issue:**

The Pastor's Heart Reflections	2
Srs. & Friends: Potluck	3
Srs. & Friends: Knott's	3
Family Air Fair	3
VBS Coming Soon	3
We Get Mail	3
H.S. Events	4
Message from Ann	4
Summer Camps	4
Singles' Ministry	5
TFB Academy	5
Calendar	6
Just for Kids	7
Kids Night Out	7
Care Bags for Moms	7
TFB Global Outreach	8
Reflections (cont.)	9
More Mail	9
Tithes & Offerings	9
Bereavement	9
Prayer Requests	9
Smile Awhile	10



Ladies, we will be carpooling to Thousand Pines for our retreat on Friday, May 5, and will return on Sunday, May 7. We still have room for more, so if you have not yet signed up and would like to go, please contact Ann Pursche as soon as possible. Scholarships are available.



Celebrate moms for the amazing job they do ~ invite girlfriends, sisters, aunts, grandmas & moms to an old-fashioned Spring Tea with hors d'oeuvres. The cost is \$8 per person. Sign up in the patio.

If you'd like to be a Table Hostess and decorate one of the tables with your own china as place settings, please contact Karla Gaines.

*Proclaimers* are also available for viewing and printing on-line: [www.tfbclife.org](http://www.tfbclife.org)

# From the Pastor's Heart



While at our Tenebrae experience on Friday night, April 14, I was sitting in the sanctuary alone praying. During this time of reflecting on and thanking God for the incredible sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, my mind kept thinking of a passage in the Old Testament book of Ezekiel. The passage, recorded in chapter 37, is the vision Ezekiel had of a valley full of dry bones . After about thirty minutes of my mind frequently

coming back to this passage, I turned to that passage reading it with the question: what might God be wanting to teach me?

While reading the text, my mind turned to the possible dry bones in my life—the areas of my life where there is little or no life of God present. Some of my dry bones could be when I lack the desire to spend time in prayer or time in God’s Word. It could be when I am not motivated to share my faith with people in my life who are far from God. It could be when I am unwilling to forgive someone for a wrong they have committed against me. It could be when I place my own desires over serving others. It could be when I ignore what I know God wants me to do. It could be.....! I discovered the list could be long.

The good news of the Ezekiel dry bones vision is the clear message God was giving

Ezekiel—that He had not forgotten the Jews. Even though they currently were in captivity living in Babylon, God would once again breathe His life into them, and they would come alive in Him. A key concept God tells Ezekiel right before the vision is this:

*“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees...”*

(Ezekiel 36:26-27, NIV).

So my question for you is this: What might be the dry bone areas in your life? Where might you need God to breathe his life into you?

Worshiping and serving together,  
Pastor Charlie

## Reflections

by Pastor Rog



Dear Family,

We live in a tumultuous world. There are many situations in life which we don’t understand, and we are bothered by this.

We like to know where we’re headed and how we’re going to get to our destination. Surprises not only catch us off-guard, they alarm us. What are we to do? Well, we can do what Abram did in Genesis 12:1-9. He placed his faith in God. (Read those verses now.)

I’ve tried to put myself in Abram’s “shoes” when reading this passage. The Lord was asking him to leave everything that was familiar to him: his family, surroundings, all the comforts of home. This was huge. But along with this, no physical road map

was placed in his hands whereby he could “double check” how he was doing.

