

Children's sermon: October 18, 2009

"You raise me up!!"

There is a bit of controversy in church today ... hey, what's a church without a little controversy?@!??

How many of you think Fred is Swedish?
Italian? Greek? African-American? Jewish?
Fred is a little bit of all of us.

But today ----- he's ITALIAN!@!! We have so many Italians in our church, don't we????

Anyway ----- a lot of Fred's friends live in a small Italian town ... and, as you can see, everything
is upside down. These little cups: upside down and EMPTY.

Lots of fighting going on ... everyone is in a bad mood ... LOOK: the cups are just crashing all over
the place. So ----- each of you ... you better take one ... we have to do something!@!!

When your cup is upside down and empty ... how do we fill it back up???

I know: MONEY.

This will make Fred's friends happy. I have some money here ... let's fill your cups.

Something is wrong, right?

Something doesn't feel right RIGHT??!@!!

Money isn't the answer ... especially when things are beginning to DECAY.

I'm thinking ... in our lives ... when we sense "decay" ... when we need to "brush-up" on what is good ...
what we need is ----- PEACE, DECENCY, LOVE, GOODNESS OF SPIRIT.

Put a little love in your cup.

Fill it with peace.

LET'S RAISE IT UP ... AND LISTEN TO THIS ITALIAN SONG!@!!

(the song ----- "You raise me up" ... in Italian.)

What a song!!

Are your cups full?????

Can you feel the love?????

This is what Jesus does everyday ... he fills our cup with love ... and goodness ...
and joy ... and peace.

Now ---- you can keep these cups.

And ... as a reminder of our message today ...

Just in case your cup begins to "decay" ... and you need to "brush-up" on what is good ...
here: a bit of toothpaste for your cup!@!!

LOVE TO ALL OF YOU!!