



## A MOTHER'S TOUCH IS FOREVER

A mother's touch begins when she first tickles the soles of little feet... and continues until she tempers souls with her love.

A mother's touch is as constant as her love... finding its way through clouds of rain or showers of happiness.

A mother's touch inspires her children to be even better than they are... whether with a pat on the back when things go right, or a hug when things go wrong.

A mother's touch is enabling, giving her children the courage and confidence to reach out and touch someone, too.

A mother's touch helps put the pieces back together, whether the pieces of a broken doll, a broken date or a broken relationship.

A mother's touch fills hearts with hope and homes with love.

A mother's touch is forever.

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY !**

## CHICAGO

### Testimony at the 20th Anniversary

I was born in this Hungarian church and grew up here. For this reason, I thank God that throughout these 20 years, He has brought so many memories and good Hungarian friends. I came to know Jesus as my personal Savior and redeemer. Through this church, I was baptized two years ago. May His name be forever praised for that.

It is truly a blessing to have grown up in a Christian family, and I am proud of my Hungarian heritage. I believe that God has given us this church and pastor because He has many plans for our church. He has been with us throughout the years. We can see that His love never fails. As it says in His Word:

*Nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord—Romans 8:38-39.*

We were brought here to this congregation to carry on the Gospel of Christ. I hope that we can always be grateful for the freedom of worshiping Him in this church, and for His love that has kept us together. May this love never leave us

and may we live in peace for another 20 years.

This is the verse I would like to give to the church: Jeremiah 29:11— *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

I hope that once God gives me a family, I can carry on my Hungarian heritage, and the good news of His Gospel.

*Erika Szabo*

## FOOD 4 THE SOUL

The eighth chapter in the letter to the Romans is devoted to assuring believers of their standing in Christ. In the very center of this comforting message we find a sobering statement: **"Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won't know what we're talking about"** (Romans 8,9 – The Message). It is our relationship with Him that determines our eternal destiny.

Basically, it is a warning to professing Christians. Only by continuously (!) welcoming the Person and work of the Spirit of Christ can we be assured of our salvation. It is not our profession of faith that makes us God's children. Shedding tears, raising hands, being baptized have never saved anybody. Only the power of Christ can keep us away from hell, only a loving God can adopt us into His family, and only the indwelling Spirit is able to protect us from falling. There is no church that can guarantee her members that which is attainable only by the believer's continuous reliance upon and abiding in Christ.

Am I saved? Am I united with Christ? This is how the great preacher, Spurgeon struggled with these questions: "Ah, if I am none of His, whose am I?" Who can answer us truthfully and persuasively? We need to know the answer to these questions!

Friends, ask Christ to talk with you regarding these matters! He has sent out His Spirit for this very purpose. Only the Spirit of Christ in you can assure you about the work Christ had done for you. He wants to glorify Him by securing you in your salvation.

Lord Jesus, I want to be counseled by the Parakletos Himself regarding this deepest desire of my heart, to know that I am yours forever.

*Pastor Novak*

## Persecution in the 3rd Century

On May 1st, in the year 305 AD, the most powerful man in the world, Emperor Diocletian, stepped down from ruling the Roman Empire. Just two years prior he had begun a vast systematic persecution of Christians, intending to exterminate them once and for all. He forbade worship, burned books, arrested clergy, and demanded that everyone sacrifice to pagan deities or be killed. From Europe to Northern Africa, countless believers became martyrs to the faith. Suddenly Diocletian was struck with a painful intestinal disease and abdicated his throne, taking up farming in Yugoslavia. Eight years later, in 313AD, Emperor Constantine officially ended all persecution of Christians. (*Crosswalk.com*)

### Have you heard the HYMNS FOR THE OVER-50 CROWD ?

1. Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up
2. It is Well with My Soul, But My Knees Hurt
3. Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing
4. Just a Slower Walk with Thee
5. Count Your Many Birthdays, Name Them One by One
6. Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up
7. Give Me the Old Timers' Religion
8. Blessed Insurance
9. Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah, I've Forgotten Where I Parked

## MY CAR WAS STONED

My car was stoned and a stone broke the glass of the window of the front door. This happened one Monday morning on the drive way of my house.

I just finished cleaning up the kitchen and I was ready to go to the town. When somebody knocked at my door and told me that the window of my car was smashed in pieces I didn't want to believe that. However, it was true.

The man who sent the destructive stone to my car was sitting on my veranda. I immediately recognized that he was a mentally challenged person.

"Why did you do this?" – I asked him. He covered his face with his hands and didn't answer. I touched his shoulder and asked him again:

"What's wrong with you?" Then he said slowly:

"The children said that I was crazy".  
 "Which children?" – I inquired.

He pointed out to the children of my neighbors playing around my veranda:

"These children".

The watchman protested: "No, the children were at this side of the car and the man came from the other side".

As a matter of fact, most of the children in Makeni like to mock the sick people. I myself witnessed already that when a man with mental disorder walked around the streets the children run after him and shouted:

"Ali bigolo, Ali bigolo, Ali bigolo..."

