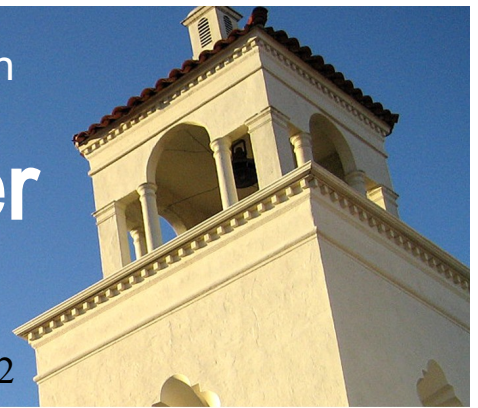


# the Proclaimer

February 2015

Volume 28 Issue 2



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**Kids' Night Out**  
 (also known as  
**Parents' Date Night!**)  
 Friday, February 20, 6-9 p.m.

Kids (infants through 5th grade) will have dinner and a movie, while the parents get an evening to themselves (after viewing a brief couples' devotional video, if you'd like). We are planning to have this once a month on the 3rd Friday of each month.



*"Love & Chocolate"*  
 February 21  
 5:30 p.m.

We are having a "comfort food" potluck. Please bring a side, salad or dessert.

After we eat, we will show the classic movie "Imitation of Life" starring Claudette Colbert and Louise Beavers. It is a story of two single women—one black, one white—and their friendship and the love they have for their daughters. They experience sacrifice, hardship, success and heartbreak. Bring tissues—you'll need 'em.

**Sign up at the Women's Ministries Table  
 in the patio.**



# From the Pastor's Heart



You have heard the phrase, “Nothing is sure in life except death and taxes.” However, my experience tells me we could add one more to that phrase and that is change. Whether we are in school, raising a family, looking for that next promotion, being a grandparent,

or retired; life always has elements of change which require from us the ability to adjust and be flexible. We certainly have needed the ability to adjust and be flexible with all the staffing changes this past year here at TFB. I think maybe God built change into the design of life so that we would be constantly challenged to trust and depend upon Him in all areas of our life.

Awhile back I read an article that talked about how for change in our lives and our church to be God-honoring and God-directed it needs to flow from our heart and attitude of spiritual and relational vitality. God’s number one commandment is described in two parts in

Matthew 22. A simple paraphrase would be: “to love God totally and to love others.” When we have a deep growing love relationship with God, we will be people of spiritual passion and vitality. When we reach out and care for one another in word and action, we become people of relational vitality.

Since change is a built-in part of life, our call is to handle change in a godly way by being people who are passionate and excited to love God and care for each other. In this context, the changes that God brings we will be able to embrace as we build His kingdom in this place.

Serving Christ together,  
Pastor Charlie

## Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

The longer I walk this life of discipleship with the Lord Jesus Christ, the more I become aware of His abundant mercy and grace. Mercy and grace are two of the great pillars of biblical teaching. Sadly, many people don’t know of our wonderful God and His love for us. Both the Old and New Testaments proclaim the absolute greatness of our wonderful God. For example, see what the Old Testament prophet, Micah, says to us:

*“Who is a God like You,  
Who pardons sin and  
forgives the transgressions  
of the remnant of His  
inheritance? You do not  
stay angry forever but  
delight to show mercy”  
(Micah 7:18, NIV).*

Micah was a powerful witness for Almighty God. He prophesied God’s Word to the Southern Kingdom of Judah sometime between 750 and 686 B.C. During this time, Judah experienced affluence and material prosperity but in the process became self-absorbed and spiritually complacent. Love for God waned and in the process, love for those less fortunate diminished as well. People were in great need, but those in power didn’t care. The nation was losing contact with the Lord their God. This walking away from God would lead to Judah’s destruction. Micah prophesied Judah’s destruction and exile by the Babylonians (586 B.C.).



Beyond that, however, he saw a future restoration for a remnant of the people (539 B.C.). Those returning would be dealing with great heartaches and wondering if God would once again be merciful to them. He would, and Micah 7:18 proclaims this awesome truth. In verse 18, we find the word PARDON. The Hebrew word for pardon means to “lift up, or to relieve a burden.” Let’s face

2014

# GIVING STATEMENTS

The IRS requires that end-of-the-year donation statements be sent out only for total donations of \$250 or greater for the year.

If you did not receive a statement for your donations by January 31, and you wish to have a copy, please contact the church office. We will gladly provide one for you.

Senior Luncheon

Friday  
February 20  
12 noon



All are invited to attend a catered "Friendship" Luncheon as we gather to enjoy each other's company. This is a fundraiser for our Seniors' Ministries Program, and we are asking \$8 per person.



