

Philip Gulley (Sunday afternoon, January 5, 2014)

has been praying someone would come plow out his driveway, but no one has yet. He is having a crisis of faith. Someone, anyone, especially anyone with a plow, come restore his faith in an all-loving, all-caring God.

Some of the responses

Pray for 50 degrees then we can believe in an all-loving, all-caring God. There's a miracle for you!

50? I'm going for 70....and sunshine.

Ace Hardware in Danville still had snow blowers yesterday. Maybe you should invest...

I would cue the crickets but they are hunkered down for the winter.

If God had wanted driveways and walks shoveled we'd have shovel hands. God deals with it through warming weather and melting.

Somehow you just reminded me of that story about the preacher, the flood, and the helicopter.

We have discovered, now that our children have other pathways, three things. One: there will be more snow. why shovel it now? Two: If you ignore that stuff it goes away on its own. Three: As long as you are snowed in, people don't expect much of you and that's just fine.

Phillip, be the change you want to see in your driveway.

God is saying, thee has a truck; buy a plow blade.

Don't know about your prayers, but my neighbor kid came over and I paid him to finish the driveway for me. Thank you Jesus.

God helps those who help themselves

God answers all prayers. Sometimes the answer is, "Get outside and shovel your own snow."

That's why you marry a good woman. Tell Joan to step.up.her.game!

Phil...flamethrower? I saw that someone tried that. They were arrested but you might get away with it being a Quaker minister type. Good luck. You're welcome.

God said take a number!! LOL

Sometimes, Phil, the answer is "NO!"

Sorry, God is busy in Green Bay because so many prayers are being offered for a packer win!

If Jesus had lived in a temperate climate we'd have Bible passages like, "Even a tax collector shovels his own path."

God is not busy in Green Bay or Cincinnati or anywhere the NFL is playing. Even though we may think otherwise God has better things to do than take sides with a sporting event. That said, "Go Seahawks!"

Shameless n I love it . God already performed a miracle I'm Indy. Go Colts. Phil go buy a snow blower.

I think God has more pressing things to do than have your driveway plowed. Try a coat and a shovel. Hey that would make a good book title.

That's enough whining. Pray and be patient. God will get to you in due time. There is a lot of pain out in the country right now. There are people down here in Florida that don't have long pants and it's getting down into the low sixties. Send help! Oh, and we're low on margarita mix too.

Philip Gulley (Monday morning, January 6, 2014)

My crisis of faith continues. I have been in steadfast prayer for 24 hours and God has yet to send someone to plow my drive. Snow too deep for my snowblower. Shovel is broken. Wife and dog reluctant to help. Experiencing dangerous shortages. Down to two Diet Pepsi's. Cocoa Krispies gone. Meanwhile, my neighbors, Baptists, have a clean driveway. Am beginning to suspect God doesn't care for Quakers.

Some of the responses

This is God's way of telling you to STAY INSIDE and start eliminating junk food from your diet.

Philip Gulley-come on over. I have Coke Zero.

Face it Phil, your a heathen backslider! Stay warm my friend! Peace.

We stopped talking to our next-door neighbor about religion 15 years ago. Last night, he called and volunteered to plow our 700-foot driveway "because he felt like plowing." He got two loaves of homemade bread in return, as he won't take money. We still kept our denominations to ourselves, even the \$50s.

This Disciple has a huge snow drift in front of his garage door. Seems God is equal opportunity....

God probably likes good Quakers. Just not thee and me.

Frankly, Phil, you should be more concerned about the forthcoming crisis in health care when the spike in the birth rate arrives in early October, 2014.

How are the Episcopalians faring down the road? This Anglican dug herself out, and may just hike over to put a shovel down on your drive. No one should suffer a faith crisis alone.

Just out of curiosity, if your Baptist neighbors are all plowed out why are they not over helping their neighbor since, I believe, that would be the Christian thing to do? Sip that DP sssssllloooooowwwwwlllllllyyyyyyy. Blessings.

Abundant snow IS a blessing -- in the old days, it used to be called "the poor man's fertilizer". Think about the awful summer drought, and then remember how much the reservoirs and aquifers need to be refilled. At The last meeting I served, we had roughly 10 feet of snow every winter. My second year there, the meeting gave me an 8 hp. snow blower with tire chains instead of a raise. I thought it was a pretty good deal.

Fuuuunny man.... thanks for the ab workout from the big laughs. Mother Earth showed us she knows how to bring it! I dug out the new fashioned way... my plow guy is on speed dial.

The Lord giveth; the Lord taketh away. Of course, a driveway suddenly clear would be a nice miracle.

