

# Keep Your Head

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*What is the key to happiness...*

A million! Fifty two million dollars! Winning the lottery may make you very wealthy, but can it bring a true sense of happiness? Or are there other values that make life seem special?

We live in an age when it is easy to by-pass our sense of vision, faith, charity and decency. We are constantly bombarded with success being measured in terms of bigger homes, more powerful cars and trucks and higher winnings. Some of the Dragons' Den participants repeatedly tell us the only thing that's important is making huge quantities of money.

What about turning the volume down and listening to good old-fashioned talk about caring for the common good?

Remember Rudyard Kipling's advice "(to) keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you."

Sort through the chaos that consumes its victims like a giant cancer. Find values you are proud to share with your family, your friends, your neighbours.

Recall the people Jesus noticed. There was the widow who searched through her house to find the only coin she had so she could make an offering to a cause she believed in.

There was little Zacchaeus, so small he had to climb a tree to catch a glimpse of the teacher. But the teacher noticed him and asked if he might come to the little man's home for supper.

Remember the woman who felt so self-conscious she chose only to approach Jesus from behind and touch the hem of his cloak? But Jesus noticed her and blessed and healed her.

Each of these, in their simple way, kept their focus on the one they believed in. And their lives were blessed.

When we centre ourselves around Easter, we need to listen to the small voice that affirms we are not alone. Knowing this reveals the key to happiness.