

# The Aardsma Weekly

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Editor: Rachel Aardsma

## SPECIAL FEATURE!!!



## **The Little Brown Church In The Dale...**



### **The Summary Of A Church Service**

Our home church is called Faith Christian Fellowship. That is a pretty fancy name for our simple church, with the congregation of seven, and the sanctuary composed of a few odd benches and two rocking chairs that squeak all throughout the sermon.

We meet every Sunday in our living for two or three hours of fellowship. Our church may be small and in-formal, but I thought you might be interested in a sneak peek at our church service.

The service starts officially anywhere between 10:00 a.m and 11:30, depending on how late Dad sleeps in. (He is sick with a thyroid condition which requires that he gets lots of sleep, so he usually sleeps fairly late.)

Matthew is our M.C. (Master of Ceremonies) and he asks Caleb to hand out our maroon hymnbooks to each person.

Dad begins the announcements. Sometimes he has each person tell what they accomplished the week before, but most of the time he just shares a few thoughts and anything that is happening.

After the announcements, we all sing a song. At the moment, we are working our way through the hymnbook song by song. We usually sing without any accompaniment. Dad leads the singing, sometimes stopping to comment on the music or verses.

When the song is finished, Mom takes out the Children's Story. At the time, she is using an A Beka Book Flash-A-Card series. It is called: David in Hiding. She reads it for the benefit of Timothy and Caleb, but we all enjoy in it.

After the story is over, Dad takes out a black and red book by one of his favorite authors: C.S. Lewis. The book is called 'The Joyful Christian'. It talks about many different topics, including 'Prudence', 'Justice', 'Prayers of Praise', and 'Forbearance'. Sometimes the talks get a little theological, but we always have Dad to make things clear.

When Dad is finished, Mom takes out a book called 'Evidence Not Seen' by a missionary named Darlene Deibler Rose. The book has held us fascinated so far. The lady talks about her mission work in New Guinea.

After 'Evidence Not Seen' Rebekah usually plays a song on the piano. She sometimes plays her own pieces, arranges familiar hymns to a new tune, or plays a modern praise song that we all enjoy.

When Rebekah has finished her song, Mom reads 'Don't Waste Your Life' by John Piper, who is a pastor of a big church. We all enjoy this. Mom enjoys many of John Piper's other books.

Then comes the sermon. This can be about anything and everything, and lasts anywhere from one to two hours. We have covered varied topics over the years. Sometimes Dad preaches from the Bible. Other times he talks about something he read, or something that has been on his mind. One week he did a sermon on Annie Flint, the lady who wrote "He Giveth More Grace" and many other beautiful and inspiring hymns, and many poems.

After the sermon, we sing another hymn, and then Timothy passes communion around. Dad then closes our service in prayer.

By then we are all starved, and ready for the special Sunday lunch.

## **The Weekly Bible Verse**

1 John 4:20: Those who say "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.

## **David: A Man After God's Own Heart**

By Rachel Aardsma

### **Part 2.**

As Eliab and David entered the room where their father Jesse and the prophet Samuel were waiting for waiting for them, everyone stood up. David could see his six other tall and muscular brothers standing in the background, nudging one another and smothering their mocking grins. Surely, their youngest brother could not be the next king! All he was good for was watching sheep.

As Samuel looked David over, he too was having his doubts. Was this dusty, tall youth with the hair tousled by the wind and clothes dirty from work in the pastures the Lord's choice? Surely not. How could anyone think this shepherd lad was the type to be king? Eliab, now, was just the kingly type, so strong and handsome... But no, the Lord was telling him clearly "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."

Samuel placed his hand on David's shoulder and smiled at him.

"My lad," he said, in a voice made kind and gentle through years of the Lord's service.

"You have found favor in the sight of the Lord. Kneel, for the Lord commands me to anoint you."

Totally oblivious of the shocked stares of his father and brothers, David did as the prophet requested, and Samuel anointed him with a horn of oil. David smiled as the oil was poured on his head. King of Israel! Well! From a shepherd to a king in five minutes! A king had a lot of responsibility, David reflected. He would never be able to be a good king on his own! After all, he was only a shepherd. Or used to be, anyway. What did he

know about being a king? All David knew was that he was going to need God's help more than ever, from now on.

## **A Word About The Weather**

This week has been beautiful Indian Summer. I love it, and we still have tomatoes ripening!

## **A Word of Wisdom**

If your dog is scared of thunder, and is keeping you up during a storm, make him a cave of pillows and blankets. He will feel secure in there.