

- Greetings to all the Saints at Manatee Life,

**SCRIPTURE:**

Acts 1:8 (MSG) – Larger reading: Acts 1:1-11

*“What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.”*

**STORY:**

Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Houston, Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had an occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, “You’d better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it.” Then he thought, “Oh, forget it, it’s only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a “gift from God” and keep quiet.”

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, “Here, you gave me too much change.”

The driver, with a smile, replied, “Aren’t you the new preacher in town?”

“Yes,” he replied.

“Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I’ll see you at church on Sunday.

When the preacher stepped off of the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, “Oh God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter.”

**OBSERVATION:**

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test! Always be on guard – and remember – You carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself “Christian.”

**QUOTE:**

Watch your thoughts; they become words.

Watch your words; they become actions.

Watch your actions; they become habits.

Watch your habits; they become character.

Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

**PRAYER:**

It is my prayer today that in all that I do or say, I will reflect your glory and be a faithful witness to your Kingdom to all those we meet. In the name of the one we witness for, Jesus Christ. Amen

And the faith journey continues, Pastor Jim

[Jmartin450@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Jmartin450@tampabay.rr.com)

386-795-5323

***Worship this Sunday at 10:30 in the sanctuary  
OR via FaceBook at Manatee United Methodist Church  
OR via YouTube where NO Facebook account is needed:***

<https://youtu.be/TJv7W2St3gg>

- 
- - 
  - 
  -
- 

**Settings**