

# Sew Precious In His Sight

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## THE BELL

### I KNOW WHO I AM

I am God's child (John 1:12)  
I am Christ's friend (John 15:15 )  
I am united with the Lord(1 Cor. 6:17 )  
I am bought with a price(1 Cor. 6:19-20)  
I am a saint (set apart for God). (Eph. 1:1)  
I am a personal witness of Christ. (Acts 1:8)  
I am the salt & light of the earth ( Matt.5:13-14)  
I am a member of the body of Christ(1 Cor 12:27)  
I am free forever from condemnation ( Rom. 8: 1-2)  
I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant ( Phil.3:20)  
I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31 -34)  
I am a minister of reconciliation for God(2 Cor.5 :17-21)  
I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18)  
I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6)  
I cannot be separated from the love of God( Rom.8:35-39)  
I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor.1:21-22)  
I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8: 28)  
I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16 )  
I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3: 12 )  
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)  
I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of His life (John 15: 1-5)  
I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16 ). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2: 10)  
I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Romans 5:1)  
I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor 6:1). I am God's workmanship (Eph. 2:10 )  
I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected. (Phil 1: 5)  
I have been redeemed and forgiven (Col. 1:14). I have been adopted as God's child (Eph 1:5)  
I belong to God  
Do you know  
who you are!?

Keep this bell ringing...pass it on

"The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you  
and give you peace."  
Numbers 6:24-26

## LOVE NEEDS ARMS, YOUR ARMS



As we start another new year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a delightful and prosperous new year. A big thank you for all the love, time and work that each of you give so generously each year to the work and efforts of Threads of Love. You have become the arms of Threads of Love, reaching from coast to coast, across the border into Canada, across the Gulf into Panama and across the Atlantic Ocean to England.

As we reflect back over the past years, how many hugs do you think you have given through the beautiful things you all have made with such love and care? It is hard to say, but since the numbers are not important, but the hugs are, let's look at what a hug is. It is to embrace affectionately, to put your arms around someone's body and hold that person tight to show affection or pleasure. Do we always have to physically touch that person for them to be hugged? I would say no. Let's call this a heart hug. Heart hugs come in all sorts of ways. They are so strong they don't need to be an embrace that can be felt from touch, but the heart knows when a heart hug is given. We send heart hugs each time we make and donate one of our items to local hospitals. We not only hug that baby, through these little gifts, but the family members and the nursing staff as well. Each time one of the packets is opened, those hugs stream out of the love that went into each item you made with the talent that the Lord gave to you. Love needs arms, your arms, even if they can't be seen, but they are felt from the love you put into each stitch.

How important are hugs? Here is a story that I found on the internet and would like to share with you.

### A Rescuing Hug:

Kyrie and Brielle Jackson were born on October 17, 1995, at the Massachusetts Memorial Hospital in Worcester, MA. Each of

the twins weighed all of two pounds at birth. Though Kyrie was putting on a bit of weight in the days following her arrival, Brielle was not doing as well. She cried a great deal, leaving her gasping and blue-faced.

Brielle was having a particularly bad day, and NICU (Newborn Intensive Care Unit) nurse Gayle Kasparian tried everything to calm her. She held her. She had her dad hold her. She wrapped her in a blanket and suctioned her nose. Nothing worked.



Then Gayle remembered hearing about a procedure done in Europe. She put Brielle in the incubator with her sister Kyrie. Almost immediately, Brielle snuggled up to Kyrie. Her blood-oxygen saturation levels, which had been frighteningly low, soared. She began to breathe more easily. Over the next weeks her health improved steadily in her new, less lonely quarters.

The children survived their rocky beginning and in time went home with their parents. When last heard from, Brielle and Kyrie were healthy preschoolers.

Physical hugs are the best kind, but sometimes, due to the situation, you have to do your hugging across space, but they are felt and they do help.

*A hug delights and warms and charms. That must be why God gave us arms.*

*-Author unknown*



## **WHY GOD MADE MOMS**

Answers given by 2nd grade school children to the following questions:

### **Why did God make mothers?**

1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is
2. Mostly to clean the house
3. To help us out of there when we were getting born

### **How did God make mothers?**

1. He used dirt, just like for the rest of us
2. Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring
3. God made my Mom just the same like he made me. He just used bigger parts

### **What ingredients are mothers made of?**

1. God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world, and one dab of mean
2. They had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think

### **Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?**

1. We're related
2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me

### **What kind of little girl was your mom?**

1. My mom has always been my mom and none of that other stuff
2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy
3. They say she used to be nice

### **What did mom need to know about dad before she married him?**

1. His last name
2. She had to know his background, like is he a crook? Does he get drunk on beer?
3. Does he make at least \$800 a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

