

Children's Message

7.15.07

Good morning.

Do you know where I just came home from yesterday? Camp! At Temple Hills! Mrs. McGuire, Megan Murray, Chris Menolasino, Ryan Sosinski and Mick Mougey, Kara Sosoiniki, Heidi Foster and my Mary Kate! What a week we had! And boy, was it ever hot at the beginning of the week!

Well, while I was at camp, I heard a wonderful story that I want to share with you this morning.

This is the story about a mom who traveled a whole bunch on business trips. She usually flew once or twice a week to meetings in different cities. One day she was in a huge rush trying to make her plane and, even though she was really hungry, she didn't have enough time for a whole meal, so she stopped into one of the little stores and purchased a sleeve of Oreos. One of those little packages that has seven cookies in it.

She raced to her gate, placed the sleeve of Oreos on the arm rest and sat down to wait for her seat to be called. Other people were filling up the waiting area quickly, and a man smiled and sat down next to her. She opened the cookies, and then reached into her pocket for her phone. When she turned back around, the man had taken the first cookie right out of her package! He looked at her, smiled, and then ate the cookie. She couldn't believe it! Here she was, in a huge rush, having only seven cookies to eat for a snack, and this man just helped himself to her cookies!

So, she looked at him and took the next cookie out and ate it. He just smiled at her. The next thing she knew, he reached over and took ANOTHER cookie from the package! Was she ever fuming when she reached in and took the next one. Then, it happened again! He took another cookie and smiled! She could not believe the arrogance of this man! Who did he think he was? She took another cookie and sat there just burning up, thinking about that last cookie that was in the package.

And then, right before her very eyes, he reached over, and took the last cookie out, smiled, and then... listen to this: He had the gall to ask her if she would like to share it! He then twisted the Oreo, smiled and offered her the side with the vanilla cream on it! Oh my gosh- she about burst, but she took that half of the cookie and ate it.

Before long, her seat was called and she got onto the plane, thoroughly furious about the entire situation. The plane took off and she decided to get out her computer to do some work during the trip. When she opened her bag, guess what way lying right on top? HER package of Oreos!

She had eaten that man's Oreos! Can you believe it? Now, think back to what that man did- he smiled as she ate half of his Oreos- then he did the unimaginable! He shared the best half of the last cookie with her.

This story just stopped me in my tracks. I keep tossing it around in my mind- I'd love to think that I would be just like this generous man, who gave to a stranger, never to be seen again- and did it with a smile on his face. But unfortunately, I am afraid that I may be a whole lot more like that business woman.

I don't know. I do know what Jesus would say about this. I do know who Jesus would be in this story. And I do know who Jesus would want me to be in this story. How about you? Who would you be?