



Bethany Lutheran Church & Preschool
5051 McCarty Road
Saginaw, MI 48603
www.bethanysaginaw.com
Phone: 989-793-9579

Viewpoints

Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.

Man's Best Friend ~ October 1, 2014

We will tell and retell the story of our best friend.

[Online Version & Archive](#)

Nick can hear when he wears his cochlear implants, but because they cause discomfort when he sleeps, he removes them.

Nick's parents have been carefully protective of their deaf son, evidenced by how they equipped their home with smoke detectors that have flashing lights. And since this was the first morning his parents allowed their thirteen-year-old son to stay at home by himself, my guess is that Mom and Dad felt better about it, knowing that Ace would be with Nick.

So here's the scenario. With his folks at work, Nick is still sleeping with his cochlear implants removed. An electrical fire starts. The house is rapidly filling with death. Nick can't hear the smoke detectors, and because he's sleeping, he doesn't see the flashing lights. Nick is going to die. Except there's Ace. Ace is the family dog who started licking Nick's face until he woke up. By putting a shirt over his nose and mouth Nick (along with Ace) was able to escape downstairs and flee the home.

What happened a few months ago in Indianapolis reminds us why dogs are called "man's best friend." And you and I also have an Ace. His name is Jesus.

Our sins sparked the punishment of God's burning anger. Yet God could not abandon us, so great his love. So he came down to earth to pay our debt of sin by sacrificing himself the cross. And then he awakened us out of the stupor of our sin with the faith to believe in him [*which is the focus of this coming weekend's worship*]. And although our "Ace" died in the fire that should have consumed us, on the third day he rose back to life to be our faithful companion—*with heavenly hugs and "licks" forever!*

Because Ace was loyal, Nick is alive. But because Jesus is loving, we're alive forever. "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:12). If loyalty makes a dog "man's best friend" what does Christ's sacrificial love make him?

Source Material (Links may become inactive over time.)

[Pit Bull Saves Deaf Boy...](#) @ LA Times

To become a recipient of Viewpoints, please email mike.nitz@bethanysaginaw.com and simply type the phrase "VP please" in the subject line. Or if you wish to no longer receive Viewpoints, type the phrase "discontinue VP" in the subject line. Thanks.

Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

