



Monday Matters

May 5, 2014

No Charge For Call

Henry awoke one morning in his home in Kansas with an idea. He wanted to visit churches all across the country and see their similarities and differences. Since he was retired he had plenty of time to do this. He decided the first place he would visit was San Francisco and he picked one and only one church in the city. It was beautiful, inside and out. The priest had given him a tour and it ended in the back of the church. Henry noticed a gold phone sitting on a table. He asked the priest the significance of the gold phone. The priest informed him that it was a direct line to God and if someone wanted to talk to God directly it would cost \$10,000. Henry thought this was interesting.

The next city Henry visited was Chicago where he picked a single church out of all that were in the city. He met the minister who provided a very informative tour. It ended in the back of the church where again Henry noticed a gold phone on a table. In response to his curiosity the minister told him it was a direct line to God and for \$10,000 Henry could call and talk to God. This is fascinating, Henry thought.

Over the next few weeks he visited other churches in Dallas, Charleston, Boston and Seattle. Each of the churches had a gold phone that connected directly to God providing he would give the church \$10,000.

Henry thought maybe this was something that happened in big cities so he decided to visit smaller towns, some in more rural settings. Each and every one had a gold phone and for \$10,000 one could talk directly to God. He had never heard of such a thing.

Henry made one last stop on this adventure. It was in the rural community outside the small town of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. He happened to find the pastor sitting at his desk looking out over the beautiful rolling hills preparing for Sunday's message. The pastor was delighted to show Henry around the church and just like all the other churches he had visited, there was a gold phone. He told the pastor this and it cost \$10,000 to talk to God. The pastor was amazed at this. He told Henry that the call on the gold phone was free, it was a local call. The pastor informed Henry that Kentucky is where God lives and as such there is no charge to talk to Him.



Just a Little Talk With Jesus
Statler Brothers

In thinking about this story I couldn't help but realize how different it is from what the Bible teaches. Romans 10:13 says, "Call upon the name of the Lord...". It doesn't say call upon the name of the Lord after you deposit \$10,000. Stephen when he was being stoned in Acts 7 says "calling upon God." Stephen didn't pay for that call to God. Isn't it wonderful that God not only gave us His Son freely but gives us the opportunity to call upon Him anytime, anywhere (even in San Francisco or Chicago) free of charge for any reason? We don't even need a gold phone.

As the song Just a Little Talk With Jesus says, tell Him about your troubles and He will hear your faintest cry. Today, take a moment and make that free call to your heavenly Father and have a little talk. You will be glad you did.

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