



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



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The Huron family spent a vacation at the Ritz-Carlton on Amelia Island in Florida. As you

can imagine, it was a nice vacation — until the family returned and it was discovered that Joshie, the youngest son's beloved stuffed giraffe, was missing.

Chris Huron naturally panicked because he knew his son would be distraught at the thought of sleeping without his favorite pal. So he decided to tell his son Joshie had stayed behind to take an extra-long vacation. Surprisingly, his son was satisfied and was able to fall asleep without his little friend.

That night, the Hurons received a call from the Ritz-Carlton. The hotel's staff had found Joshie. He had been mixed in with the laundry and was turned over to the hotel's Loss Prevention Team. Chris confessed the fabricated story he told his son. The people at the hotel understood.

A few days later, the Hurons received a package which contained Joshie and some Ritz-Carlton-branded goodies. And most importantly, there was a binder that meticulously documented Joshie's extended stay at the Ritz. It showed Joshie wearing shades by the pool, getting a massage at the spa, and even driving a golf cart on the beach! Amazing, isn't it.

What's more amazing is this actually happened and will forever be a story the Huron family will remember and tell! Why? Because the people at the Ritz had made a difference in their lives.

What stories do unbelievers tell about us? What do they remember most about their encounters with us?

rection of our Lord, two of Jesus' followers were walking home, saddened by the crucifixion of Christ. They had been left with only the wonderful memories of being with Him. Luke 24:14 says, "And they talked together of all these things which had happened." The focus of their discussion was Jesus.

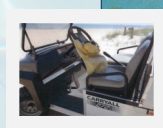
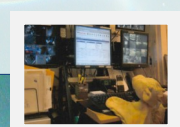
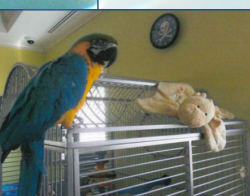
Amidst their feelings of melancholy over the loss of their beloved Lord, they were reminded of how He had touched their lives. No doubt, they remembered the blind who were made to see, the lame who were made to walk, and the healing of those who had all kinds of physical ailments. They were memories that would soon be shared with others in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth (Acts 1:7). Jesus had left them with an experience that changed their lives.

Every Christian has such an opportunity to impact the lives of friends, neighbors, and even relatives in the name of Jesus Christ. The Ritz experience we share with them is the richness of our experience with Christ — the way He gave us peace during the pandemic and hope amidst the national turmoil; the way He kept us singing when everyone else was discouraged; the time He put a roof over our heads and clothes on our backs when we had no money in our pockets.

Just as Jesus used these experiences to change our lives, we can in turn impact others with whom we come in contact through Christ in us. They will hold memories of the encounter for the rest of their lives and throughout eternity! Why not create The Ritz Experience for someone today?

- Dr. L.W. Edwards

On the Emmaus Road after the Resur-



Loss Prevention 03/25/2012

Source: huffpost.com; tripadvisor.com

Don't Wait for the Bell to Train Your Kids Well

After a lecture by the late Chicago educator, Francis Wayland Parker, a woman asked, "How early can I begin the education of my child?"

"When will your child be born?" Parker asked.

"Born? Why, he is already five years old!"

"My goodness, woman," Parker cried. "Don't stand here talking to me — hurry home; already you have lost the best five years!"

Parents who have been waiting for the pandemic to end so their kids can return to classrooms and receive a "proper education" have already lost the best opportunity to teach them. The stay-at-home nature of quarantine offers a unique opportunity to connect with them on a deeper level. As one of the most influential people in their lives, you play a significant role in their education.

When your kids are younger, you get to choose who and what will influence them. As they grow up, there will be plenty of other voices fighting for market share in their lives: television, video games, movies, social media, the Internet, teachers, celebrities, their friends, and even political leaders. How will you make sure they learn the right values?

You cannot control every outside voice, but you can teach your kids which voices are good. Start by being a positive influence yourself. Values such as love for God and others, faith in God, humility, courage, leadership, determination, honesty, integrity, hard work, responsibility, patriotism, critical thinking, tolerance, respect for authority, and forgiveness are better taught by example than words. Help your children identify these values and surround themselves with others who practice them.

Next, play an active role in protecting your kids from negative influences and warning them about their dangers. Hold key influencers like teachers and filmmakers accountable when they communicate the wrong values to your children.

Finally, when your children begin to develop their own values, guide them on their journey by emphasizing why certain choices and influ-

encers are right or wrong. Use the Bible as your Source of truth. It is an unchanging standard which not only promises wisdom to last a lifetime, but also a longer, more peaceful life to those who obey it.

School will be back in session soon. Don't wait for the bell to train your kids well — start today.

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: 2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

Proverbs 3:1-2

Education is too important to be left solely with the educators. – Francis Keppel, former U.S. Commissioner of Education



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