

## The Bumble Bee

Remember learning to ride a bike? Or teaching your children to ride. I remember riding my brother's bike. I loved it, I loved the freedom it gave me, however because it was a boy's bike, I didn't like it when my pant leg was caught in the chain. My children learned to ride and took to it easily. My Son had learned and shortly it was my daughter's turn. I planned to get up on Saturday morning and help her. She came in the bedroom and woke me to tell me I could continue sleeping because she and her brother had already been outside, and he had taught her. I had mixed emotions about this, I was disappointed that I was not going to be the one to help her accomplish this growing up step but very proud that big Brother had taken it on. My brother had helped me learn and then left me to perfect the skill. He had joined the Army at 17 and was gone from my life in a short while. Children learn when given the opportunity and support and sometimes just the opportunity. I rode that old bike for a long time, and never did I ride it that I didn't think of the brother that had left it to me. A child that is told that they are not good enough or that are told that they cannot accomplish something will have a hard time believing in themselves. When I had trouble with Math, I was told that girls did not have the ability to learn math. I did not for a while even try but then I saw others doing Math and I began to challenge myself and I gained my math skills that I needed. Sometimes when no one else believes in us, we must believe in ourselves and a God who walks with us and his amazing love. A God who loved us before we even knew him.

\*Aerodynamically the bumble bee should not be able to fly, but the bumble bee doesn't know that, so it flies anyway. (\*A quote from Mary Kay Ash') The bumble bee just gets up and flies. No one tells it that it can't do it and the bumble bee believes that it can, so it flies. It just trusts.

Charles Wesley was filled with joy and gratitude and was so excited, he said, "It the Lord would give me wings, I'd fly." John Wesley replied, "If God bids me fly, I will trust him for the wings."

I look back on my life and think of the things I have done and the times when I felt it was all about me and I realize that God walked that walk with me. That he took away the stumbling stones that were in my path and led me forward. The times he gave me courage to stay the course, the times opportunities appeared, and all was well. The times he walked with me, and I felt his strength and knew it was not my own. The times his angels here on earth stepped up to help me. I am filled with gratitude and love for an awesome God and his earthly angels.

Hebrew 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Psalm 91:2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.

Lord, we thank you for the times we have known you are near, for those times when you walked with us as we went through trials. Be with our Pastor, bless his ministry and watch over him and his family. Be with our Staff and Leaders, guide and protect them, give them purpose and guidance. Be with those who grieve and those who are ill. Be with those who have not returned to services, guide them, and bless them. Be with the refugees from Afghanistan may they find peace and rebuild their lives. Be with our military guide and protect them. Be with the families that have lost loved ones, may they be comforted and may they feel the gratitude of a grateful nation for their sacrifice. It is in the name of Jesus we pray.

Amen

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