## 2015 Flower Calendar



Our Flower Calendar for 2015 has several dates still available. If you would like to celebrate a special event in your life or honor a loved one, please call the church office to reserve your preferred date. The cost is \$50 per arrangement — one sign-up per date, please. Payment may be made any time before your chosen date. The following dates are still open:

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| March 8 & 15      | September 27            |
| May 31            | October 18              |
| July 12 & 19      | November 8, 15, 22 & 29 |
| August 2, 16 & 30 | December 20 & 27        |



## Singers Wanted for New Contemporary Vocal Group

To join the group, come to practice on the **1st & 3rd Thursdays** of each month, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Worship Center. Sing at the 9:15 a.m. service on the last Sunday of each month.



## LOAVES & FISHES

### Update

We are in need of someone to help set up tables and chairs for the first Saturday of each month. They can either be set up on Friday evening or on Saturday morning by 10 a.m.

Please call Linda Stratton, 310/328-5371, if you can help.

## Quilts of Many Colors

*invites you to join the sewing group on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1551 El Prado, in Torrance.*

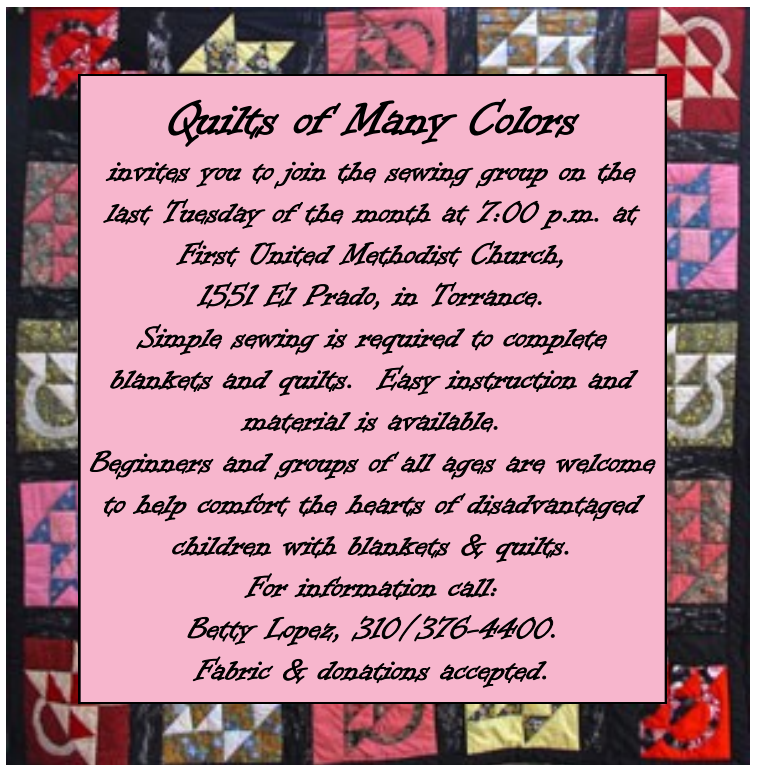
*Simple sewing is required to complete blankets and quilts. Easy instruction and material is available.*

*Beginners and groups of all ages are welcome to help comfort the hearts of disadvantaged children with blankets & quilts.*

*For information call:*

*Betty Lopez, 310/376-4400.*

*Fabric & donations accepted.*





It's very easy to think that youth ministry can be a formula, where putting in hard work and solid programs will yield immediate and tangible results. However, Jesus modeled a relationally-based discipleship that brings long-term spiritual fruit based on growth only God can give. Please pray for the youth this month as we continue discussing tough issues in our Truth and Love series, and as we work on developing unity through grace and love for each one.

Daniel Marion

Friday  
February 6  
7 p.m. **FREE!**



*High School Camp  
February 13-16*

Join us for a winter weekend getaway. Half-way through the school year, students are desperate for a little respite. Thousand Pines winter camps treat your students to a high-energy weekend filled with exciting recreation, challenging speakers, and a chance to reconnect with the Lord. Each year, our staff puts together a relevant theme that addresses the personal challenges and needs of your students and the kingdom at large. We work closely with our guest speakers and worship leaders to provide a seamless flow from chapel times to small group devotions so your students receive the biggest impact. Sign up today and get ready for the best winter season you have ever seen!

Sign up with Daniel.

Cost: \$219 (\$50 deposit)

If you would like to help sponsor a teen to enable them to go to camp, please mark your envelope "Camp Scholarship Fund."

**YOUTH PRAYER**



every  
3rd Saturday

February 21, 10 a.m.

