



THE HOME ON WASHINGTON STREET

Today we are going to take my rocking chair to a very special home where a Pastor and his family lived. The setting is about 1961. The Pastor's name is Edwin and his wife is named Anna. They are the parents of 3 children 4, 6 & 9, one boy and two charming girls.

The front door bell rings and as is the custom in this parsonage, Pastor comes out of his office to see who is there. A stranger, someone he has never seen. This is not unusual as many people stop, mostly looking for help. As Pastor observes the stranger he can't help but notice that his station wagon is loaded with belongings and several children, along with his wife.

As I sit there, unnoticed, the stranger is telling Pastor that he and his family are moving to Michigan and they are out of money with very little gas in the car. Pastor looks in his wallet, as Anna listens to this conversation from the kitchen, and finds all he has is \$10 (this would be equal to \$100 or more in 2012). So he takes the \$10 and hands it over to the stranger, whom upon leaving shakes his hand and thanks him.

When the stranger was out of site, Anna comes into the picture and mentions to her husband that it is weeks until payday, they have 3 children to feed and there is little food left in the house. Pastor tells her not to worry; this family needed that \$10 more than we do. Just trust the Lord, He will provide for all of our needs as He has promised.

I would imagine you are now thinking, as I was at the time, "It's only because he's a Pastor that he trusts in God's promises more than we do!" Or "What kind of man would do this to his family; he's got to have a screw loose someplace."

I was still there in their home for I had fallen asleep in my rocking chair overnight. About 10 AM, the mailman arrived. As usual, Anna opened the mail and placed it on Pastor's desk in his office. She opened a letter that much to her surprise it contained a check for \$20! Pastor said to her that this was repayment of some money he had borrowed to a fellow student at the seminary and here 15 years later he repaid the loan. What timing the Lord has!

As I arrived back at my home with my rocking chair, I realized that this man's faith is what it is because he spends time in God's Word daily. It really has very little to do with the fact that he is a minister.

Let me end this with a question for you. "Was this act of kindness to a stranger something you would have the faith to do?"

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. **Romans 10:17**

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." **Hebrews 13:5**

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Faith is similar to this canyon; with its high points and low valleys, but it is always precious and beautiful to witness!