

## "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



### KICK THE CAT – OR.....

It was one of those mornings! If a cat had wandered into the kitchen, it could have been travelling through the air wearing the imprint of a boot. Well, not actually. I don't do that sort of thing. But, having one of those "MAD AT THE WORLD moments, I sure felt like it. Then looking out the window, I had to smile. There, hanging upside down on a kangaroo paw plant, was a frustrated honey eater trying to get at the nectar in the plant. He had REAL problems.

My mind went from the honey eater to a story I had been told about doves and how, in contrast to the busy honey eater, the dove is peaceful, represents peace and contentment, and can recognise peace or tension in a person. Consequently, a dove sensing vibes of tension or anger are hesitant to sit on the shoulder of someone showing signs of irritation.

I remember the day a friend, obviously "up-tight" about something, complained, "Jesus says he will bring peace into life. Right? Well, why can't I get this peace?" was his question as his shoulders aggressively hunched toward me. Feeling the tension and aggression pouring from him, I paused momentarily. Then I remembered the story about doves.

Placing a hand on his tense shoulder and, with a friendly squeeze, told him about doves, tight shoulders, Jesus and how a dove is often used to demonstrate the peace Jesus brings between people and God. A peace brought through His suffering, death, and coming alive again. God plans his interaction in our lives to be peaceful, gentle and inviting. He doesn't rush and try to bully his way into our lives like an obnoxious park bench Pidgeon.

Mad at the world (or anyone else)? Jesus says, "Talk to me! Relax! Be welcoming in inviting me into your life. I want to bring peace into your mind, into your life. A peace greater than you can ever fully understand."

Maybe we could all learn to relax more and make it easier for Jesus to land his peace into our lives – every day.

God's peace be with you,  
Kevin.