Wow! With all the “unknowns” which were out there, why would he even venture out on such a project? Simply stated, he believed that the Lord Who called him to such a venture would lead him in this venture. Abram fleshes out the truth in Hebrews 11:6 which says:

*“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him” (NKJV).*

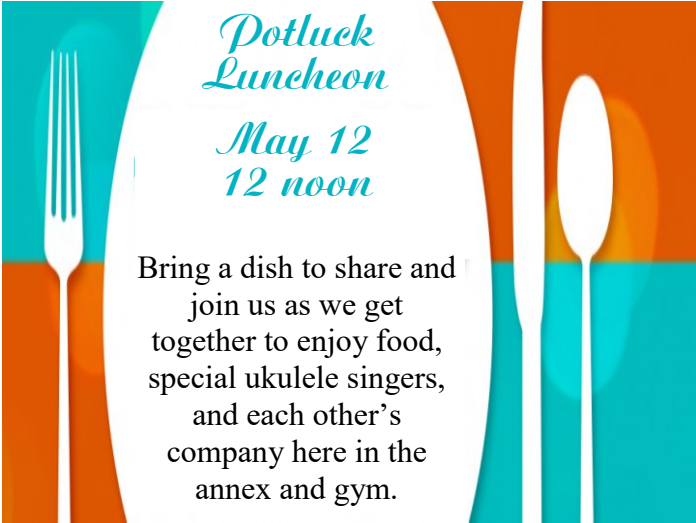
Abram, whose name was changed to Abraham, is listed in

the roll call of faith in Hebrews 11. Along with Abel, Noah, Jacob and Moses, his life was pleasing to the Lord because he dared to rest his life in God’s Hands.

Why? Because he realized that the Lord knew all the twists and turns he would encounter along the way, therefore he could trust Him. Verse 8 says:

*“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and*

## *Seniors & Friends Events*



*Potluck Luncheon*

*May 12*  
*12 noon*

Bring a dish to share and join us as we get together to enjoy food, special ukulele singers, and each other's company here in the annex and gym.



*Friday, May 19 - 2:30 p.m.*

We will leave by church bus for shopping and a chicken dinner at Knott's Berry Farm. The cost is \$3 plus dinner and any other purchases.

Sign up in the patio or call Becky Brunckhorst with questions regarding either of these events.



*Family Air Fair*  
*Sunday, May 21 - 2-5 p.m.*

This family event will be held in the Gym/Annex. Buy a kit to make your own rubber band-powered airplane and race against other planes.

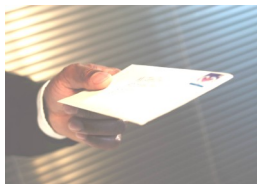
See Dave Fleming to buy your kit for \$4 and get the dates when he will be giving instructions and showing how to build them.

On that Sunday, there will be food available to purchase.



*Getting Ready for VBS*

Our Vacation Bible School this year will be held **July 24-July 28** from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** We are looking for leaders and helpers. If interested, contact Karla Gaines. Our first Training Session will be held at **12:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 28.**



*We Get Mail*

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone for the cards and flowers and for the outpouring of love and concern in my mom's passing. I was very overwhelmed to see how many people attended the funeral and loved her like my family did. She was a huge blessing in my life as is our church family.

Love, Terri Mullin

Dear Charlie Rice, Rog Hosier, and all members of Torrance First Baptist Church,

Jon, Brandon, Gavin, and I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the generous cash donation that you gifted to our family. We were overwhelmed when Mike and Margie presented it to us.

It has been a long year for our family and we continue to fight this battle [with cancer]. We have had some setbacks but God is great and I believe He will heal my body and provide for us in times of need—just like He did by putting Margie Sweetland into my life, and she in turn put your church into our life. And when I'm healed and back to work, our family will help someone who also is in need.

Our faith grows stronger every day as we continue to give it to God and lean on Him through the good times and bad.

Thank you doesn't seem like enough, but we truly are thankful.

Our and blessings to you all,  
Jon, Nikki, Brandon & Gavin Willits



## Events



& BBQ : Tuesday, May 9 - 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 16  
7 p.m.  
Special Speaker

Corban Lambert, Youth Pastor  
from Hacienda Heights , will  
be sharing with us.



