

kisses

the story goes that some time ago, a man punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. money was tight, and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the christmas tree.

nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "this is for you, daddy." he was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, but his anger flared again when he found the box was empty. he yelled at her, "don't you know when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside it?"

the little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, "oh, daddy, it's not empty. i blew kisses into the box. all for you, daddy." the father was crushed. he put his arms around his little girl, and he begged for her forgiveness.

an accident took the life of the child only a short time later, and it is told that the man kept that gold box by his bed for many years, and whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

simple stories like the above can touch our heart and cause us to pause about things in life that are really important. it is often not the things that one gives the most attention to. we all know the old saying,

"you never know what you have until it's gone."

well, i'm here to tell you, "you never know God is all you need until God is all you have." and you will find that He is more than enough to meet your every need.

not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil He doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey

even now, Jesus is blowing kisses your way and He has wrapped them in the most beautiful package of all. no longer will we be encased in these fragile shells, beaten down by sin, struggle and pain. it will be a new wrapping - eternal, incorruptible and glorious. most of all, we will be dwelling in the light He emits wherever He goes. we will walk with Him in that light.

the box may appear empty to you but the love it encases is beyond seeing with the natural eyes. it must be felt by the spirit. "the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 cor 2:14

"oh, taste and see that the Lord is good." psalms 34:8