Would come shovel except The Lord, through the local police, threatened us with a fine if we drove anywhere.

Miracle here- car started, IHOP open. Best omelet ever or at least this year

We had a multi- denominational snow cleaner come out from the yellow pages-we paid him a tithe -Exodus 4:1

I am praying to the Unitarian gods for you...they ALWAYS listen!

It sucks when the kids move away, doesn't it?

The angel who showed up yesterday at our front door was happy to take twenty bucks to plow the driveway, and we were happy to pay it.

I sure am glad you are my pastor and you have a FB page. I needed a laugh today. Larry's snow blower broke and he has been shoveling all day. He said if an old man like him can do it so can you. LOL

Dear Phil, Way will open. Meanwhile, make snow cream.

Philip Gulley (Later on Monday, January 6, 2014)

Wrestled wife for last Diet Pepsi. She won. Don't ever marry a farm girl.

Philip Gulley (And later on Monday, January 6, 2014)

O thou merciful Lord, thou heard my cry and sent my neighbor, Brian Ritchie, to my house with his ATV and plow, who cleared my driveway. He made my crooked path straight, the high snow hath been made low. Thanks be to God, and to Brian Ritchie, whom I owe big time. Dinner at Gray's Cafeteria on Phil! (Hey, Brian, you forgot my sidewalks.)

Philip Gulley (And later on Monday, January 6, 2014)

I spoke too soon. Brian Ritchie did plow my driveway, but only cleared half of it, barely enough for my car to get through. In fact, I got stuck the first time I went through and my son had to pull me out. Therefore, I will only buy half of Brian's lunch at Gray's Cafeteria. Half a driveway=half a lunch. Thus did the Lord say, regarding equal reciprocity, "an eye for an eye."

Some of the responses

Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

So he came late...so it wasn't perfect...pay him.

Our "neighbors" who shares a driveway with us has graciously plowed their side and dumped it on our side - grrrrrr so things could be worse

I couldn't feel my toes....the Lord told me to go home and warmath thou feet.....I told the Lord, " No, I must finish".

These snow updates have been the best stuff I've read on Facebook in ages! Brian, if he gets a book out of this, remember just one word...ROYALTIES.

Yes Carolyn, I've been trying to get a deal done with his publisher but Philip won't budge!

Love your neighbor replaced "eye for an eye" - you know this

Oh, oh! But, but, how can you be only half-delivered?

Does that just put him in purgatory?

Philip Gulley (And even later on Monday, January 6, 2014)

I will reconsider and buy all of Brian Ritchie's lunch at Gray's for plowing half of my driveway. He generously donated two of his toes to the effort. The wages of grace, it turns out, is frostbite. Fortunately, having lost a toe on each foot, we now share the same shoe size and can borrow one another's shoes.

Philip Gulley (Tuesday morning, January 7, 2014)

I experienced a break-through last night. Emerged from the cave of snow that is my driveway and went to Krogers. Cocoa Krispies and Diet Pepsi now fully replenished. Went to see Brian Ritchie, who plowed out my driveway, but I got stuck in his unplowed driveway. The cobbler's children, it turns out, never have shoes.

Some of the responses

Btw, still a travel ban in our county. So you just told on yourself.

He couldn't clear his own driveway after sacrificing his toes for yours. The cobbler has no shoes because he has no toes.

New book title- "Life of Brian"!

Phil, could you please return my snow shovel you borrowed from me days ago, I spent all night working on my driveway with little Charlie's sand shovel. I think I may have lost a couple fingers, not sure cause I have no feeling in them! Much appreciated!!

Philip Gulley (Later Tuesday morning, January 7, 2014)

I'm sad to report the extreme cold has taken it's toll on my neighbor, Brian Ritchie. He has lost another appendage to frostbite. I can't go into details, but let me just say Brian now sings soprano in the community choir.

Philip Gulley I just had a Brian Ritchie response. Oh, my, I never should have gone down this path.

Philip Gulley (Later Tuesday morning, January 7, 2014)

I have learned of a restaurant in Avon that is open and desperately needs customers. In spite of the cold weather, and the obvious risk to our well-being, Brian Ritchie, Dave Helton, and I are braving the elements to support free-market capitalism.

Some of the responses

And give us a report on how the roads are out there please!

Philip Gulley Carol, main roads are fine. I'm going down Highway 36 right now, coming up on a bridge, hold on, slowing down, whoa, just hit some ice, hey, wait, don't brake, Brian...

Hendricks County still under red emergency. Stay home.

