**A Letter To My Neighbor In the Apartment Above Me**

Dear Neighbor,

Although we have never actually met, I feel I know so much about you.

You must have just purchased a new pogo stick. Congrats on that. And you are the 2018 Double Dutch champs. Probably a really nice trophy, too. Where did you find your very own “Whack-A-Mole” setup? I wish I had one. Four mini ponies? Wow, lucky you. I am so jealous. And you are training to win Gold in gymnastics. Go USA! I am really jealous of your very own bowling alley. League play nearly every night! Nice way to make a few bucks on the side I bet.

Look, I’m not trying to be a pest or anything, but “Oh my goodness, what are you doing up there?!” And if you do by chance have mini ponies, I would sure like to meet them some day!

Sincerely,

Your neighbor

P.S. If you are secretly Spiderman and are practicing your Spidey skills…then please disregard this letter and keep up the good work!

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*Came where he was*: It is most humbling and remarkable that Jesus left the glory of Heaven, laid aside all of His heavenly prerogatives, and came to where we are. The great I AM set his foot upon the same dirt we do.

*Had compassion on him*: God loves us while we are still in our sinful state. That is beyond comprehension.

*Bound up his wounds*: By his wounds we are healed spiritually. The implication of the parable is that the victim had no possible method of taking care of himself and his deadly problem. Without help, he would surely die. Notice that the Samaritan did all the work. Likewise, our salvation is a product of “the strong arm of the Lord”, a solution we could never provide for ourselves.

*Pouring on oil*: Often in the Bible, oil is a picture of the Holy Spirit, and this is no exception. We understand from the New Testament that the Holy Spirit is poured into the life of everyone who becomes a Christian—we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

*When I come again*: The glorious hope and confidence of every saved individual is the eventual return of Jesus Christ someday.

So, do you know how to get to Heaven now?

**Matthew 1**

A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ **(standing O, cheers)** the son of David **(applause)**, the son of Abraham **(cheer)**. Abraham was the father of Isaac **(applause)**, the father of Jacob who stole his brother’s birthright **(boo)**, and Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers who sold Joseph into slavery **(hiss)**. And Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah **(huh)** by Tamar **(hmmm)**, and Perez was the father of Hezron and Hezron was the father of Ram and Ram was the father of Aminidab **(huh)**. And Aminidab the father of Nahshon the father of Salmon who was the father of Boaz by Rahab **(cheer)** who used to be a prostitute **(boo)**, and Boaz **(applause)** was the father of Obed by Ruth **(cheer and applause)**. And Obed was the father of Jesse the father of David the King **(cheer)**. And David was the father of Solomon **(applause)** by the wife of Uriah whom he had murdered **(hiss)**. Solomon was the father or Rehoboam who was a good king **(cheer)** but abandoned God’s ways for years **(boo)**, and Rehoboam was the father of Abijah **(applause)** who had 14 wives **(boo)**, and Abijah was the father of Asa **(applause)** who did not walking in the way of the Lord at the end of his life **(boo)** and died of gangrene in his feet **(moan).** And Asa was the father of Jehosaphat **(applause)** who ruled wisely most of the time **(hmmm).** Jehosaphat was the father of Joram who was the father of Uzziah whose pride brought about his fall **(boo)**. But Uzziah was the father of Jotham **(applause)** a very good king in every way **(cheer)**, who was the father of king Ahaz, a bad king in every way **(boo)**. And Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah who cleansed the temple and the kingdom **(cheer and applause)**. Hezekiah was the father of Mannaseh **(boo)** who ruled almost his whole life as an evil king **(hiss and boo)** and Mannaseh was the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the deportation to Babylon **(moan)**. After

the deportation to Babylon, Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel who was he father of Zerrubabel, a governor of the people and chosen by God **(applause)**. And Zerrubabel was the father of Abuid **(huh)**, and Abuid was the father of Eliakim **(huh)**, who was the father of Azor **(huh)**, who was the father of Zadok **(huh)**, who was the father of Akim **(huh)**. Who was the father Eliud **(huh)**, the father of Eleazar **(huh)**, the father of Mattan **(huh)**, the father of Jacob **(huh)** the father of Joseph **(applause)**, who was the husband of Mary **(cheer)** of whom was born Jesus the Christ **(standing O and cheers).**



**I got called “pretty” today!**

 **Well, actually the full statement was “You’re pretty annoying”**

**But, I only focus on the positive things.**

