



Special Holiday Issue On The Green

An Official Publication of the Christian Golfers' Association International

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57 Cent Church

(Editor's Note: *You have probably seen this story around the internet several times in the past few years. It is such a great, true story, that everyone should read it. Therefore we are including it as the feature article in this special issue, at this special time of year, and as we begin to think about gift giving.*)

A little girl stood near a small church from which she had been turned away because it was 'too crowded. 'I can't go to Sunday School,' she sobbed to the pastor as he walked by.

Seeing her shabby, unkempt appearance, the pastor guessed the reason and, taking her by the hand, took her inside and found a place for her in the Sunday school class. The child was so happy that they found room for her, and she went to bed that night thinking of the children who have no place to worship Jesus.

Some two years later, this child lay dead in one of the

poor tenement buildings. Her parents called for the kind-hearted pastor who had befriended their daughter to handle the final arrangements. As her poor little body was being moved, a worn and crumpled red purse was found which seemed to have been rummaged from some trash dump. Inside was found 57 cents and a note, scribbled in childish handwriting, which read: 'This is to help build the little church bigger so more children can go to Sunday School.'

For two years she had saved for this offering of love.

When the pastor tearfully read that note, he knew instantly what he would do. Carrying this note and the cracked, red pocketbook to the pulpit, he told the story of her unselfish love and devotion. He challenged his deacons to get busy and raise enough money for the larger building.

But the story does not end there. . .

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TAKE A TAX DEDUCTION!

You can **HELP YOURSELF** and help CGA achieve the goals of helping others to take their next step toward Jesus Christ. Help promote Christian fellowship and evangelism among golfers and non-golfers around the world by making a tax-deductible contribution*. **One hundred percent (100%) of your donation goes toward national and international evangelical costs and operating expenses. This includes: providing bibles and study material, postage, newsletters, mailings, office supplies, telephone, and other costs that keep CGA, as an effective ministry, witnessing and evangelizing the miracles of our Lord.**

The Christian Golfers' Association is a nonprofit (501(c)(3) ministry devoted entirely to encouraging and enhancing Christian fellowship worldwide. As you know, we do not charge dues or fees. ***We have no paid staff!*** We are a **FAITH BASED** ministry. **CGA receives no funding other than donations from members and friends.** As you can imagine, the expense of maintaining an organization of several thousand members worldwide is kind of overwhelming! The cost of recruiting new members and organizing new chapters is great. Private contributions have been the only means of meeting these demands since the very beginning of CGA. We are truly a faith based ministry.

Your tax-deductible contribution, or pledge, may be made on-line at: www.christiangolfer.org, through the **PayPal** secure network system, automatic bank payments, check, money order, or credit card. You can arrange for your bank or credit union to make automatic monthly contributions, or, for your convenience, automatic credit card donations, so you never have to worry about it. (*See your professional tax advisor for advice.) Send donations to:

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57 Cent Church, continued

A newspaper learned of the story and published it. It was read by a wealthy realtor who offered them a parcel of land worth many thousands. When told that the church could not pay so much, he offered to sell it to the little church for 57 cents.

Church members made large donations. Checks came from far and wide. Within five years the little girl's gift had increased to \$250,000.00 -- a huge sum for that time (near the turn of the century). Her unselfish love had paid large dividends.

When you are in the city of Philadelphia, look up Temple Baptist Church, with a seating capacity of 3,300. And be sure to visit Temple University, where thousands of students are educated.

Have a look, too, at the Good Samaritan Hospital and at a Sunday School building which houses hundreds of beautiful children, built so that no child in the area will ever need to be left outside during Sunday school time.

In one of the rooms of this building may be seen the picture of the sweet face of the little girl whose 57 cents, so sacrificially saved, made such remarkable history. Alongside of it is a portrait of her kind pastor, Dr. Russell H. Conwell, author of the book, 'Acres of Diamonds'.

This is a true story, which goes to show **WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH 57 CENTS.**

CGA & 57 cents. . .??

We praise God and thank Him daily for those few members who are committed to serving our Lord through the ministry of CGA by making regular monthly contributions. We could not operate without each of you and the gifts you provide. But just think. . . what if **EVERY** member (or person reading this), would make a monthly donation of at least. . . **57 cents!**

The story above got me to thinking. If **EVERY** member of CGA would donate just **57 cents** a month we could:

1) send bibles and Sunday School material to several of our Pastoral members and contacts in different, remote parts of the world. Members who serve thousands of individuals teaching them about Jesus Christ. Many are in areas that are hostile for Christians; **2)** we could help the start-up of CGA Chapters in more than fifty cities in the U.S. that are waiting; **3)** we could re-vitalize a dozen chapters who have grown weary on their own in trying to keep a chapter viable and reaching people for Jesus. **4)** We could also provide more personalized service to these chapters and help them take their next step in serving Jesus Christ.

More than 400,000 people go to our website each year. That's a contact for Jesus. People who want to know more. Not just about golf, but about how golf and God go together. Many do not play golf and never have. They read the Core Values of CGA, "*We believe that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary as the living Son of God. That He was crucified on Calvary, died on the cross, was buried and arose on the third day. That He sits at the right hand of God the Father and as the Holy Spirit, dwells within us.*" The 'fairways' are ripe unto harvest! We, you and I, MUST do the harvesting.

Remember. . . being a member of the Christian Golfers' Association (CGA) is not just about playing golf. It is about serving our risen Savior, Jesus Christ and our fellow man.

Just think. . . 57 cents can help make miracles!