

The Cross in My Pocket

As I leave the house each day one of the items that goes into my pocket is a small metal cross. It goes into my right hand pants pocket along with any pocket change I might need that day. Then,



when I go to make a purchase I reach into that same pocket and pull out the available change and, along with it, the cross. The main purpose of having the cross in my pocket is to casually remind *me* throughout the day whom I serve.

There are times during the day when I just reach into the pocket to assure myself it is there. The cross serves as a constant reassurance of what Jesus has done for me. Jesus Christ is with me throughout my day.

As a person who often likes to play on words – commonly known as puns – you might also say that because of the cross, I am a “changed” person. What could be more symbolic than to reach into my pocket, seeking to make change, and finding the cross that has changed me and so many people?

I don’t know what it is about store clerks, but when I start to count the pocket change they seem to focus on what is in my hand. There have been times when store clerks have observed the cross that is embedded with the change. Often times it becomes an opportunity for the clerk to share their faith in the safety of being with someone else of faith.

One time recently the clerk even said that she wished she had a cross to remind her of her faith. It became an impromptu gift to the clerk as I completed my purchase.

Whether you wear a cross on your lapel or as a necklace, or carry one in your pocket, it may create opportunities for you to share your faith with others, or they may discuss their faith with you. What could be better than sharing the reminder of what Jesus did for me with someone else?

The little metal cross is such a small object but serves as a big reminder for us to live a life that has been changed because of the cross.

Scripture: *What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun! (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

Question: What symbols do you carry or display that tells others you are a person of faith, and willing to discuss your faith with others?

Prayer: Dear Lord. We pray that we will have opportunities to share our faith with others. Please give us the right words to say when we have those opportunities. Amen.

Real Life Testimonial from a Friend:

After sending this devotion out I received this comment in return:

“Bruce, I seem to remember a very dark time in my life when a true friend handed me a cross just like that! It remains in my RIGHT pocket every day, to this day...and it will have been five years on October 28.

I visit a physical therapy center three times per week now. They keep a simple Styrofoam cup on their receptionist's counter, filled with exactly those crosses. I take one at each visit, with designs on sharing my "extra" one with someone before I return to pick up another.

You have made a real difference in my life, and I thank you sincerely for that!!!”