

## LOVING HANDS

Have you ever admired the hands of your spouse? Have you ever thought about the many projects those hands have accomplished for you through the years? I have, especially when I come to the breakfast table. I see those hands at work doing 3 or 4 things at the same time, in spite of the fact that they are a little out of shape.

I look at those hands and think about all of the wonderful blessings she has been gifted with. She manages the finances, besides making some very delicious meals. She stays in touch with family members, trouble shoots Sears, Spectrum, CVS Pharmacies and all other challenges that surface each day. She even trouble shoots members of our families (they don't always listen to her advice). Those hands have been very loving to me as I have become more disabled. The greatest joy is when we have our prayer before meals, is when she folds her hands, what a joy to see that love for her Lord.

I am reminded of the loving care Jesus was able to do for his sheep. I think of the time a lamb strayed and here is Jesus coming over the hillside with that lamb on his shoulders bringing it back to the fold. That story is to remind us that when we wander off to things of the world, He is there just to welcome us back. Reminds us of the importance each of His lambs have to Him.



In our home we have two paintings of Him knocking at a door without a door knob. He is knocking at the door of our hearts which motivates us to open the door to let Him enter because of the love and forgiveness He has to offer us.

The New Testament is filled with stories about His hands. The one most enduring would be about the story with Thomas not believing Jesus had been with the disciples in a locked room. It wasn't until later when Jesus appeared again and Thomas was offered the opportunity to place his hands-on Jesus side and see His hands, to see the marks that were made from the crucifixion. There was the time when Jesus made a mud pack and placed it on the blind man's eyes. That action allowed the blind man to see.

During a sermon by one of our Pastors we were encouraged to close our eyes and picture Jesus face to face. I had a challenge with that offer. Finally, what came to mind was a picture of Him holding a child, the picture in my mind is of Jesus with a white robe and long hair and a beard. Try it, close your eyes and picture Jesus. That was an eye-opening experience.

For me the saddest time of the year is Good Friday. Jesus was nailed to the cross, both hands and feet. We all know the reason He did this, was to die, conquer Satan and rise from the dead. This part is the happiest time of the year because we know that His resurrection gives us the knowledge that we too will arise from the dead and be with Him in heaven.