*Guys' Day!!  
Saturday, February 28  
(Time and Event to be announced.)*



*Colossians Kids  
Kick-Off  
Wednesday  
February 4  
6-8 p.m.*

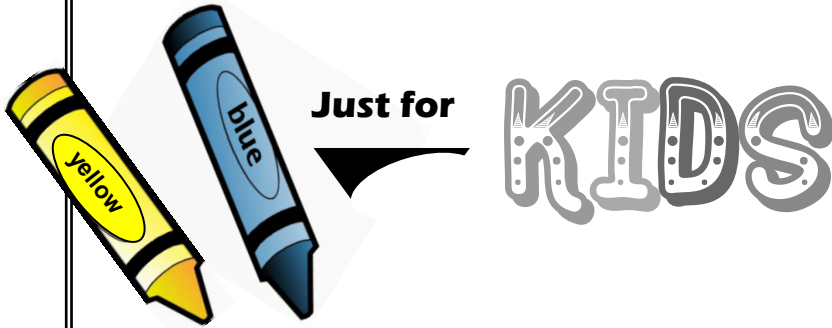
Come check out our newly revamped mid-week children's program for kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Bring the family each week and stay for dinner (for a nominal donation). After dinner, the kids will stay until 8 p.m. for an evening of games, music and Scripture teaching.



*Junior  
Winter  
Camp*

*March 6-8 at Forest Home*

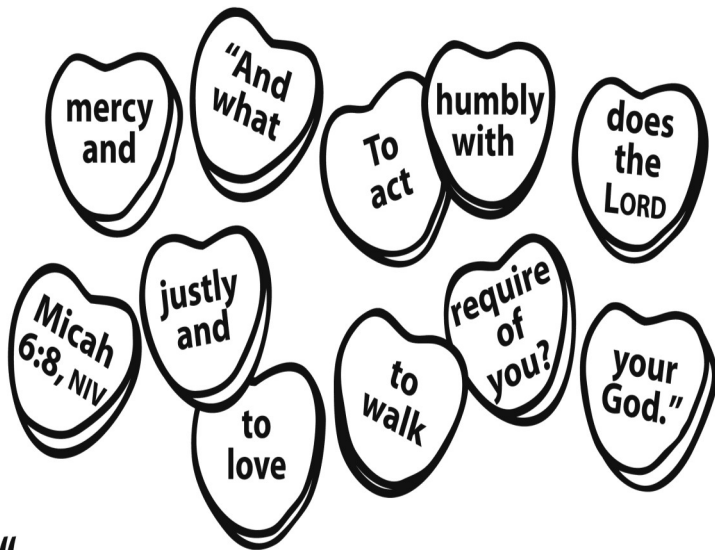
Calling all kids, 3rd-6th grades, to sign up for Winter Camp. The cost is \$160 for the weekend. You can expect: Awesome Worship, Archery, BB Guns, Gaga Ball, Sno Tubin' (weather permitting), Skytrail, Night Games, Cool Crafts, Fun & Fellowship. Sign up in the patio with a \$50 deposit.



# Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

*Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.*



"

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

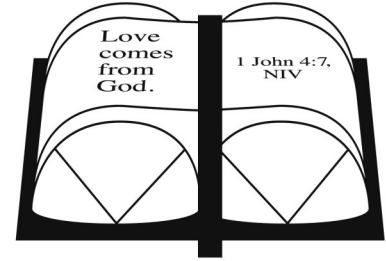
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ " \_\_\_\_\_ 6:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

# GOD'S SWEET WORD

Share this Bible treat — and God's love — with a special valentine.



## What you need:

- Black card stock or construction paper (2" x 1.5")
- Double-sided tape
- 2 wrapped Hershey's Nuggets candy bars (silver or gold)
- Pen or marker
- White paper (2.75" x 1")
- Thin sliver of red paper or ribbon
- Scissors

## What you do:

1. In the center of the black paper, tape down the candy bars side by side.
2. On the white paper, write a short Bible verse about love. Then wrap it around the candy bars horizontally and tape it down.
3. Place the red paper or ribbon between the two candy bars, and tape the top of this "bookmark" to the Bible.
4. Give away this fun, sweet message of God's love!

**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.

**Monday**

Ladies' Prayer, 10:30 a.m.  
 Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.

**Tuesday**

Women's BSF Leaders, 9:15 a.m.  
 High School Revive, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Women's BSF, 9:15 a.m.  
 Colossians Kids, 6 p.m.  
 Jr. High QUEST, 6:45 p.m.  
 Small Group 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.  
 Worship Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.