## A Message from Ann

As I write this month’s Proclaimer article, we have now concluded our 10-week journey through *Rooted*. The emphases of the final weeks were on making the most of your life through serving Christ and also on sharing our story of faith with others. While these subjects can be the most challenging to us as Christians because it causes us to move outside our comfort zone to serve or share Christ with others, they can also be the most rewarding. We remember that none us are followers of Christ without someone sharing their story and being willing to serve us in the name of Christ.

As we reflected on our entire *Rooted* experience, we were able to affirm what God has done in each of our lives. A few of them have just started or are just beginning to walk with Christ; others have learned what it means to go deeper in fellowship with Jesus. All were glad that they had been a part of the group and are committed to continuing to meet. Regardless, of where we started, we can praise God for the fruit He has produced in our group.

Speaking of fruit, I’m finishing up our *Fruit of the Spirit* teaching in Sunday School this week before we start on the *End of the World* series. On Tuesday nights, I have been doing a short series on *Overcoming Temptation* with other topics and speakers filling in as the needs arise.

I mentioned in last month’s article that one of students was going to be teaching on what it means to trust God with your life. Thank you for your prayers for her – she did wonderfully for her first time teaching and felt that the Lord was using her to speak to the rest of the group.

With the month of May rolling in, we are coming to the end of the school year in June. Pray that the students finish the semester well and don’t become too overwhelmed. Summer is right around the corner!

Ann (Interim High School Leader)



## Summer Camp Schedule

Juniors Lightseeker’s Summer camp: June 26-30 @ Mile High Pines, \$300

Jr. High Summer Camp: July 2-7 @ Thousand Pines, \$369

High School Camp: July 9-14 @ Thousand Pines, \$369

Theme for both Jr. High and High School:

*Inconceivable, A timeless Tale of Undying Love*



Sign up in the patio with a \$50 deposit.



## *Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship*

*Please invite your single friends.*



**Dinner Night ~ Saturday, May 13, 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Veggie Grill, 2533 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance (in Rolling Hills Plaza).



**Game Night ~ Saturday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m.**  
Meet at Gloria Pedersen's home, 817 Amapola Avenue in Old Towne Torrance. Bring snacks to share.



For additional questions, suggestions, or more information, call Gloria, 562/505-4495.

### **TFB Academy**

### *"Jesus Is Lord"*

By Laura K. Springer, M.Div., Th.M.

We remember the outrageous demand made by the disciple we call Doubting Thomas (John 20:24-29): "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe" (v. 25). But when we read the context of this verse, we get a different picture, for, in the end, he is not Doubting, but Worshiping and Believing Thomas.

The same Thomas who made that outrageous demand also made an audacious proclamation: "My Lord and my God!" In response, Jesus acknowledges his belief: "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (v. 29). This one who had been dead stood before him and issued a challenge: carry out your outrageous demand; put your fingers in the holes. He saw Jesus and knew Jesus as Lord.

Philippians 2 tells us that the Father exalted this Jesus and gave him the highest name. This one who is the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53 is the Sovereign Lord of Revelation 19. He is Lord of all, and this name, Lord, describes both character and function. Lord is the sort of person that Jesus is. Lord is also what Jesus does: everything is subject to him, and every part of reality is his concern. Before him, every knee will bow, whether that bowing is the heart's deepest desire or greatest repulsion.

The Nicene Creed declares that Jesus is very God of very God from eternity. He is eternally divine, but his resurrection, ascension, and enthronement clearly proclaim his lordship. And we finally see. Before this one every knee bows. Before this one we, his people, worship.

As those redeemed by his blood and made alive by his life, Christians are called to live a life centered on him. Every moment can be filled with proclamation, and every act can be worship. Our audacious proclamation, made through word, action, and attitude, is that Jesus is Lord of everything and everyone.

