

Altapass Allegories
by
A Church Member

I stand amazed! I'm amazed at the love of God for His children. I'm amazed that He loves us so much that He is not willing that anyone would live or die outside the range of His love. I'm amazed that He is with us every moment of our days here on earth. I'm amazed that He loves all creatures great and small. I'm amazed that He has given us HIS WORD so He can speak directly to us. I'm amazed that He hears every word that we whisper in prayer. I'm amazed that He said that not even one sparrow falls that He doesn't see it.

I am also reminded that God can, and does, teach us many things by observing His creation if we will only take time to listen and pay attention. Case in point: God using a lowly raccoon to teach me a wonderful lesson. Some time ago, I left my house by the back door. Almost immediately, I heard a strange noise. It was a cross between a squalling cat and a crying baby. It was a noise like I'd never heard before. The sound was hard to follow. It seemed to come from this direction, then another. Finally, I followed it to the other side of the house. On that side, there is a tree that has a fairly large hole in the side. Hanging on the side of the tree was a mother raccoon. She was tugging on her baby with all her might. The baby was the noisemaker. She had brought two babies from the hole in the tree to the outside but the babies were having none of it without a huge ruckus. By this time, she had spotted me but she just glared at me and went on with the work of dislodging the baby from the tree. From a height of about twelve feet, she came with the baby and shuffled off toward the woods leaving the others still hanging to the tree and screaming their heads off. I eased back into the house to allow this little family to get on with their business. I feel sure Mother Coon made two more trips from the tree to the woods, which made me start thinking. It was apparent that they had outgrown their cozy home. If mama didn't move them now they would get so big they would be trapped in the tree and would finally die.

Does that remind you of some Christians? We are born by the Holy Spirit into the family of God. We have our comfortable zone and we ain't gonna move. Our birth mother, the Holy Spirit, knows this is not God's will for us. There is more to this business of following Jesus than living our lives in a hole..no matter how comfortable we are there. Like the coons, we would just lie there and die. So the Holy Spirit leads us gently or pulls us, kicking and screaming, into the work He has called us to do. It's our choice.