**Friday**

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

**Saturday**

Men's BSF Leaders 6 a.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10:30a Birthday Cupcakes 2p Sing at Royalwood	2	3	4 6p New Kids Program w/ optional dinner	5 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	6 Anx reserved all day for Loaves & Fishes 7p HS Free Movie	7 11a Loaves & Fishes 6:30p Singles' Game Night
8	9	10	11	12 7p Beacon Light Mission	13 2p HS leaves for camp 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	14
15	16 HS back from camp 7p Facilities, Finance, & DiscDev. Teams	17 6p Mnstry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach & Wor. 7p Deacon/ess	18	19 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	20 6p Kids' Night Out	21 5:30p WM Dinner/Movie 7p Share & Care
22	23	24	25	26	27 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	28 HS Guy's Day 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out

**Upcoming March Events:**

- 3/6-8 ~ Junior Winter Camp
- 3/20 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6 p.m.
- 3/28 ~ All Church Work Day, 9 a.m.
- 3/29 ~ Choir Easter Cantata, 6 p.m.





## *Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship*

*Please remember that game night and dinner night are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.*



**Game Night ~ Saturday, February 7, at 6:30 p.m.** at Emma Powell's house, 17316 Haas Avenue in Torrance. Bring games and snacks to share. Any questions, call Jude, 424/800-1910.



**Dinner Out ~ Saturday, February 28, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Rinaldi's of Redondo, 308 Avenue I, in Redondo Beach.**



For questions, suggestions, or more information, call Brenda-Jean Shephard, 310/901-0816.

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## *With Boldness & Fear*

by Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M

Sometimes the Bible is shocking. The story of Abraham and the three strangers in [Genesis 18](#) is one of those times. When the three strangers met with Abraham, they told him Sodom and Gomorrah would be destroyed. Lot, Abraham's nephew, lived in Sodom. Abraham did not want Lot to die, so he haggled with God in an attempt to save the city. He argued that if there were 50, 45, or even 10 righteous living in the city, God should not destroy Sodom. Abraham

knew he was speaking with God, yet he argued his case boldly. Even more amazing: God haggled along with him. From our perspective, it might seem like Abraham acted with arrogant bravado. But this is not the case. The letter to the Hebrews commands this sort of confidence: "Let us then with confidence draw near the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" ([Heb 4:16](#)). Confidence is expected.

Of course, we can take it too far. We dare not think we can barge into the throne room of God with no account of his sovereignty and divine power. "No one can see his face and live" ([Exo 33:20](#)). When Ezekiel saw God in the throne room vision, he fell on his face at the sight ([Ezek 1:28](#)). When Peter recognized Jesus in the boat, he realized his own sinfulness and begged Jesus to get away ([Luke 5:8](#)). When the apostle John saw Jesus in Revelation, he fell at Jesus' feet like a dead man ([Rev 1:17](#)). These three were afraid. Let us not diminish their fear by redefining it as respect. Respect was the response; fear was the emotion.

The God of love is also the mighty ruler and judge of the universe. Jesus came clothed in weakness to save and he comes again in strength to conquer evil once and for all ([Rev 19](#)). We are commanded to come to God boldly, but we come to the One who can squash us like a bug and make it as if we never were. It is his goodness, his promise, and his grace that allow us to come boldly and express our fear as godly respect rather than faithless terror.

## From HBI Global Partners

### *TFB Global Outreach News*



Linnet & Bobby Gupta

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Just this January, God helped us to put another Drop in Center in one of the slums in Siliguri, West Bengal. Within a few days, we saw about 60 children responding to our invitation to learn at the center. It is exciting to see them throng into the center to learn to read, write and do math, and especially to listen to the Bible stories and learn to sing the Gospel songs. One of the encouraging things happening in this center is not only that the children are eager to learn, but some of their mothers come to listen and learn too.

The mother of Neha, one of our children, was very sick for months. One day she decided to come and see what was happening at the center as her daughter kept talking to her about how she is enjoying the classes at the center. That day the teacher of the center was sharing with the children about Jesus raising up Jairus' daughter. Neha's mother listened to the story very attentively.

The next day she invited the staff of the center to her house to pray for her saying, "I need this Jesus Who raised up the young girl to touch and heal me." The staff team went to her house and laid their hands on and prayed for Neha's mother. God healed her instantaneously. Praise the Lord!!!

We are so thankful to the Lord for enabling us to see His doing through the various strategies He has given to us to touch the lives of people.

Thank you so very much for your generous giving and faithful prayers. We truly count you so valuable for the extension of God's Kingdom in India. You are a huge blessing to us!

