

“Easter is a Dumb Dress”

by
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- What** It's Easter, and six-year-old Lea has the perfect outfit. But Mama says she has to wear "that dumb dress" instead. Ultimately, the wardrobe battle teaches both of them something important about the Resurrection.
- Themes:** Easter, Monologue, Resurrection, Children, Parenting, New Creation
- Who** Lea (an adult remembering a situation when she was six years old)
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Lea wears a modest special-occasion dress (should reflect what members of your congregation typically wear for Easter). She also wears a large butterfly clip or attachment that can only be seen from the back.
- Why** 1 Corinthians 5:17
- How** Speak as if telling the story to one person or a small group of friends. The idea is to be personal and to paint a picture of what's happening, just as you would in a more intimate setting (i.e. sitting a coffee shop with friends). While telling a story like this, we often fall into the voices of the person we're speaking about. Be careful not to overact on those voices (Lea as a child, Mom) and be fluid in your portrayal.
- Have someone you trust watch your performance beforehand and give you honest feedback and suggestions.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Lights up on Lea.

Lea: The day before Easter, the year I was almost seven, Mama said I had to go up and try on my Easter dress. I said, "Why? It's still Saturday." She said we had to look just right on Sunday because it was church and then pictures and then Gramma's, and I think other things too, but I was trying to finish my coloring sheet and I didn't hear them all.

I put the cap on my marker, and I went upstairs and looked in my closet. I first grabbed my butterfly shoes, because butterflies come from boring old caterpillars and I love them. Then I picked out my yellow tights with the daisies because they looked spring-y. I also picked out my red skirt with all the shiny glitter things. Cause when I wore it in the dance recital, everyone said it was extra fancy. Then I picked my shirt that had a purple bunny on it, because bunnies are a very big deal at Easter. Then I remembered how in Sunday School last week, Mrs. Baker said that Jesus is our hero. And I thought of the PERFECT THING: My Superman cape! I put everything on, and I went downstairs to show my Mama. I was so excited because I knew this was a perfect Easter outfit.

Pause; her expression suddenly falls.

My Mama did NOT think it was the perfect Easter outfit.

She said, but I bought you a new Easter dress. It's right here. I looked and it was light blue. Boring, dumb light blue. There was lace on the bottom, and lace on the middle, and lace in a great big "V" on the top. I said, NO WAY. I am not going to wear that dumb dress. I do not want to look like a tablecloth. And Mama said, "This is your Easter dress and you are going to wear it tomorrow."

I said...well...I don't know what I said. But I know after I said it, I got sent to my room.

Later Mama came up and she read me something from the Bible. The verse said, "So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, the new has come!" She said, do you know why we wear new clothes on Easter? Because Jesus rose from the grave, and because he did, your spirit is BRAND NEW. And sometimes we need a reminder that the old "self" with all its ties to sin has been put to death, and the new "self" has been raised to new life. The new dress is a reminder of that new creation.

Beat.

Now, I didn't know why the new creation had to be light blue. But there was something in that Bible verse that made me a little bit excited, even though I was still a little mad. Because the Bible said I was a new

creation. And I couldn't really be NEW in something I had already worn lots of times. So...

On Sunday morning, I put on the light blue tablecloth dress. And then I put on my favorite butterfly shoes. Mama said, "But I bought you some new shoes? They're right here." And this time I didn't look, but I said, "Mama, butterflies are new creations from boring old caterpillars. And my favorite butterfly shoes make me think of being a new creation. Can I please wear them?"

And she said, "I guess I can take these back." And we went off to church, and pictures, and Gramma's.

These days, of course, I pick out my own Easter clothes. Sometimes they've still got the tags, and sometimes they're well-worn. But I always have something to remind me: In Christ, old things are passed away, and all things are new.

Lea turns to exit. As she turns, we see she has a very large butterfly clipped to her hair, or the back of her dress.

Lights down.

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