*"As those redeemed by his blood and made alive by his life, Christians are called to live a life centered on him."*

**Recurring Weekly Events:**

**Sunday**

**Worship Services:**

9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
 Adult Sunday School, 9:15 & 11 a.m.  
 Children's Church, 9:15 a.m.  
 Patio Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.  
 Children & Youth S.S., 11 a.m.  
 New Covenant Children's S.S., 11 a.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Worship, 12:45 p.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.  
 NeXus (Young Adult/College), 7 p.m.

**Monday**

Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m.  
 King's Family Karate, 6:30 p.m.

**[except 5/29]**

**Tuesday**

Classical Conversations, 8 a.m.  
 High School Rooted, 5:30 p.m.  
 High School Revive, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Family Dinner, 6 p.m.  
 Colossians Kids, 6:45 p.m.  
 Jr. High QUEST, 6:45 p.m.

“Crazy Love” Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.  
 Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

New Covenant (Korean) Bible Study, 8 p.m.  
 Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday**

Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.

**Friday**

Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.

**Saturday**

New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	11a Loaves & Fishes
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2p Sing @ Royalwood Women back from Rereat	7p Finance & FacMan Teams	6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Meeting	7p Beacon Light Mission	12n Senior Potluck Luncheon	7p Young Marrieds	2p Ladies' Tea 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
14 Mother's Day 5:20p Prayer Time	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
2p Colossians Kids Air Fair 6p HS Movie Nite	7p Sing @ Royalwood Women back from Rereat	6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Meeting	7p Beacon Light Mission	12n Senior Potluck Luncheon	7p Young Marrieds	6:30p Singles' Game Night
28	29	30	31			
12:30p VBS Training 5:20p Prayer Gathering	7p Finance & FacMan Teams	6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Meeting	7p Beacon Light Mission	12n Senior Potluck Luncheon	7p Young Marrieds	6:30p Singles' Game Night

**Upcoming June Events**

- 6/3 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11a
- 6/4 ~ Sunday Brunch, 10:30a
- 6/9 ~ Women's Ministries Dinner & Movie, 6p
- 6/10 ~ Singles' Dinner Out, 6:30p
- 6/11 ~ High School Movie Night, 6p
- 6/16 ~ Kids' Night Out (Date Night), 6p
- 6/17 ~ Hills' 50th Anniversary Party, 12n
- 6/24 ~ Singles' Game Night, 6:30p
- 6/26-30 ~ Colossians Kids' Summer Camp
- 6/27 ~ Srs. & Friends to Tanaka Farms, 9a



**2017**



### "A Time to Plant..."

The spring of the year is time to plant gardens or tend to other plants. The list below contains the names of plants that grew in Bible times. How many do you recognize? Circle the names from the list. They may be found → ← ↓ ↑ ↘ . There will be 13 letters uncircled. Write them in the spaces below.

- |                    |             |                |                |           |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| myrrh              | aloes       | cassia         | mint           | dill      |
| lentil             | apple trees | crocus         | barley         | cucumbers |
| balsam trees       | melons      | leeks          | onions         | garlic    |
| oak trees          | wheat       | figs           | mustard        | grain     |
| pomegranates       | olive trees | beans          | millet         | cane      |
| almonds            | cinnamon    | pistachio nuts | rose of Sharon |           |
| lily of the valley |             |                |                |           |

P L E N T I L M C C J E B S U  
 I O G R A I N I I U B E A N S  
 S A M I N T E L N C D A L S U  
 T P Y E S B N L N U R L S S C  
 A P R M G A A E A M A M A E O  
 C L R E A R C T M B T O M E R  
 H E H L R L A L O E S N T R C  
 I T S O L E S N N R U D R T O  
 O R N N I Y S N A S M S E E F  
 N E O S C D I L L T O F E V I  
 U E I W H E A T L E E K S I G  
 T S N G O A K T R E E S O L S  
 S R O S E O F S H A R O N O D  
 L I L Y O F T H E V A L L E Y

Who is the "Master Gardener"?

