

Children's sermon: September 6, 2009  
"Tears in Heaven"

Hello ... my holiday Labor Day friends ... not too many of us here today.  
But ---- as we say: LIFE HAS ITS UP'S AND DOWN'S ... right???? Do you have more "ups" or  
"downs"????

Fred the piggy-bank is having a down day ... or at least he was.  
This morning ... as he comes into church ... look whom he sees!! ----- yes: THE ANGEL GLADYS.  
Fred looks at her in amazement: WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, GLADYS? ... I THOUGHT YOU WERE  
IN HEAVEN ... LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN CRYING.

Gladys smiles through her tears: *Yes, I'm in heaven ... I just came back for a few minutes to talk to you.*

Remember a few weeks ago? ... when I gave all our piggy-banks some money ... and we told our friends:  
USE THIS MONEY TO MAKE SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY!@!!

Well ... Gladys tells Fred she is a bit disappointed in him. Why? ----- because Fred took all his  
money spent it on himself.

So, this morning ... look ----- Fred is absolutely EMPTY.

Fred tells the angel Gladys: *Hey, even if I would have given it to others ... it still would be gone.*

To which Gladys says: *I don't think so. Fred ... I'm going to give you one more chance.*

*Here ---- I have \$3 in quarters ... you can have them. Yes ... I know it's not much. But this time ...  
use what you have to help someone else.*

Fred wasn't so sure ... but ----- he started to help others with his 12 quarters. He did "little things"  
that made others smile.

Well ... Fred is back ... and so is Gladys.

The angel Gladys calls out ----- *Fred, where are you?*

*I'm over here, Gladys ..... I'm stuck in the LOVE BUCKET!!*

Well, I guess we better help Fred out.

Oh, my gosh ----- he's full ... full of quarters!!

Fred looks at Gladys: *I did what you told me to do ... SHARE WITH OTHERS.*

*Now ... I have lots more to share.*

Gladys smiles. She disappears into heaven. No more tears ... because she knows Fred understands now.

Life is about sharing & giving from what you have ... even if it isn't much.

My friends ... here is your very own "love bag." Open it up ... I have a yo-yo for you. It goes up ... and it  
goes down ----- just like life. And ... if you take this bag into the other room after church ... you can "fill it  
up" with lots of goodies from my closet. The angel Gladys told me ----- I have to stop saving these things  
for myself.

*(This humble message is dedicated to Gladys Gunnerson ... whose earthly journey ended this week ...  
and to a young man named Tyler ... who took his bank a few weeks ago ... and brought it back  
to church ----- FULL!!)*