

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

The Plight of Pew Warmers

By Joyce C. Lock

The Plight of Pew Warmers by Joyce C. Lock

Have you ever been frustrated over people who come to church just to warm the pews? It's so easy to point, "Sinner!" – turn your nose up, look the other way, and exclude them in fellowship. It takes the love of Christ to look inside and see their need.

They didn't give up on God. Otherwise, they wouldn't even be in church. What they may have given up on is either themselves or other Christians.

Maybe they fell. Maybe they were nearly stoned to death by the brethren. Perhaps their anger got the best of them. It could be that they were falsely accused. They may have misunderstood God's leading, thereby being tricked by Satan.

But, whatever it was, something very painful happened. Satan convinced them God wouldn't receive them, it could happen again, or they don't have the strength to begin anew.

Perhaps we could love them best by telling them they `can', that God made a very special provision to help His children with such a need ... that when we follow God every step of the way, we can't fall (II Ch. 15:2b), that we "can" place of confidence in Him.

A second group of pew warmers, phlegmatic in personality, often have the gift of helps. Once they scurried all over God's house, doing countless unnoticed deeds ... until they joined a legalistic church.

If they have to measure up to serve their God, they'll sit there `til the cows come home. They don't care if you call them dirty names, like `Back Slider'. They know who they are, a lot healthier than some of us.

We're not going to see them move, unless it's out the door, until our hearts are ready to receive them as already valuable members.

The Plight of Pew Warmers

A third group of pew warmers are the new converts, new at the business of serving the Lord. They have so many new terms to learn, programs to follow, acceptable etiquette to catch, attire to transform, and things to grasp that they may not know if they're coming or going.

They need us to come along side and help, not preach at them.

A fourth group of pew warmers may not need to be noticed. They may minister throughout the week, while others take a holiday. They could be among our greatest prayer warriors. Yet, we thank them by judging.

A fifth group of pew warmers, those waiting to measure up, are still waiting. They believed man when he said they needed to pass a spiritual test first, but the rules keep changing. No point of acceptance with God opens that door. He isn't the one who closed it.

A sixth group of pew warmers possible aren't Christian at all. They may either be new or have efficiently warmed a pew for a lifetime. No one bothered to check their salvation.

A seventh group of pew warmers may be patiently waiting to serve while others think themselves so great they don't need help.

When we attempt to name another's sin, things are rarely what they seem. Pointing our finger at another leaves most of the fingers pointing at the real problem (Ps. 119:165).

God may not answer our prayers for more laborers until we use the one He gave us.

© by Joyce C. Lock

<http://my.homewithgod.com/blessingsandlessons/>

This writing may be used in its entirety, with credits in tact, for non-profit ministering purposes.

In addition to being a published author and poet, Joyce C. Lock created the religion column, "Christianity Made Simple" for Peru Daily Tribune, continues to write inspirational articles for area newspapers, and shares further in online and e-mail ministries.

I Saw An Angel At Work

By David Leonhardt

I Saw An Angel At Work

by: **David Leonhardt**

Sometimes you have to see something to believe it. Like angels. Unfortunately, angels are adept at not being seen, yet many people believe in them.

The Plight of Pew Warmers

I saw an angel at work last year. No, I did not see the halo. Or the feathered wings. Or a flowing white gown dancing in the wind. But there was no mistaking the unique handiwork.

When Little Lady was just one-and-a-half years old, we were visiting friends in another town. Sunday morning, we accompanied them to their church, which is surrounded by a great semi-circle hallway. You cannot enter the church itself except through one of the four or five doorways from the hallway.

We entered the building, heading right down the hallway straight for the nursery to leave our Little Lady with strangers for the first time ever. Note that we had not yet entered the actual church. The caretaker handed us a number and told us that if our child got too restless, we would see that number projected on the screen at the front of the church.

We headed into the church through a door at the far side. We sat down in a pew, anticipating to see the number within five minutes.

The number never showed up. After an hour, I snuck up to the door of the toddler area and saw her gleefully running around. That in itself might qualify as the work of angels, but the real miracle was yet to come.

At the end of the service, we went to retrieve Little Lady. As we led her out of the toddler area, SHE took over and started pulling my wife by the hand.

She lead my wife down the hallway with great determination, dragging her through the throng of almost 1000 people milling about in the hallway, all the way to the far side of the church where we had entered before to reach our pew. This was no small feat, and it took ten minutes to get through the crowd, but she was persistent.

When we had fought our way two-thirds around the church, she pulled my wife into the church from the hallway through the very door we had entered earlier - after we had left her off at the nursery.

I stood in amazement as I watched her go several pews down and turn right into the very pew where we had been seated. She had never seen us go there. She had never been inside the church before. How did she know?

OK, so this was not the parting of the Red Sea and nobody's life was saved. But could it be anything other than the work of angels?

This story was adapted from A Daily Dose of Happiness (

) Read more personal growth articles at

or pick up an angel gift at

.



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!