Brian Ritchie with Philip Gulley and Dave Helton at Bagger Daves Burgers and Brews (midday, Tuesday, January 7, 2014)

Getting my free lunch from Pastor Phil!! Phil ran a sweet old lady off the road on the way here, I wanted to stop and pull her out but Pastor Phil insisted we get her on our way back from lunch.

Some of the responses

I'm taking a wild guess here that living in your neighborhood there's never a dull moment.

Philip Gulley She shouldn't have been out in this weather. I wanted to give her time outside to reflect on her poor decision.

Rightfully so. As St. John points out: "God is tough love."

Brian Ritchie Pastor Phil, why don't you tell everyone how you also slid through that red light nearly hitting a poor man..thanks to my cat like reaction, I reached over and honked your horn to avoid the collision. Very Scary!!

I don't see the problem. After all, Phil is essential personnel which should give him priority at an intersection.

Scripture for Phil's victims: many are cold but few are frozen

Philip Gulley (midday, Tuesday, January 7, 2014)

Went to Bagger Dave's with Brian Ritchie and Dave Helton for lunch. Got pulled over for being a non-emergency vehicle. Brian Ritchie started crying. Brian and Dave are now in jail. I am back home. It turns out pastors are considered essential personnel. What do you know about that!

Some of the responses

Were you driving? Since when is a clearly-marked clergy vehicle not an emergency vehicle in the first place?! Those and cars with "PRESS" bumper stickers are right up there with the vehicles with the sireny things and flashing red/blue lights on top.

Friend, you have written fiction so long that it appears your conversation has become the same. LOL

Philip Gulley (Late afternoon, Tuesday, January 7, 2014)

Am now heading to the gym to lift weights and pummel my sculpted body into shape. Brian Ritchie is still in jail for being non-essential personnel. I will visit him tomorrow as part of my prison ministry.

Some of the responses

You were supposed to set the captives free not just visit them.

So glad you have the TIME and AN OPEN DRIVEWAY plus are considered "ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL" so you can go to the PROVERBIAL GYM and CONTINUE working out! Yep. I believe THAT! I'd say the "working out" is limited to your fingers on a keyboard right about now.

Going to present Brother Phil with an official Quaker "Liars Bench" one of these days.

Philip Gulley (Evening, Tuesday, January 7, 2014)

Have returned from gym. Visited Brian Ritchie at jail. Warned him not to take a shower. My work is now done for the day.

Some of the responses

Let me get this right, you went to the gym but you would not shovel snow. Is this right?

Hmmmm, someone else braved the weather to go to the gym in Danville. It was closed due to the weather.

Philip Gulley (Evening, Tuesday, January 7, 2014)

Took Dad on a drive around Danville tonight. Went past all four homes he and Mom have lived in since 1957 when they first moved here. Drove by the jail, honked the horn, saw Brian Ritchie looking out the window, felt sorry for him and have resolved to get him freed. Am now accepting non-refundable donations for his bail. Together, let's set the prisoner free.

No way. Have him transferred to the historical museum jail so the kids actually have something exciting to see on their field trips.

"Nobody knows the trouble he's seen..."

I don't know him. I question the wisdom of bailing him out if he has friends like you waiting for him.

Brian Ritchie Please friends set me free! I will become a Quaker!!

I'm going to put on my Uggs and parka and stage a candlelight vigil outside the jail tonight. Anyone want to join me for some Kum Ba Ya?

Would you please get off the roads and stay home! You are a menace to society!

Is Danville in a red county or yellow county?

It is Terrible to ONLY do good & be locked up for Good Intentions!!!! We see it all through the Bible!!!!

In reading Brian's agreement to become Quaker, I only have to say that you, Phil, have been the instrument for God to work in mysterious ways. The conversion is worth all the trouble Brian put you through.

Brian....you may stop being confused I believe Phil was also Catholic...and I know I was...so you can just join most of my Quaker Friends in being a (fill in the blanks with your own history) Catholic Quaker, Catholic Fundamentalist Quaker, Baptist Quaker, Baptist Methodist Quaker, Southern Baptist, Free Methodist Quaker.....well you get the idea

Brian Ritchie All I want to be is a member of a Church. !! I went to College and joined a Fraternity but it was nothing like this, trying to be a member of a Church? Who will accept me??? I was Baptized a Catholic, then went to a Christian Church, then married at a Greek Orthodox Church, Wow, Brian Ritchie is so confused???

Brian I think you should pray, that's how this whole thing started it's come full circle, just like a Seinfeld episode

Welcome home. The best part about Quakers is that you can have no idea what is going on, but you can sit silently and no one will catch on. It's like stealth church membership.