



## *Monday Matters*

*June 2, 2014*

### **Abandoned and Rescued**

A few days ago Skyler James graduated from high school in Charleston, IL, at the age of 18. She was an honor student where she was involved in choir and theater. She also is involved in her local church. Her future plans include attending Concordia University in Chicago and hopes to be a minister.

None of this would have happened if it was for Charlie Heflin. 18 years ago, on an extremely cold, wintery November day in Urbana, IL, he was helping install cable when he heard a report on the radio scanner that 911 had received a call telling of a baby that had been abandoned at Mt.

Hope Cemetery under a pine tree next to a mausoleum. Rescue workers were on their way. Ten minutes later he heard on the scanner that no baby had been found.

Charlie thought maybe someone had mixed up the name of the cemetery. There was also a Mt. Olive Cemetery and he decided on his own to check that cemetery since he was nearby. He found the mausoleum and after searching for a few minutes he heard a baby's whimper and found a baby under a snow laden branch of a pine tree in a thin blanket. There were pine needles all over her face and in her mouth. Her umbilical cord had been cut and tied with a shoestring. He picked up the baby cleared off the needles and wrapped it in his coat next to his body. He ran to his truck and called an ambulance to meet him half way to the hospital.

Since that eventful day, Charlie had lost track of the baby until he received a call from Skylar's adoptive mom. She explained that at five she and her husband had been telling their daughter how she had become part of their family. Skylar had always been interested in meeting the person that had saved her life, that had been her savior. Unbeknownst to Skylar, Charlie was invited to her graduation by her mom and after the ceremony she was introduced to him. She said, "I was speechless. All I could do was hug him."

As I read about this event in TODAY, I thought about the promise that one day those that have accepted Christ's gift of salvation will meet their Savior, the one that rescued their lives. What a day of celebration that will be when we see Him face to face. He not only gave His life for us but we will actually live with Him eternally.

*What a day that will be,  
When my Jesus I see,  
And I look upon His face,  
The One who saved me by His grace,  
When He takes me by the hand  
and leads me through the Promised Land,  
What a day, glorious day that will be.*





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