(The bigolo is a special worm that comes out from the ground in the rainy season)



I told the children many times to stop shouting like that and asked them not to make fun of sick persons. I explained them that God created them and there were many reasons why they were sick. Most of all God wanted us to take care of them and not to harm them more. So the children in my neighborhood knew that I didn't like if they mocked sick persons. However, even if they didn't say anything on that particular morning a simply glimpse of them were enough that the sick man would get a mental short circuit and would stone my car.

The pastor of the church came around and tried to find out where was the man from. The sick man obediently led him to his lodging but his mother was not at home. After that we all went together and reported the matter to the police. I tried to find out if the sick man did similar things earlier as well. But he was not familiar to them. So I took him back to my home. After I gave him something to eat, he left the place.

I tried to have my window replaced but nobody was able to do that in Makeni. I had to go to Freetown. Together with Gibril, the mechanic I searched the glass for a whole day. First we spent almost two hours in a garage, they found something for us, pulled the door into parts, but in the end the glass didn't fit there.

It was around twelve o'clock when we reached to a junk yard near to Freetown. Gibril's brother, Eshpa had a small shop there repairing and selling electrical parts

of cars, generators, refrigerators. They let me sit on a bench under a mango tree and they went to look for the glass. After spending the morning under the sun I was happy for the shade and prayed that the mango tree would not dry out like Jonah's shade did. ...

After several hours sitting under the mango tree Gibril and Eshpa came back to me with the news that they were able to find the window but the owner asked for it more than 70 dollar. I agreed, but that was not the end of the window story. I still had to wait a couple hours more until Gibril and Eshpa were able to fit the glass to the door. Please, pray that the Lord would protect me from similar incidents.

...



Please, pray for my personal safety as well. At the time of the war Makeni, the town were I live now, was the headquarters of the rebels. The young boys learned many bad things from them. The poverty is incredible and the temptation is great. I have a night watchman who goes to church every Sunday but I am not sure that he is trustable. One of the BBI students misplaced his mobile phone, we asked everybody in the area if they found it, but there was no truck. After six days my watchman was caught by selling the lost phone. The BBI student doesn't want to make a court case but I wonder if I can keep the watchman. Please, pray for him, his name is Kennie that he would truly repent and come to the Lord. I asked the pastor to counsel him

Thank you for praying for an other young man, Ibrahim. I wrote already a few lines about him in October. (If you deleted that letter, please go to /mission and read it.) Thank God Ibrahim was baptized recently.

Pray for the BBI students; each one was assigned recently to do evangelism. So the harvest is started, stay tuned, more news will come.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace."

*Yours in Christ,  
 Gabriella Kamilla Furedi*

## BÖLCSESSÉG

Nem minden lángész bölc és nem minden bölc ember lángész; bár van, aki mind a két képességgel rendelkezik. Kit nevezünk lángésznek? Azt, aki átlagon felüli tehetséggel rendelkezik, akinek könnyen fog az agya; s aki nagy tudással rendelkezik. S kit nevezünk bölcsnek? Azt, aki értelmes, logikus és gyakorlati gondolkodású; aki megfontolt és érett ítélőképességgel rendelkezik; s aki előrelátó.

Pl. az a tizenéves lány, aki lángész létére még a középiskolát sem fejezte be s egyetemről meg hallani sem akart (pedig ingyen tanulhatott volna ott, ahol édesapja tanított); ugyan lángész volt, de bölc nem. Viszont az a fiú, aki éjjelnappal tanult, hogy sikeresen leérettségizzen és továbbtanulhasson; bár nem volt lángész, de bölc igen. Mert míg az említett lány frusztrációjában az egyik kiszívetésű, egyszerű állásból a másikba menekült; addig a fiúból képzett, jó fizetésű, értékes, tervező mérnök lett.

**Isten Igéje komolyan foglalkozik a bölcsesség fontosságával.** Nem csak itt-ott említi meg, hanem egy egész könyvet is szentel rá. A Példabeszédek könyvét.

Mit tanulhatunk a Bibliában a bölcseségről? Sok mindent. De most csak néhány dolgot említek meg.

**1. A bölcsesség kezdete az Úrnak félelme...** tanítja a Példabeszédek könyve 9. rész 10-dik verse. Vagyis, aki szeretne bölc lenni, annak elsősorban el kell indulni az istenfélelem útján, ami abból áll, hogy szívébe hívja Jézust, az Isten Fiát. **De ez valóban a bölcsesség megszerzésének csak a kezdete mert:**

**2. "... a szentnek megismerése ad értelmet"** - olvassuk ugyanazon ígéretyben. Azaz, a következő lépés az Úr egyre jobban való megismerése. Ez pedig

## BEETHOVEN

A contemporary of Mozart and Haydn, he started losing his hearing at age 28, and eventually became totally deaf. Incredibly, though, he continued writing some of the most beautiful symphonies, concertos, sonatas, and quartets of all time. Today, he ranks as one of the greatest composers in history. His name was Ludwig van Beethoven, and he was born on December 17, 1770. Beethoven wrote:

*"No friend have I. I must live by myself alone; but I know well that God is nearer to me than others in my art, so I will walk fearlessly with Him."*