

Children's sermon: June 5, 2011

"Scoop"

Do any of you have a best friend with a "nickname"???

Fred has a good buddy named SCOOP. You'll find out why he calls him that ... after all these years.

Fred has grown-up a lot, hangin' around with us All Saints goofs.

Long ago ... he was one of those kids who HATED everyone.

Do you ever use the word "hate"???

It's kind-of an ugly word. Here is Fred ... he's a scuffed-up ball.

He's not happy ... he never thinks anything nice will happen to him ... he's jealous of others ... in fact, he hates others ----- probably because he really doesn't like himself.

He doesn't like Sally the soccer ball ... she is too pretty.

Or Bob and baseball ... he's so smooth, so good – looking.

Or Betsy the softball ... because she is always chosen to be used in games at the school next door.

Or William the golf ball who is usually on the golf course, instead of being in church.

Or Petunia the basketball she has so many colors and bounces rally high.

Fred is just an ol' jealous-unhappy prune.

And when you live your life this way ... YOU END UP IN THE "HATE-BUCKET" ... plop, there he goes!!

Enter SCOOP!!

He kind-of looks like something you would use to make a tossed salad in the kitchen.

Yes whenever his buddy Fred gets in one of these "poor me" moods ... Scoop shows up ...

dives into the bucket ... and **SCOOPS FRED OUT** ...

"No more, Fred. No more hate ... no more "poor me" ... it's about time you started liking yourself, and liking others."

"Now, Fred ... go home ... get your mail ... and think about life."

"I NEVER GET ANY MAIL ... NO ONE SENDS ME ANYTHING ..."

With that ... Scoop takes Fred ... throws him into the mailbox, and says ... "COME OUT WHEN YOU HAVE A BETTER ATTITUDE."

Silence. Later Fred comes out of the mailbox ... with a crumpled piece of paper in his hand.

"Uh, Scoop ... something has happened."

Fred thinks it's just something to throw away ... but it's more.

He un-crumple the paper in front of Scoop ... a dollar bill? ... 10-dollar bill? -----no, it is a **100 dollar bill!!@!!**

Fred smiles ... for the first time in a long time. So does SCOOP!@!!

A miracle? An accident? Who put it there? ----- a stranger? God? Fred will never know.

But, he did do this. He went to the bank ... and exchanged his 100 dollar bill for smaller bills ...

and then ----- Fred starts to give-away dollar bills to the very balls he used to hate!@!!
Amazing what can happen ... when God sends an angel ... named Scoop, perhaps ... and scoops you out of the hate-bucket ... and turns you into an angel of goodness.

Hey ---- go home ... check your mailbox ... and here ----- YOUR VERY OWN SCOOP!!