(Continued)

'I also wanted to have enough money to buy a white rose for my mommy, but I didn't dare to ask God for too much. But, He gave me enough to buy the doll and a white rose." 'My mommy loves white roses.'

A few minutes later, the old lady returned and I left with my basket. I finished my shopping in a totally different state of mind from when I started. I couldn't get the little boy out of my mind.

Then, I remembered a local newspaper article two days ago, which mentioned a drunk man in a truck, who hit a car occupied by a young woman and a little girl. The little girl died right away, and the mother was left in a critical state. The family had to decide whether to pull the plug on the life-sustaining machine, because the young woman would not be able to recover from the coma. Was this the family of the little boy?

Two days after this encounter with the little boy, I read in the news paper that the young woman had passed away. I couldn't stop myself as I bought a bunch of white roses and I went to the funeral home where the body of the young woman was for people to view and pay their last respects before her burial. She was there, in her coffin, holding a beautiful white rose in her hand with the photo of the little boy and the doll placed over her chest.

I left the place, teary-eyed, feeling that my life had been changed for ever. The love that the little boy had for his mother and his sister is still, to this day, hard to imagine. And, in a fraction of a second, a drunk driver had taken all this away from him. Now, we understand why they say, "Don't Drink & Drive".

We may have hurricanes, tornadoes, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, but is this worth worrying about whenever people have more personal "hurts"? 'Are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?'

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31) 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37) 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
5) Live A Christian Life (14:22) 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

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