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus, Son of God



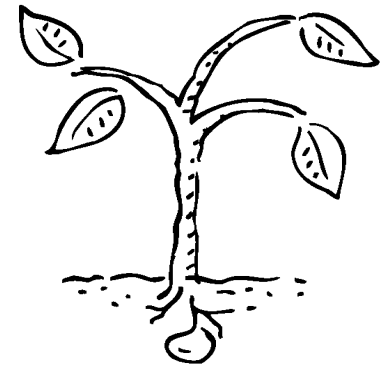
#### You will need:

- ✂ seeds from a grapefruit, orange, lemon or tangerine
- ✂ a flower pot
- ✂ soil

#### How to:

Soak the seeds in water overnight.  
 Fill the flower pot with soil.  
 Plant 3 or 4 seeds about half an inch deep.  
 Keep soil moist. Water once or twice a week.  
 Keep pot in a warm, bright place.

*The seedlings will sprout in about 8 weeks. Leave only the strongest plant in the pot. It will grow into a little tree with dark, shiny leaves.*



### Care Bags for Needy Moms

We are collecting baby items for Love INC and the Pregnancy Help Center to give to mothers in need.

They would like to give out bags with some of the following items: diapers, baby wipes, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrush, pacifier, Ivory bar soap, Desitin, lotion, wash cloths, baby socks, baby blanket, Onesie.

If you feel led to supply any of the items listed, please bring them to the church office by **May 4**.

Friday, May 19, 6-9 p.m.



a.k.a **Parents' Date Night**

Kids (infants through 5th grade) will have dinner and a movie, while the parents get an evening to themselves. This is a once-a-month event on the 3rd Friday of each month for only \$3 per child.



## *TFB Global Outreach*

# *From the Guptas of the Hindustan Bible Institute ~ Recap of 2016*

The year 2016 began with efforts to serve the millions of people in our city who were affected by the flood...what a privilege to serve God and people!

In April, I (Bobby) was diagnosed with a case of severe sepsis, was hospitalized, and still am slowly recovering. Praise God, He is healing me and I am able to serve again.

*Linnett:* Along with supporting the passion and burden of discipling the nation, continues to work with women and children. A group of women come faithfully to study the Word, fellowship, pray and serve together to touch lives. The special dynamic is that some are from different faith backgrounds, and they sincerely shine God's light to their non-believing relatives and friends....

*Mythraie:* Our daughter sensed the Lord moving her overseas. She currently serves at a community centre in Spain. She and her team primarily serve immigrants from N. Africa...she is learning Spanish and adapting to a new culture. Linnet and I were glad to spend a week with her...and got a glimpse of her life.

*Sushil* did a splendid job serving the Lord through HBI Global Partners as its National Director. God has used him in many ways to connect with partner churches and new churches to mobilize them for world missions...one exciting thing is that he is taking HBI Global Partner's "beyond India." The countries of Nepal, Indonesia, China, Singapore and Philippines appear to be great potential.... He is trusting God for support.

*Deepak* had a huge transitioning. After working with UPS for 14 years, he moved to work with Michelin Tires... He spent two weeks with us in India and he has a huge heart to help the children. He not only supports the mission, this year he put a big smile on the faces of our [orphanage] children in getting them a set of new clothes. He certainly has the gift of mercy and a servant heart.

*On the Mission Field: from Effectiveness to Excellence and the Beyond*

We were able to see the hand of God extend our territories as new doors opened during 2016. God opened the door for us to enter into Moreh in **Manipur**. Moreh is projected to be a smart city. It is bordering the country Myanmar, the gateway to Asia! God has helped us identify and buy land to build another regional training center.

In 2016 a door was opened for me to minister for new networks in **China**. I met with a group of 32 house church leaders who represented a little over 100 churches from 6 provinces of China. I was able to give them a vision for discipling the nation with an example of what is happening in India. I also taught them the Discovery Bible study method and the response was incredible. They could not stop interacting with each other and saw the simplicity of the process and agreed that this method can be followed by anyone in the church.

