

## "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



### A PRECIOUS COAT

After spending some time rummaging through all the possible places I could think of, I steeled myself for the question and the likely answer I feared; "Ruth, have you seen my work coat?" In a voice full of wifely care came the answer, "Yes. It's had it! So I put it in the 'Rag Bag'!"

OK. Maybe my blood didn't "run cold", but there was a decided chill as I contemplated "my coat", rubbing shoulders with that "other stuff". I know it has that burnt patch from angle grinder sparks, rough paint colour charts, the sleeve ends where I "hacked" them off with a Stanley knife are a bit ratty, there's the odd tear and of course, the zipper no longer "ziiippps". To me, it is precious. It has kept me warm through many winters; the rip in the sleeve reminds me of the time it gallantly stood between my arm and the run-away power drill. It has been and still is part of my life.

My coat reminds me of Jesus.

Where do I find Jesus? Everywhere. No one can take him away and out of your life unless you put him to one side. He promises, "I will be with you always, even to the end of the earth."

How can I relate to him? Try talking to him no matter where or what is happening (the good and the bad), reading his words in the Bible, and mixing and sharing with others who have him as a precious part of their lives. Churches can often be a worthwhile place to try. They generally have many friendly, caring people willing to help you get to know Jesus personally.

How can Jesus become "precious" and part of everyday life? Be open to him and recognise the times he has helped you. You may not see his help at the time or in the way you wanted, but don't throw him and his love away. Be sure the "Aaah!" moment of understanding, recognition, and feeling of his "wrap-around love" will come.

Others may not think my coat is precious and only see the tatters, not the relationship, what it has been to me and the comfort and safety it brought into my life. That does not matter. Many claim Jesus is irrelevant. That is of little consequence as he wants his love and forgiveness to be precious to you. Will you let him wrap you in his love?

May God bless you and lead your decision.

KevinWARNING: Wives do not mess with your husband's "work coat"!