It’s really difficult to imagine the anguish and agony that Christ suffered in order for us to have eternal life with him in heaven. In preparing to write this article, I read over the Easter story and ended up with a greater appreciation for what Jesus went through.

The analogy that I came up with was that of parents to children. We, as parents, want the best for our children. We know from the beginning that our kids will not be perfect, will make mistakes and will surely suffer the consequences. But even in knowing this, we do our best to keep them from harm – protecting them every way we know how. We try to tell them of our own life experiences, hoping they will learn from our mistakes. We ask them to be patient and wait before making decisions. We ask them to “think” before they act. Yet we know they will have to learn on their own by trial and error.

Think of Jesus and his disciples. He chose each one of them personally and called them by name. These men were common folks; fishermen, tentmakers and tax collectors. They were with him for 3 years. The 12 witnessed firsthand his teachings and the miracles he performed. They were there when he turned the water into wine. They were there when he healed the blind and made the lame to walk. They were there when he fed five thousand plus with the five loaves and two fish. Jesus “fathered” them, trying to teach them how he did what he did. He obeyed his father and put all his trust and faith in him.

When the time of his death was near, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to plead with the Father, hoping for a way of escape to his pending horrible death on the cross. Knowing that the Roman soldiers were looking for him, he asked the disciples to wait or “tarry” for an hour while he prayed. Did they stand guard as he had asked? No - they fell asleep. Like babes, they rested and did not do their Master’s bidding. Through disobedience, they lost their teacher. Yet through this loss, they gained what they needed by receiving the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

As we celebrate the most holy of Christian holidays – the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, I ask you to consider obedience to the Father – our Father in heaven. Make or renew a commitment to read the Bible and pray on a daily basis. There’s life in the words of the Master. Let’s celebrate Jesus!
MAYS MISSION RECEIVES GRANT
FROM FRANCIS A. SINES & ADELINE M. SINES MEMORIAL FUND

Heber Springs - Mays Mission for the Handicapped has received a generous grant from the Francis A. Sines & Adeline M. Sines Memorial Fund of the Community Foundation of Broward County, Florida for assisting individuals with disabilities and promoting public awareness on the potential of people with disabilities.

Mays Mission will use the grant to help fund its scholarship program for students with disabilities who are studying for a bachelor’s degree. This program is a critical part of our organization. It teaches the importance of education, not just for those with disabilities, but for all.

“Scholarship opportunities for individuals with disabilities lag behind for those students who do not have a disability. We thank the Francis A. Sines & Adeline M. Sines Memorial Fund of the Community Foundation of Broward County, Florida for helping to make this college opportunity possible”, said Sherry Niehaus, executive director.

Printed, assembled, and mailed by handicapped personnel.

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With April comes National Volunteer Month. In the spirit of serving, we have made a list of ‘Tips for Wise Volunteering’ to get you started.

Ten Tips for Wise Volunteering:

1. Research the cause or issues important to you. Look for a group which deals with issues important to you.

2. Consider the skills you have to offer. Many positions require a volunteer who has previous familiarity with certain equipment, or who possesses certain skills.

3. Consider volunteering as a family. When a family volunteers together, the experience can bring them closer together and teach children the value of giving their time and effort.

4. Would you like to learn something new? If you would like to move into new areas which will provide you with a change, seek a volunteer opportunity involving training in an unfamiliar skill.

5. Don’t over-commit your schedule. Make sure the volunteer hours you want to give fit into your hectic life, so that you don’t frustrate your family, exhaust yourself, shortchange the organization you’re helping, or neglect your day job.

6. Nonprofits may have questions, too. Most nonprofits are eager to find volunteers but have to be careful when accepting your services. An interview may be required.

7. I never thought of that! Many community groups which need volunteers may not have occurred to you: day care centers, Meals on Wheels, food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters for battered women and children, public schools, Neighborhood Watch, after-school programs, nursing homes and more.

8. Give voice to your heart through your giving and volunteering! Bring your heart and your sense of humor to your volunteer service, along with the enthusiastic spirit which is, in itself, a priceless gift.

9. Virtual volunteering? If you have computer access and the necessary skills, some organizations now offer the opportunity to do volunteer work over the computer.

10. Be a year–round volunteer! We all need to be aware that making our communities, our nation and our world better, is a 365-day a year responsibility – and there is always something we can be doing to help!

If you would like a copy of our free brochure ‘The Spirit of Volunteerism’ please call 888-503-7955, email at info@maysmission.org, or write us. Thank you for your service.
FREE REPORT
“What To Tell Your Attorney About Your Plans”
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A number of thoughtful people, desiring to honor the memory of a departed friend or loved one, are sending memorials in the form of contributions to the Mission. Families of those whose memories are so honored are notified of the contributions by an appropriate card, and the names are listed in an issue of our newsletter without mention of the amount of the contribution.

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