

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday July 29, 2024 - Isaiah 53: 4-5

4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed

Read Isaiah 53 for meditation and inspiration.

-FRESH BREAD-
baked daily



Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

Bread is probably the most universally common food item in the world. Because it is a worldwide staple and familiar to everyone, it has also been used as object for humor as you may have noticed by the many “bread puns.” For example:

- What did the butter say to the bread? *I'm on a roll.*
- Why do we call money dough? *Because we all knead it.*
- How does bread remember things? *It uses toast-it notes.*
- What is the best way for a baker to get a rise in pay? *Ask for more dough.*
- A sandwich walks into a bar. The barman says “*Sorry we don't serve food in here.*”
- What is a baker's favorite time of year? *Yeaster.*
- What do bakers like to get for their birthday? *Flours.*
- How do you make dog bread? *Just use collie flour.*
- What's the most sophisticated kind of bread? *The upper crust.*
- What did the toast say to the psychic? *You bread my mind.*

Of all the ways that God feeds us, there is one unique, supremely valuable, and incredibly nourishing way: through His presence in the Living Christ. God wants us to understand that if we feed upon Jesus, our spiritual Bread, we will be nourished as in no other way. "I am the Bread of Life," Jesus says. "He who comes to Me shall not hunger. He who believes in Me shall not thirst. I am the Living Bread which came down from Heaven. If anyone eats of this Bread, he will live." As you identify with Christ, as you let Christ give you life, as you abide with Christ and accept Christ at the center of your being, you are being nourished in the most saving way possible. If you believe this, you will "have eternal life," Jesus told Nicodemus. The incredibly Good News of the Gospel is that God feeds us in this way, offers us this nourishment for our salvation.

Most of us seem to be aware of this, somehow, when a crisis comes along. We know the nourishment is here, and we turn to it. But when the pressure is relieved,

we stop relating to Jesus in this way. We seem to miss the point that Christ, our Bread, is with us all the time, and I am convinced that the failure of so many is to have the illusion that we are all alone! The Lord of Life said, "I will be with you ALWAYS!" You are NEVER ALONE!

Our communion reminds us of just that, "Take and eat, in remembrance of Me." Remember Me, for I am the one who is always faithful, and by your side always.

In Communion Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger