

## Go Fly A Kite

The expression, “Go fly a kite!” is usually seen as a negative thing. We are telling the person to get lost, or perhaps that we think the idea they just mentioned is crazy.

Let’s turn that phrase around for today. God encourages us to rise in faith on wings like eagles. He wants us to soar to the highest heights. Remaining earthbound is not finding faith which can transform right now and eventually take us to heaven.

Ecclesiastes 11:5 says, “As you do not know the path of the **wind**, or how the body is formed in a mother’s womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.”

So, like the kite, we must depend on the power and breath of God to take us where God wants us to go. Most humans want to go their own way. It is only natural. But if we are to find the faith which makes everything make sense, which gives us a life of total fulfillment, we must look to Jesus who was lifted up on the cross in that mad environment of Jerusalem two thousand years ago.

As the March winds begin to blow, ask yourself when was the last time you actually flew a kite. When did you take the time to find a grassy meadow on a warm spring day? When did you go to the store just to buy a kite and some string? As an adult, or with little or medium sized or big kids, kite flying is well worth the time.

I remember running with kids last year as they went out to a church member’s farm and flew kites in sporadic and light winds. I remember a time as a child when my kite flew so high and so far, after several rolls of string were added on, that I thought it would never come down.

Preparing for Easter is a little bit like flying a kite. We get our Bibles and clothes together. We do our devotionals and look to God in prayer. We plan to go to church and celebrate the resurrection somewhere on Easter day.

But like kite-flying, it can be unpredictable. We may have all the best intentions, when something happens that we did not plan for, and nothing seems to go right.

Charlie Brown's misadventures are legendary. But did you read what happened when he went to go fly a kite? He saw a tree in the middle of the field. One tree in the whole field, and asked it not to eat his kite. What happened? The next frame is of the kite stuck in the tree.

"Now look, tree. That's my kite you've got up there, and I want it back!" he says, shaking his fist. "You can't go grabbing every kite that flies by, you know! Now give it back. Do you hear me?"

The tree says nothing.

"You can't argue with a kite-eating tree," Charlie Brown says to himself as he begins the sad walk home without his kite. ~Cordelia Evans

That sad walk home is the walk we walk when we find a little discouragement in the kite flying faith department. We want everything to be great, and if one little thing that happens, even if it is not our fault in not moving away from the tree, we stay home for a while.

We blame people who may or may not be at fault. We engage in other activities on Sunday, or at times when God wants us to fly his kite for others. We set up ways to fail in flying our kites.

William Ward was evidently a kite-flyer, or at least a kite-thinker. He wrote, "The optimist pleasantly ponders how high his kite will fly; the pessimist woefully wonders how soon his kite will fall."

Which one are we? As Jesus died to conquer death, even his disciples did not understand. As he rose into the sky in the ascension some time later, on his way to heaven, people then and now keep looking down and worry what will happen instead of running and letting out the string to see our faith take flight.

"If I had my child to raise all over again, write Diane Loomans, "I'd finger paint

more, and point the finger less. I'd do less correcting, and more connecting. I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes. I would care to know less, and know to care more. I'd take more hikes and fly more kites. I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play. I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars. I'd do more hugging, and less tugging. I would be firm less often, and affirm much more. I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later. I'd teach less about the love of power, And more about the power of love.”

We don't get a do-over on life or faith. The time to be serious about our faith, to go fly a kite, dear reader, is now.