

July 1, 2010

Dear Family and Friends,

The little boy was sitting at the kitchen table, swinging his legs back and forth as he told me about his upcoming field trip to Herr's Chip Factory with his class at school. He was excited about going.

We talked about the bus ride and his teacher – what he might see, what he might do. He looked up at me and said, “You could go with me – you could be my grandma.”

“But you have a grandma,” I said, “and we are friends – good friends.”

“I feel like something bad is going to happen,” he said. My mind was filled with all the bad things that happen around him every single day, and I wondered which one was worrying him. “What are you afraid of?”

“That I might not wake up in time...and miss the field trip.” An ordinary, normal, eight-year-old thing to worry about, and I took a deep breath. “Well Jonah, when I am worried about something, I ask Jesus to help me – and so I am going to ask Jesus to help you get up on time, and be with you on your field trip – and He will be right there.”

Big eyes looked up at me, round with a new idea – “Can we do that *now*?” I smiled down at this child – who was losing no time getting to the heart of the matter and said, “Right now – we can do that right now.” And we did. We talked to Jesus right there in the kitchen and asked Him to take away Jonah's fear.

As a little child – that is how we are to come to Him – as a little child. “Can we do that now?” is always answered with a resounding yes! The Lord is waiting for us to turn to Him with the major things such as fear of guns and sickness and heartbreak...and the everyday ones such as missing the bus. He is able in all circumstances – ready to walk us through them.

Perhaps this little boy is learning about Jesus from me...but I find that I also am learning about the heart of God as I lead him to the One who loves him best.

We love Him – because He first loved us,

**Bob and Linda Stevenson**