

Children's sermon: January 1, 2012

"The magic ornament"

Fred and his sister Petunia don't get along very well. Does this ever happen in your family?
Anyway ----- every Christmas they hear the "legend of the magic ornament" and that is:
if you ever find the "magic ornament" ... well, you will know the MEANING OF LIFE.

Do any of you know the meaning of life?????

I'm not sure I even know.

Well ... this Christmas morning ... Fred gets up early ... and under the tree he sees a box --- THIS BOX
RIGHT HERE!@!! ... and in the box is a single ornament.

This has to be it!@!!! ... he thinks to himself.

So ----- he takes the ornament ... hides it inside his blanket ... and keeps it for himself.

All Christmas Day ... Fred and Petunia and their parents ----- they open presents.
Fred's mom and dad once again talk about the "legend of the magic ornament" ... how someday someone will
find it ... and discover the meaning of life.

And Fred????? ----- he doesn't tell anyone about the single ornament he has found.

It's his secret.

It's his ornament.

He doesn't want to share it especially with his sister Petunia.

A week has gone by ... it's now NEW YEAR'S DAY.
Something is going on inside Fred's soul. First of all ----- he has this "magic ornament" ... and he has
no clue what the "meaning of life" is. He thinks to himself ... "I thought if I found the ornament ... I would
know the meaning of life ... well, I don't feel anything!@!!"

Except there is one thing he does feel:

*HE FEELS KIND-OF GUILTY. He is keeping the ornament all for himself. He hasn't told anyone about it ...
not even his parents.*

So, this morning ... before coming to church ... Fred goes up to his sister Petunia.

And what does he do????

He gives her the ornament!!

Petunia can't believe it!@!!

Why are you giving this to me????? Fred answers: I'm not sure why ... I just want YOU TO HAVE IT!!

Fred runs the other way ... and suddenly ----- he stops by their Christmas tree.

Look at what he finds.

It's the box in which he found the "magic ornament" ... only this time ----- IT IS FULL OF ORNAMENTS!!

AHHHHHH HAAAAAAA

Fred now knows *the meaning of life ... the secret to a good life.*

When you keep something special to yourself ... nothing happens. You just stay your same ol' selfish self!!
When you give that "something special" to others ... that "something special" multiplies ... and grows ...
and brings people together.

It's going to be a good year. So good that Fred and Petunia may even begin to like each other.

By the way ... I just happen to have a few ornaments for you ----- THEY ARE MAGIC!!