### **Why did your mom marry your dad?**

1. My dad makes the best spaghetti in the world and my mom eats a lot
2. She got too old to do anything else with him
3. My grandma says that mom didn't have her thinking cap on

### **Who's the boss at your house?**

1. Mom doesn't want to be boss, but she has to because dad's such a goof ball
2. Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed
3. I guess mom is, but only because she has a lot more to do than dad

### **What's the difference between moms and dads?**

1. Moms work at work and work at home and dads just go to work at work
2. Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them
3. Dads are taller and stronger, but moms have all the real power 'cause that's who you got to ask if you want to sleep over at your friend's
4. Moms have magic, they make you feel better without medicine



## ***MAIL BOX...***

Hello,

My name is Emily. I live in Louisville, KY and I delivered my daughter, Hannah Elizabeth, in August of 2006 at Norton Suburban Hospital because we knew going into the hospital that our little angel had no kidneys and would not survive. One of the first things the nurses did was bring us a basket of stuff from Threads of Love. The thing we most appreciated was the beautiful light purple blanket. Our little angel's color was going to be purple. It was perfect. I didn't think at first that I would need it, because we brought a lot of our own baby stuff for her birth, but we ended up using the purple blanket a lot also. My husband wrapped her up in it and it stayed with her until she was cremated. I have to say thank you for this organization. We still sleep with her sweet purple blanket with a Threads of Love emblem sewn on it to this day and probably forever will.

Thank you for what you do to help families and infants. You truly must all be wonderful people. Sorry that I just remembered to write this short note of thanks.

Emily

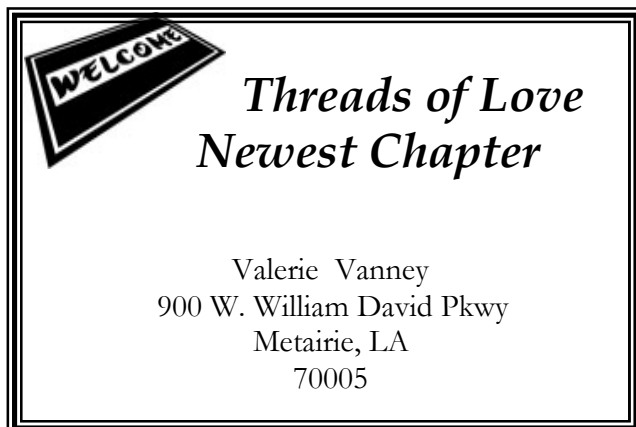
Dear Threads of Love,  
I would like to thank you so much for the beautiful gifts that you handmade.

In April (I'm very late with this thank you), my sister gave birth to a beautiful baby girl who was deceased before birth.

She was very small (13 oz.) and we were trying to decide where we would find a baby doll dress that would be worthy of this baby girl. When the nurses brought in the beautiful hand-made gown and bonnet, we wept with joy. You provided the most perfect burial gown for our Amelia Grace. My mother is a sewer, and we value and appreciate hand-made gifts...this could not have been more perfect.

We would like to thank you by making a donation to your cause. We feel that no babies should be buried in a "store-bought" gown. They should be laid to rest in a gown made with love and thoughtfulness as well as prayers for the babies and families alike.

Thank you and may God bless you all as you continue to make the traumatic and difficult times a little more bearable.  
-Jennifer



## **WOW**

With just a little over half of the chapters reporting their monthly tallies, Threads of Love donated 118,444 items for the year 2007! Just think, if everyone had sent in their monthly tallies, what the total would have been!!!



## QUILT OF HOLES

As I faced my Maker at the last

Judgment, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls.

Before each of us was laid our lives, like the squares of a quilt in many piles. An angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.

But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I was faced with in every day life. I saw hardships that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.

I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened.

My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air. Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of truth. The others rose; each in turn holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been! My angel looked upon me and nodded for me to rise.

My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness, and wealth, and false

accusations that took from me my world as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.

And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it was.

I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light.

An awe-filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes.

Then, I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in His eyes He said, "Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships and My struggles.

Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you."

May all our quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing Christ to shine through!



Jesus Loves the Little Children

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Place address label here

### **Mission Statement**

Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of tiny premature infants. The ministry is about healing and binding hearts together - the hearts of parents at a time of uncertainty about their baby's health or when they lose an infant. Our mission is to show parents the love of Christ at a time when their personal pain is hard to endure and let them know that God is faithful. Through acts of obedience and donation, His work can and will continue. Pray that this ministry will have an impact far beyond our expectations.

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***"The will of God will never take you  
where the Grace of God will not  
protect you."***