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Here's Hope

by Rev. Jerry Rea

The Last Piece of the Puzzle

Have you ever had that experience of finding the last piece of the puzzle? It all "fits." Sometimes in my home there is just one piece missing because you've lost it. It is so very frustrating until you find it. We just about tear the whole house upside down until it surfaces. I mean, it can ruin the whole puzzle experience until you complete it. The hole in the puzzle fairly shouts "Incomplete!" In a way Jesus is like that. He completes everything. He is that element that creates a nagging annoyance because you just know there's got to be something else. If you've felt that way, you may be normal, just missing a piece of the puzzle. Things come together when the Lord is present. Things are empty when He's not there. If you feel that way, you may be right. You may be missing something.

Jesus is like a key. He opens our world up. He told us that He was leaving us the keys to the kingdom. I don't mean that (even though it's certainly true). I mean He Himself is the key. When you spend time with Jesus your eyes are open, your heart gets full, and a light comes on. His perspective becomes a key. His guidance is the key to finding your way through the impossible maze of life. He becomes the key to understanding people, and working with relationships. He makes it all "fit." The doors that have always been locked open up now. Doors don't suddenly open because you suddenly got smarter. They open because you have a key.

All this being true, when you tell someone about Jesus, you give them hope. We used to call it "witnessing." I know that word (and even that idea) "witnessing" is out of style. We prefer to have people stumble into faith rather than receive a guiding word from a fellow traveler. Someone said telling others about Jesus is like two men in a desert. One man tells another where there is water. Life can be... dry. And in life's desert there is only one thing you need. There is only one thing that will satisfy. There is only one thing that gives life. That one thing is water. If you miss water, it really doesn't matter if you have a fine car, the best cell phone, or any number of friends. It doesn't matter because you need water. Physically you are designed to run on water. Spiritually it's the same. You need the water that only Jesus can give.

So, I know what you need. I know what may be missing. I know where you can find water in your dry life. His name is Jesus and He is the "Water of Life."

We are two travelers in the desert!

Jerry Rea