

Bully Wink Booklet One

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SALVATION

The Beginning

Long, long, long time ago, in a far away pond at the edge of a swamp, lived a tiny little tadpole named Taddy. Taddy was an adventurous type of tadpole. He always wanted to try everything just for the excitement of it. Taddy longed to grow up and be a bullfrog. He wanted so much to swim up to the top of the pond, and see all the beautiful sights he had heard so much about. But Taddy's mother always told him he was not quite old enough to go to the top.

Well, one day Taddy just couldn't take the suspense anymore. Off he shot toward the surface of the water as quick as he could when his mother's back was turned. It seemed like forever to get there, but when he did he found it to be just as beautiful and wonderful as everyone said it would be. Taddy swam all over the place admiring the birds as they sweetly sang, he heard the bullfrogs niii...dippin, and he saw great fish jumping right out of the water. Taddy thought he was in heaven.

After awhile he felt like he should head back down to his home, but he was so tired. Maybe, he thought to himself, if I just rest a few moments on the lily pad allowing the waves to flow over me so I can breathe, then shortly I'll have the strength to swim home. Well, you can imagine what happened next. Taddy was so tired that he slept a lot longer than he wanted to. As a matter of fact, when he woke up the sun had already set and everything was dark. The world around Taddy didn't look so warm and beautiful anymore. Taddy was scared stiff. He didn't dare move for he had heard that at night there was a giant that swam around the pond by the name of Redeye.

Let me tell you, things didn't get better, for Taddy saw, at least he thought he saw a big, red eye off to his right, then it disappeared. If the little tadpole swam off his lily pad the creature might get him!

All of a sudden that big ol' Red eye popped right out of the water right in front of Taddy, but this time it was two big red eyes and below them was a mouth filled with razor-sharp teeth. Taddy couldn't move. The creature opened his mouth and began to talk with a very deep voice.

"Little Taddy, why are you so far from home?" Taddy didn't answer. "Well," said Redeye, "I think I'll eat you little feller", and

with that, the giant alligator opened up his great mouth and started to chomp down on little Taddy.

But you know what happened? Out of the clear blue came this great big bullfrog and he jumped right into that gator's mouth. With one hand he held up the upper teeth and with his two feet he kept the bottom teeth from closing in on him. He looked at the frightened little Taddy and said, "I am King J.C. Bullfrog, and I have come to save your life." With that the jaws of Redeye slammed shut, knocking Taddy off his lily pad and into the water. He began to swim faster and faster than he had ever swam before until he finally reached home. He told his mother how sorry he was, and that he wouldn't disobey her anymore. He also told her how King J.C. had given his life that Taddy might live. He knew he didn't deserve it, but he was so thankful his life had been saved, and you know what? Taddy's life was changed after that. He became a Christian and when he grew up, he became a famous preacher by the name of Reverend BullyWink Bullfrog. He started what is known as the Swampland Church and let me tell you, a lot of lives have been touched since then by that one little Taddy.



FORGIVENESS

Long, long, long time ago at one of the swampland church services, two interesting characters were sitting side by side. They were Wally Wabbit and Snailly Sue. Snailly Sue had arrived at the church a little late because she worked all Saturday night at the Swampy Hospital. After church she would go home and take a nap.

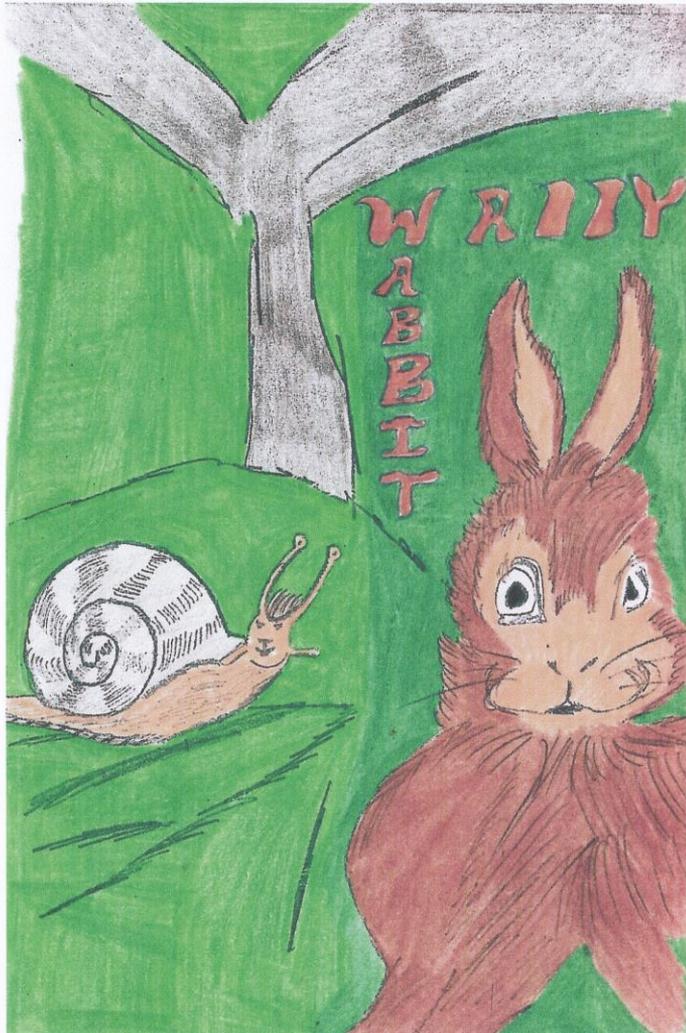
Well, the problem was that Snailly had worked so hard and so long that she didn't have time to take a bath, and I must admit she smelled a little bit stinky like. Wally caught a whiff of her scent during the prayer time and from then on he couldn't pay attention to the prayer or anything else. He thought to himself that she should not have come to church without taking a bath, no matter what the reason.