God has opened the door in **Nepal** through the earthquake relief and rehabilitation work. The Leaders' Conference we had in August led us to prayerfully consider working in Nepal towards discipling the whole nation to Christ by equipping indigenous leaders for church planting and church mobilization. God enabled us to identify 5 leaders who will form the "HBI Nepal" Team with a vision to see that there is a discipling church in every village of the nation, a training center in every district, a Bible College in every state and every Christian family in Nepal releasing at least one child for the mission of God.

My visit to **Indonesia** was to be part of a Higher Education Conference in June of 2016. It really opened up several doors to connect with various universities to consider partnering. One way we would like to partner with them is sending some of our young ladies and men from HBI Children's ministry to be trained through a dual degree program that offers an Arts Degree and a Teacher's Training in 4 years. The students who are training through this dual degree program will commit to come back and serve as teachers in our Christian Day School in India.

We want to thank you soooo very much for your valuable prayers, encouragement, support and partnership. We truly value your friendship, love and care. We appreciate your investment in our lives and ministry. Praying for you and may the Lord bless you!

Your servants in the mission, the Guptas

We'd love to hear from you:  
bobbygupta214@aol.com

linnetgc7@gmail.com



Mythraie, Sushil, Linnet, Bobby & Deepak



# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

went, even though he did not know where he was going” (NKJV).

Yes, Abraham obeyed God. Have you noticed that obeying God presents us with a choice? After seeking His will in a matter, we can either obey what He reveals to us OR do what seems best to us. My prayer here is, “Dear Lord, help me to obey You rather than following what seems right to me!”

Obeying God’s leading in our lives also has a practical application for us. It delivers us from *worry*. You see, if God knows what is best for us, which He does, He will get us from point A to point B as we continue to follow His leading. Proverbs 3:5-6 says:

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (NKJV).*

I have a confession to make: “I’m descended from a long line of worriers, and this has caused unrest in my life.” More and more, by God’s grace, I’m learning that our Lord can be fully depended upon in every situation of life. Praise Him!

My friends, as you seek God’s guidance for your life, please remember how *faithful* He is to His children and His promises. He was absolutely faithful to Abraham, and He will be absolutely faithful to you.

Rejoicing in our wonderful Savior,  
Pastor Rog



## More Mail

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to help us celebrate our baby girl! We feel so blessed by the outpouring of love from our community here at TFB.

Love,  
The Landen Family  
Elijah, Bethany, Shiloh, and Baby Judah

## TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately  
\$51,089 in the month of March.



Please pray for the following families who have recently lost loved ones:

Doug Luden, TFB member and beloved husband of Janet, is now with the Lord;



Lyle Smith, beloved husband of Irva and TFB member, is also with his Savior;

Bob Andrew lost his sister, Rae King;

Gloria Pedersen’s Aunt Denney is with the Lord;

Anita Johnson lost her brother, Taylor Wood; and

The sister of Gregg Kellogg and Jill Carnine, Sharlene Sutton, passed away.



Please pray for the following from our church family who have on-going needs:

Michael Banfield, Loretta Barnett, Reba Belcher, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Mary Larsen, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Ralph Norsworthy, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Connie Reimer, Barbara Rudé, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, and Gertie Wissinger.



Smile  
While



## *Mind Your Manners*

During the H1N1 flu epidemic, a mother took her 4-year-old daughter to get a shot. When the child saw the needle, she was frightened and began to protest loudly.

Finally, the mother had a firm talk with her daughter. “Calm down!” she commanded. “You have to have the shot. It’s very important for your health. So settle down and be polite.” Then the mother nodded to the nurse to proceed.

The nurse sweetly asked, “Are you ready now for your shot?”

The child’s answer was certainly truthful—polite.

“No, thank you,” she said.

*“A Merry heart does good, like medicine” (Proverbs 17:22, NKJV).*