"CHURCH, GLAD WHEN IT IS OVER?"

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

There was once a woman named Gladys Dunn. She had recently moved into a retirement community in a small town.

One beautiful Sunday morning, she walked to church not far from her house. She was very impressed with the beautiful church building, as well as music from the choir.

However, she wasn't very impressed with the sermon. She thought it was kind of boring, and as she looked around the church, she noticed that many of those attending were nodding off.

When the preacher finished, he encouraged his congregation to greet those sitting close to them.

Gladys turned toward the man sitting on her left. He, too, had fallen asleep and was yawning and stretching trying to wake up.

He smiled at her, and Gladys returned the smile. She politely offered her hand and said, "I'm Gladys Dunn." "You and me both!", the man replied.

Seems kind of humorous, but it is a serious matter to get bored in church services. It may be cause because we have had a short night due to health reasons or possibly by looking after a loved one. Maybe, we had to work night shift and have not been in bed yet. Or possibly it was due to staying up too late watching TV, or playing games with neighbors. Not getting enough sleep is a problem anywhere.

Or maybe it was just plain boredom, due to the minister not being adequately prepared. Preachers, sometimes will do this you know. It may it is caused by his being called out in the middle of the night due trying to settle a marital dispute, or called to a hospital, or jail. However, if the minister is doing his part, shouldn't we do ours by coming to services refreshed and eager to be spiritually fed?

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