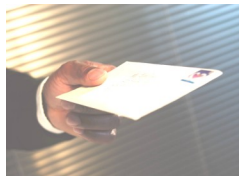
Paul (Bobby) Gupta



Thank You to Our Church Family,

We want to thank you so much for your VERY generous offering you gave to us for Christmas! We were blown away by your kindness to us and praise God for your worship here at TFB. We pray that God will bless you abundantly in this new year.

With humble thanksgiving,  
Charlie, Rog, and Jay



*We Get Mail*

Dear TFB Family,

Thank you for your kind donation of 32 toys for our Frosty Fiesta event, received on December 12, 2014. We had over 400 kids come to our holiday event. Your generosity and thoughtfulness in supporting Pediatric Therapy Network is greatly appreciated.

As an early child development and therapy center providing quality services for children with, or at-risk for, developmental concerns, PTN is committed to maintaining extraordinarily high quality therapies for its clients. In 2013 alone, PTN provided over 130,000 hours of education, training and therapeutic services to over 2,500 children and to their parents and family members as well. With 1 in 6 children now being diagnosed with a developmental disability, being able to provide these crucial services to the most vulnerable members of our community is at the heart of our mission at PTN.

We are very grateful and honored you have chosen Pediatric Therapy Network as a recipient of your gifts and generosity.

Sincerely,  
Terri Nishimura  
Founder & CEO

Margaret Shimada  
Development Director



# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

it, sin is a heavy burden that weighs us down, but God wants to lift that burden. He not only pardons, but He forgets our sin (Psalm 103:11-12). We worry about things in our past, but God has done away with our past completely. Our sins are under the blood of Christ (Romans 5:6-11 and Hebrews 9:11-14). Think of it...when God pardons us, He no longer takes into account our sin. And so, if God does not dwell on those things, why should we? To the remnant that was returning to their homeland, the news of God's mercy to them must have encouraged them greatly. And to us who are walking in discipleship with Him today, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, this also is great news to us!

People can search all they want, but they will never find a God like our God. Interestingly, Micah's name means, "Who is a God like you?" WOW! Every time Micah's name was mentioned, he would remember the mercy and grace of the One Who had drawn him to Himself. We, too, should rejoice that we are loved, cared for, led and forgiven by this awesome, merciful God. You see, there is none like Him! Praise His Name forever.

I'm rejoicing in Him,  
**Pastor Rog**



the following families who have recently lost a loved one. Please pray for them:

The family of faithful, long-time member, Celia Van Anda; former member Jim Turnage who has been living in Washington State, passed away; Wayne Musser lost his sister, Maxine; and faithful member, Anabel Mael, is now with the Lord.



VAN ANDA, Celia



MAEL, Anabel



Introducing ...  
Summer Ann Stine,  
who was born on January 21,  
weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz.  
and was 19½ inches long.  
Mom and Dad are Daniel and Catherine,  
and proud grandparents are Jim & Joanne.



CONGRATULATIONS!



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

Della Andrew, Angel Ayala, Jr., Cecile Baker, Michael Banfield, Ron Barlow, Loretta Barnett, Melissa Bayless, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Lou Davis, Gloria Deering, Robin Fisher, George Fisk, Virgie Fletcher, Dutchess Gattis, Janet Graves, Barbara Harvey, Eugene/Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Jane McKenzie, Joy Moore, Michael Musser, Wayne & Eleanor Musser, Brian Nordstrom, John Peterson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Margaret Rentfrow, Nellie Rizzi, Barbara/Randy Rudé, Ralph Schatz, Mary Schultz, Gerri Stoodley, Margie Sweetland, Kenny Veldheer, Norma Vinsonhaler, Tammie Wakefield, Aggie Williams and Gertie Wissinger.

## TFB Tithes and Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$63,309 in the month of December.



*Smile Awhile*



While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... “Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust.”

## *Thought for February*

### **Commandment #11**

During the 17th century, an archbishop traveling through Scotland met theologian Samuel Rutherford but kept his identity secret. Rutherford invited the man to stay with him. When Mrs. Rutherford gathered the servants on Saturday to prepare for worship the next day, the guest joined in and was asked a basic question: “How many commandments are there?”

When the guest replied “11,” Mrs. Rutherford said, “What a shame it is for you, a man with gray hairs, in a Christian country, not to know how many commandments there are!”

The next morning, Rev. Rutherford went out in the woods to pray and heard his guest doing likewise. When he discovered the archbishop’s identity, Rutherford invited him to preach that morning.

The archbishop’s topic? The 11th commandment, based on Jesus’ words in John 13:34—”A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another” (ESV).