



# and that's... **The Gospel Truth!!** with Pat Corn

a brief message of encouragement to make your day just a little bit brighter

When we first moved here to the Smokies, our girls went for their first day of school at a local elementary school where we met their principal. I immediately sensed that he was a committed Christian and I appreciated the warm welcome that he gave us as parents, and the girls who were, of course, a little nervous about their new school. A few days after they had begun attending, the principal called me and informed me that he needed to speak with me as soon as possible. I went directly to the school fearing that the girls had done something wrong. Greeted again with a great deal of friendliness, I went into his office and took a seat. He said, "Mr. Corn, I appreciate your coming in so quickly. I wanted to speak with you about what your daughter's teacher found in her notebook". "Uh-oh", I thought, "What have they put in their notebooks that has caused "me" to be called to the principal's office?" The principal opened my oldest daughter's notebook and revealed the first plastic insert sheet. "Mr. Corn, I have never seen anything like this in a student's notebook before." I then realized it was a type-written sheet with "Dad's Sayings For A Great Day". I had totally forgotten that I had put those in their notebooks. These sheets had one-liners that, if followed, would insure a great day for my girls both in and out of school.

The principal asked if I minded if he photocopied them and gave them to the entire student body. I, of course, agreed that it would be fine to do that. Those "sayings" were items like

"Hurting people hurt people...if someone tries to hurts your feelings...ask what is wrong..."

"Rudeness is a weak person's imitation of strength...if someone is rude...same as above"

"No one has the right to ask you to lie... don't get caught up in another's deception..."

"Don't talk about others...that's triangulation...which rhymes with strangulation..."

"Your teacher (or anyone in authority) is more interested in your obedience than your opinion..."

Oh sure that's pretty heady stuff for little kids, but it sat them on the right course...Minister To Others. I am relatively sure it must have taken root to some degree. After three days of some other girls calling my eldest filthy names, she stopped them in the hall and said, "Well, if you think that I am going to call you something like that, you are wrong! One day I'll be held accountable." One of the girls asked what that meant and my daughter said, "Well, one day I will stand before Jesus and he will tell me all the things I said and did bad to other people...and I don't want Him to keep me very long!" She led all three of those girls to Christ before the school year was over.

Needless to say, I really love one-liners. I am sort of a time-efficiency nut and I love illustrations that say a great deal in a very few words. Here are some of my favorites that I hope will minister to you. Maybe my girls will read them too even though they are now adults.

**Do not let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.**

**Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.**

**Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.**

**It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.**

**The good Lord did not create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.**

**When you get to your wit's end, you will find God lives there.**

**People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.**

**Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.**

**Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you could not belong.**

**If the church wants a better pastor, it needs to pray for the one it has.**

**Peace starts with a smile.**

**I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?**

**Many church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.**

**We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.**

**Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He will clean them.**

**Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.**

**Do not put a question mark where God put a period.**

**Do not wait for six strong men to take you to church.**

**Forbidden fruits create many jams.**

**God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called.**

**God grades on the cross, not the curve.**

**God loves everyone, but probably prefers "fruits of the spirit" over "religious nuts!"**

**God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.**

**He who angers you, controls you!**

**If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!**

**Do not give God instructions -- just report for duty!**

**The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.**

**The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.**

**We do not change the message, the message changes us.**

**You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to ... discourage him.**

**The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:  
1 cross + 3 nails= 4 given.**

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