

Baptism Is... seeing the humor

“On your feet now – applaud God! Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into his presence.” Psalm 100:1 (MSG)

“God said to Abraham, ‘I’ll be back in about a year, and Sarah will have a baby.’ Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born. Sarah said, ‘God has blessed me with laughter and all who get the news will laugh with me!’ Genesis 18:13 and 21:5 (MSG)

God’s words to Job in Job 38:4, “Did I need to consult with you while I was creating the universe?” 😊

“Why not help us make a fresh start – a resurrection life? Then your people will laugh and sing!” Psalm 85:4 (MSG) All this sounds like something Matt, our Minister of Music would say.

One of the joys I still have is being with people in their grief and giving them the Spirit-led joyful memories. Usually they evolve into **humor**!

Grieving needs space to share the circumstances in which their friend or loved one died. Let’s listen to them. We usually don’t need to say anything. Just sit with them.

Then, without rushing them, it’s time to invite them to share their memories, and that brings **humor** to the surface, and grieving turns into a celebration of life. How awesome.

Faith-sharing often follows seeing the **humor** and sharing mentions God and Jesus Christ, sometimes with questions that cannot be answered, and that’s OK, to wait a while instead of trying to solve the tension right now.

Today let’s see the joyful laughter in Scripture, such as Sarah and God as she gives birth to Isaac, and what God said to Job. Being baptized matters. **Humor** matters. Help us see baptism and joy as awesome gifts of God.

– Dr. Ed Kruse 9-15