



Spirit of Grace

Herald

THE MINISTRY OF DENNIS
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A Frog Tale

When I was a small boy I had an experience which I have never forgotten involving a frog and my older cousins. We lived in a little house in St. Louis County and had a farm directly behind us. It was a neat atmosphere, and the constant movement of cows and horses in the field which bordered our house made for a pleasant, rustic atmosphere. I used to enjoy feeding the cows with apples from our neighbors' apple tree. I enjoyed feeling their rough, sand-paper-like tongues as they gobbled the apples from my hands. I usually fed the cows half rotten apples which were found in abundance on the ground, but the cows never complained. When they saw me feeding one or two with the apples I would soon have a large "congregation" gathered around me, waiting for their turn to taste the sweet treats.

One day we had some of my mother's relatives over, and several of my older cousins decided to go out into the field to try and drum up some kind of adventure. I wasn't with them at first but when I finally came out to join them I saw that they had captured a small frog. They had put the frog in a pit and were taking great pleasure in tormenting the helpless and hapless creature.

Now I was not a great lover of frogs, but somehow the idea of tormenting the innocent little creature didn't sit well with me. Worse still, they soon started speaking about killing

the little fella. I watched intently as he climbed up the sides of his pit-prison, desperately seeking escape from his tormentors, only to be knocked back to the bottom of the pit by a large stick in the hands of my cousin. I didn't dare let the others know what I was thinking, for fear of appearing like a wimp, but I began to secretly root for the frog to escape. Again and again he half jumped, half climbed up the side of the pit, but each time he was knocked down by the cruel stick.

After a while I realized that he was not going to escape. My cousins were too adept with their sticks, and the frog too young and weak. My cousins tired of this cruel game and it was evident that the frog would soon be killed. What to do? Like the frog, I was too small and weak to physically force my cousins to back off. And arguing with them would have been useless. To my young mind, there was nothing I could do. And so, rather than staying around to watch the death of the little frog, I went into

the house and cried quietly in my room. You might say that this was my own personal little memorial service for the tiny creature I was unable to rescue. It was all I could do.

Years passed and I grew from a boy to a man. At nineteen I gave my life to Christ. At twenty-five I began to preach and teach. For over forty years I have given myself to read, study, memorize, and meditate in the Holy

Scriptures. As I became more aware of the nature of the redemption we have in Christ, I came to see that this traumatic frog experience of my youth was a near-perfect illustration of the way that Satan torments and destroys human beings. Just as with my cousins, he takes much pride in tormenting the helpless. He works diligently at dissolving marriages, destroying health, destroying relationships, and bringing ruin, depression, pain, tears, and devastation to men and women of every nation, race, culture, and language.

But the good news is that there is One who is greater and infinitely more powerful than the tormentor of men and women. I wasn't able to save the frog, but Jesus can definitely save us! Jesus Christ has come to this earth, died on the cross, and risen from the dead in order that we may be delivered from our own personal pits, and be set free from that cruel, malicious spirit, the devil, who derives so much glee from our sin, guilt, pain, and misery. We can be forgiven, we can be set free, we can be delivered from every torment—spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical through the One who loved us and died for us. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."



Next Month: Mission Nigeria!



Dennis & Benedicta will be ministering in Ugueke, Nigeria in March, the Lord willing. Benedicta is on a flight right now, going there one month ahead of Dennis to help in the coordination of these meetings.

We need your prayers. God is more than willing to save and bless His African children. But we must pray! Also we need your generous financial contributions to help us cover the expense of these meetings. Unlike American evangelism we must pay for the privilege of preaching Christ to the Africans. We depend on the Lord to move on the hearts of tender believers to help us in these efforts.



ONE NEW AND ONE EXPANDED YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

Until recently we have primarily used YouTube to host our African video reports. During the last year we have grown in both our video equipment and skills. We are ready to launch out into more and a greater variety of videos hosted on YouTube this year.

We now have two YouTube channels—our regular one that hosts the major content produced through Spirit of Grace Ministries and a special diabetes video channel. On this channel we intend to minister to both the saved and the lost through helping people with blood sugar issues find answers. We intend to make this a means of “slipping Jesus” into the conversation about health. In doing this we are following the approach of the apostle Paul who became “all things to all men that he might by all means save some.”

In our first video of 2017 (on our regular channel) Dennis interviews his daughter, Joy Whorton, as she shares how she found Jesus at five years of age. In our second video Dennis interviews an amazing man who works full time at Wal Mart, and yet finds the time and money to travel all over the world sharing Christ. Wow!

To view our regular channel: Type “Dennis and Benedicta Pollock” in the search box at the top of the home page at Youtube.com. To view the diabetes channel: Type: “Dennis Pollock, Beat Diabetes” in the Youtube search box. Once you get to any of our videos, click on the words “Dennis Pollock” or “Beat Diabetes” which appear to the right of Dennis’ picture just below the video screen. This will take you to our channel page where you can see thumbnails for all our videos. To subscribe, (so that you will be notified of future videos when posted) click on the red box which says “subscribe” under any video. Then click on the little bell icon.