

THE GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

JUNE 2013

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Volume 02

Think on these things... Philippians 4:8-9

In the May issue of The Good News Gazette, I suggested making a list of the positive things in our lives that are described in Philippians 4:8-9. Some readers suggested that I give a sampling of the things that I personally find to be true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy in order to help people with their lists. This is an excellent idea, and I will share some of my thoughts with you now and in the coming months.

The first item on the list of things Paul said to think on is things that are **true**. On May 25, 2013, news agencies across the globe reported on a **true** story that shocked our world. The images were unbelievable. The film coverage was like nothing we'd seen before. It was a fierce rescue, and the situation was one of life or death. Emergency officials responded to a report of desperate cries from the fourth floor of an apartment building. Initially, the cries were thought to be from a pet cat or a rabbit, but upon closer examination, emergency workers, to their horror and amazement, found a newborn baby was lodged in the four inch drain of a public toilet in Jinhua City, Zhejiang Province, China. They worked frantically and quickly to disconnect the sewage pipe from the toilet above and the drain system below.



Reuters TV Photo

Crowds gathered as the scope and magnitude of the emergency was revealed. The rescue workers would have to carefully cut the pipe away without cutting or further injuring the baby. No one claimed to know anything about the baby. No one admitted to being the mother of the baby. Where was she? What could have happened that a newborn baby ended up lodged in the drain of a toilet like feces to be disposed of?

News video of the incident showed the world the painstaking task the emergency workers took on to cut and pry the pipe from the five pound baby boy that cried out to be heard and to live. ... continued on page 2



Photo from Reuters TV

It took hours to free the boy and get him to the hospital. His initial examination revealed a low heart rate, labored breathing, and numerous bruises to his head, arms, and legs. Not surprising or abnormal considering his predicament. He thrived under the diligent care of the hospital staff. The baby, with no mother to claim him and seemingly flushed down the drain, was now known as baby #59, because that was the number on his hospital crib.

It took two days and the threat by officials of a mandated health examination before the 22 year old unmarried mother acknowledged the baby was hers. She said she had become pregnant after a one night stand, and that the father of the baby denied it was his. Since she could not afford an abortion, she hid the pregnancy by binding herself and wearing larger clothes. When she went into labor, she went to the fourth floor public restroom of her apartment building to have the baby. She reportedly said she wanted to raise the child but had no idea how to do it. She said that the baby slipped from her hands down the open drain. Some reports state the mother tried to push him down the drain with a stick. She had cleaned and flushed the toilet to clear away the blood, and told no one about the baby.

You may be asking at this point, why are you telling me all this? What a terrible story - though **true**. Well, as Paul Harvey used to say, let me tell you the "rest of the story."

Long ago another young boy was unloved and unwanted. His family wanted to kill him, but decided to turn a profit instead and sell him into slavery. He was mistreated and put in prison for crimes he didn't commit. He had it rough, but he never gave up. He trusted God and cried out for God to save him. And God did! God used

Joseph's brothers' evil actions, for the good of Joseph, his family, and all the people of Egypt. So it could be with Chinese baby #59.

Let's look at some of the good and **true** things that resulted from this story. First, though China is a repressive communist country, news about the life and rescue of this one tiny baby was shown around the world. Second, the mother, though not wanting the child and unwilling to acknowledge the baby as hers, was the one to report the baby's cries to someone who would get help. She could not deny he lived or his cries for help. Third, it brought to light the large number of unwanted and abandoned babies in China. In China's capital city alone, over 10,000 babies have been abandoned in the past 10 years. That's almost 3 babies a day. Because of this story, more Chinese citizens want to build additional charity homes for unwanted children. Fourth, the mother was subjected to almost universal condemnation by the Chinese for her actions, revealing an awakening in the Chinese people to the value of even one single life. Hundreds in China and around the world sent gifts and wanted to adopt the baby boy. One person on Weibo (China's version of Twitter) said, "Treating a life like this is no different than murder."

Finally, this story brought to light China's forced abortion and one child policies. Approximately 1.3 million forced abortions occur in China each year. Chinese that live in urban areas are allowed to have one child and those in rural areas may have two. Fines and/or forced abortions are mandated to those who don't comply with the 1979 laws. Chinese writer, Li Chengpen wrote, "It was a method to contain population, but now it is a way to make money. When you make money by killing, what else are you afraid to do?" There is more talk of changing the one child policy in China now. These things are all **true** according to news reports and responses to the story.

Research on this story came from news reports by NBC, Reuters, Fox, and other internet sources through a Google search. Of particular note is the fact that near the end of June, almost one month later, I can find no current stories on the baby. Nothing seems to be posted since those first few days. The last reports in early June say that the baby was sent home with his maternal grandparents and the mother, to the outrage of many.

... continued on page 3

THINK ON THESE THINGS ...

We still don't know his name. It's as if the curtain has been drawn shut in China on this story. But for a moment - for a few brief days, the light of **truth** about a life that wanted to live beamed forth around the world. Baby boy #59 brought to light the **truth** in China. Jesus said to his disciples when they tried to keep the little children away from Him, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Maybe, just maybe, baby #59 can one day say, just like Joseph did to his family in Genesis 50:20, "you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive." I dearly hope, one day, to hear more good things about baby #59 and his positive impact on our world. May God bless and guide you as you pray and think on these things.

Robin Robbins House



RECIPES

TOP SECRET RECIPES VERSION OF MIMI'S CAFE CARROT RAISIN BREAD

Preheat oven to 350

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour | 3 eggs |
| 1 tsp cinnamon | 3 Tablespoons molasses |
| 2 tsp baking powder | 1 tsp vanilla extract |
| 1/4 tsp baking soda | 1 cup shredded carrots |
| 3/4 tsp salt | 1/4 cup crushed pineapple |
| 1 cup vegetable oil | 1 cup raisins |
| 1 cup plus 2 Tablespoons sugar | 3/4 cup chopped walnuts |



Combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a large mixing bowl.

In another bowl combine oil, sugar, eggs, molasses, and vanilla extract with a mixer. Add shredded carrots and pineapple to mix. Next add raisins and walnuts and mix well by hand (spoon).

Pour flour mixture into other ingredients and stir until combined.

Pour batter into 2 greased 8 inch loaf pans and bake for 1 hour or until done.

From Top Secret Restaurant Recipes 2 by Todd Wilbur

Please feel free to submit recipes, positive quotes and comments to The Good News Gazette at thegoodnewsgazette1@gmail.com



MEMORY VERSE AND QUOTE

Jesus tells Paul in II Corinthians 12: 9

“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”

**“WE WILL NEVER BE HAPPY UNTIL WE MAKE GOD
THE CENTER OF OUR LIVES
AND THE SOURCE OF OUR FULFILLMENT.”**

STORMIE OMARTIAN



DO YOU KNOW?

1. Do you know what lie the chief priests bribed those guarding Jesus' tomb to say? Mt 28:11
2. Do you know who Jesus said it would be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgement than? Mt 10:15
3. Do you know what cannot be bought with the finest gold? Job 28:15
4. Do you know God's first command to Adam and Eve? Genesis
5. Do you know why did Lot's sons-in-laws not leave Sodom with him and his daughters?
6. Do you know how old Isaac was when Rebekah agreed to marry him?
7. Do you know how many times Paul received 39 lashes from the Jews?
8. Do you know who in the Bible was stoned and lived?