

A Father once wrote:

My sons are draped on me
In a back pew in church
One on each shoulder.

One is asleep and the other
Is muttering wetly in my ear.

He is telling me a secret,
But I can't make out
A single syllable of the secret.
It's a really SECRET secret.

I say to him later,
What was the secret?
He says he can't tell me:
It's a secret. He says,
"I gave it in your ear
And then I had to forget it too.
Those are the rules," he says.

-Brian Doyle

Today we celebrate God's kingdom. Jesus came among us to share the GOOD NEWS of that kingdom. There was nothing secret about it.

In God's kingdom it isn't the political kings and queens who have power and influence. No! It is the poor and homeless; the weak and sick; the orphan, widow & widower; the leper and sinner.

In God's kingdom these people draw forth from us, not judgment, condemnation and the sentence of death, but rather compassion, mercy and kindness.

Dying on the cross Jesus doesn't condemn the criminals next to Him. He extends a gracious gift to the repentant thief.

As followers of Jesus, we can help bring about God's kingdom among us. How? Be compassionate; be just; be forgiving. Be kind; be respectful; be like Jesus.

We can and do make a difference in our world by the way we live. All of our efforts help make God's kingdom a reality. Let's not keep the GOOD NEWS a secret. Jesus didn't. Will we recommit our selves to that challenge and live the values Jesus proclaimed?

My sisters and brothers: the choice is ours. Let's do it!