

The Jesus Shaped Hole

I once heard a friend say that when God made us, he made a Jesus shaped hole in our hearts – and nothing fills that hole but Christ and His cross. Recently our precious sister Bertha Fritz commented that when she gave her life to Jesus, she never looked back, and that she wanted to live every day for Him.

Indeed, Bertha had found the answer that made her complete: Jesus – fully fitting into that empty puzzle piece of life that so many never find. But many did, indeed, find Jesus because Bertha was so joyful in sharing our Savior and Guide with those who had not yet found Him. Part of the very fiber of her being was helping others. She did not sing her own praises; she just went about quietly taking friends to the doctor, or to get their hair done, or to the grocery store, doing countless other acts of kindness in service to others and in honor of Jesus. In her typical frank and forthright manner Bertha said, “I’m ready, whenever Jesus wants me.” Wednesday afternoon she was sitting up in the hospital room laughing and telling stories of her life, then told us, “I think I’ll get to go home tomorrow.” Indeed she did! Thursday, Bertha went home to be with Jesus (“...which is very far better” – Philippians 1:23 KJV)!

As David Ebert wrote of Bertha that same Wednesday night, comparing her to Dorcas in Acts 9, *“What do you think of when you hear ‘Dorcas’? I think of a giant of a woman whose height is inches less than five feet. How many trips to the grocery store for others? How many rides to the doctor for members of the community? How much done for others that only the LORD and the ones benefitted know? Why? Because of her love that wants the best for people.”*

Today, we have a little more invested in heaven and a little more to look forward to as our beloved Bertha has been taken home, safe in the arms of Jesus to rest from her labors, laugh with old friends and marvel at the un-utterable beauties and joys of her heavenly home.

-Ray Wallace

John 14:1-6 “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also. And you know the way where I am going.” Thomas *said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” Jesus *said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”