

MID-WEEK MESSAGE FROM PASTOR LESLEY  
Pine Bluffs United Methodist Church April 28, 2020

A while ago someone sent me this story on the internet. It was probably one of you!!! But I would like to send it on its way to all of you because we need to be aware and assured of God's presence with us—always!! Here it is:

A father takes his son into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone. He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it. He cannot cry out for help to anyone.

Once he survives the night, he is a MAN. He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own.

The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man.

Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

We, too, are never alone. Even when we don't know it, God is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us. When trouble comes, all we have to do is reach out to Him. If you liked this story, pass it on. If not, you took off your blindfold before dawn. Moral of the story: Just because you can't see God, it doesn't mean He is not there. "For we walk by faith, not by sight!" (2 Corinthians 5:7)

REMINDER! Next Sunday, May 3 at the conclusion of our livestreaming worship we will celebrate Holy Communion together. In preparation I would ask that you have something available to eat and drink as I will bless the elements as part of the service. Also if you have a candle you can light for the Light of Christ in our midst please do so. None of this requires a trip to the grocery store, friends, just use what you have available. See you Sunday!

