

Esther and Emmett – April 11

Esther: Hi Emmett.

Emmett: Hi Esther. You'll never guess what I saw today?

Esther: Was it a giraffe riding a skateboard? Was it a tree wearing glasses?

Emmett: No..it wasn't either of those!

Esther: (big sigh) Well, I guess you're right...I'll never guess what you saw today!

Emmett: I saw a clown take a balloon, stretch it and inflate it and then twist it all up and make a rabbit out of it!

Esther: Really! That's amazing!

Emmett: It sure was. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes!

Esther: (chuckles) Oh Emmett, that's a funny thing to say.

Emmett: No it's not: seeing is believing.

Esther: Well, sometimes it is; but did you know that Jesus said something about seeing and believing.

Emmett: I'm not surprised. He sure did seem to say lots of things about lots of things. What did he say about seeing and believing?

Esther: Jesus said some people believe because of what they have seen...

Emmett: Right! Seeing is believing!

Esther: But Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Emmett: He said what?

Esther: He said you are blessed if you have not seen but you believe.

Emmett: You mean...Jesus said that not seeing can still be believing?

Esther: Yes.

Emmett: (thoughtful) I can't see that?

Esther: Well, let's look at something. Do you see that glass?

Emmett: I sure do. I believe there is a glass there because I can see the glass.

Esther: Do you see what's in the glass?

Emmett: There's nothing in the glass!

Esther: Are you sure?

Emmett: (stares at the glass) I see nothing in the glass so I believe there is nothing in the glass.

Esther: But the glass is full!

Emmett: I don't know what you are seeing, but I don't see anything.

Esther: I don't see anything either.

Emmett: So...you are following the Jesus principle - because you see nothing in the glass you believe there must be something in the glass! That doesn't make sense!

Esther: I don't see anything in the glass...but I believe that the glass is full...of air!

Emmett: Air...oh, ya....well, of course it's full of air. I know that!

Esther: You know that it is full of air even though you can't see the air?

Emmett: Hmm, well, uh,...maybe you should tell me more about what Jesus said.

Esther: Well, after God raised Jesus from the tomb, Jesus suddenly appeared to some of his friends who were in a house that had all its doors locked so no one could get in!

Emmett: Wow! That must have surprised them!

Esther: Yes. And then Jesus showed them the wounds he had from when he had been nailed to the cross.

Emmett: Yuck! But see...he showed them his wounds so that they could see the wounds and then believe that it was him.

Esther: But one of Jesus' friends, a person named Thomas, wasn't there. When he heard about it later he said he wouldn't believe it unless he saw Jesus's wounds.

Emmett: Because Thomas thought that 'seeing is believing!'

Esther: So, a week later, Jesus appeared in the house again when Thomas was there, and Jesus showed his wounds to Thomas.

Emmett: Let me guess...and then Thomas believed!

Esther: Yes...and then, Jesus said....

Emmett: Don't tell me...

Esther: Yes...Jesus said "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Emmett: That's just like Jesus! Just when you think you've got things figured out, he comes along and says something that turns everything upside down.

Esther: Well, I think Jesus wants us to know that God loves us and that God is always with us.

Emmett: I believe that!

Esther: But God is like the air in the glass. We don't actually see God, but we know God is there.

Emmett: Hmm...So we believe even though we don't actually see...I seeeee!

Esther: And people are blessed when they believe like that, because that's what we call faith. We believe, we trust, we know God loves us and we don't have to see God to know we are loved.

Emmett: So...seeing is believing, but we can still believe even when we don't see! Jesus was pretty smart!

Esther: And Jesus believed we are loved by God...and to that we can say, "Amen."

Emmett: 'Amen.'