Oh Wally did hear one part of the sermon and that was that we are supposed to tell the truth, so right after the service Wally pranced right up to Snailly Sue and told her how bad she smelled. He said her name ought to be Smelly Sue instead of Snailly Sue. With that Snailly raised her antenna up high and Wally fell back twitching his nose like all rabbits do. "Phew----weeee"! He shouted.

Well...after that Snailly didn't come back to church for two Sundays and the preacher went to see what was the matter. "I'll tell you, Reverend." She said. "It's that Wally Wabbit. He made fun of me." After a little while Rev. BullyWink realized that the problem was not just the rabbit but also with her. He picked up this idea by the way she described Wally as a low down, weely wabbit. The Rev. agreed with her that Wally should have never said such a thing, but he also told her that her reaction wasn't right either. Bully Wink said that the Bible says that if someone is mad with us, then we are to go to them and try to make it right.

"I want him to tell me he is sorry first." demanded Snailly Sue. "I'm afraid he won't do that sister Sue, but you need to take care of your side of the situation," answered the Reverend. Sister Snail thought a long time about this, and then finally agreed with the preacher. "It will not be easy and I don't really want to, but....I know it's the right thing to do," said the snail.

Well, you know what happened! Sister Snail called Wally on the phone and told him she was sorry the way she reacted to what he said, but he had hurt her with his words. It wasn't easy for her to say those things, but she really didn't want to be mean to anybody, and after it was over she felt so much better. Wally though, never realized he had done anything wrong. We need to pray for him.



LISTENING

Be Quick To Listen

Long, long, long time ago the Swamp Church decided to get some new hymnbooks. The only one strong enough to pull such a heavy wagon load was Tony Turtle. He was mighty strong but...he was also very slow. To help him on the journey, Rev. BullyWink asked Wally Wabbit to go. Let me tell you it was quite a sight seeing those two on their way back from the store. Besides the 75 hymnbooks in the wagon, Tony had piled 25 books on top of his shell and do you know what was on top of them, steering them all? You are right, Wally Wabbit.

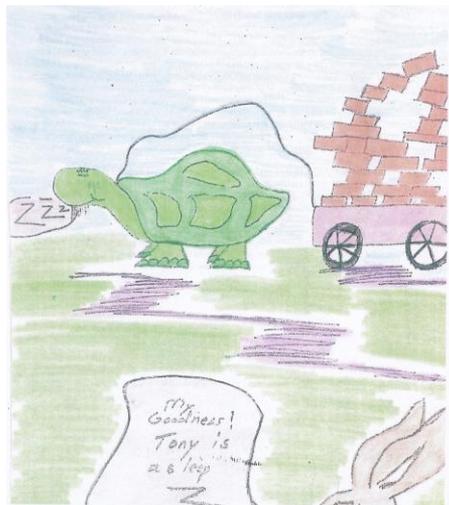
“Whoa...!” Wally yelled as he swayed back and forth on top of the hymnbooks. “A little to your right now, back to your left” Wally shouted. “I’ve got to rest, Wally,” called out Tony. “I’m getting so tired.” “Alright,” Wally answered as he hopped off the top book. “We have got to hurry Tony,” Wally said. “The Reverend said Sunday that we were to be doers of the Word and to do whatever we do quickly.” But Tony didn’t hear a word Wally said because he was fast asleep.

Wally was always quick in everything he did and when an idea popped in his head he would go right to it. That’s exactly what happened. Wally grabbed one of the hymnbooks and took off to the church. It wasn’t any time at all till he was back again, but to Wally’s surprise Tony was still asleep. Let me tell you, that little Wabbit got mad and the longer he gazed at Tony and listened to him snore, the madder he got. Then another idea popped into his head and without thinking much about it, he went right to work. He grabbed up some twigs, poking them under Tony’s shell, and then he lit a match to them. The problem was Tony didn’t feel the fire, so he didn’t jump up quickly. He just kind of raised up a little and moved forward about a foot. Doing this he pulled the wagon right over the fire, and then he sat back down continuing his sleep.

“Tony!” yelled Wally waking him up. “What, what...?” asked Tony. “The wagon is on fire.” With that Tony took off and I

have never seen a Turtle run like that, but of course I have never seen a Turtle's wagon on fire before either. Tony ran smack into the nearest patch of water. "Splash!" The fire was out. The books were saved, but who was going to explain to the Rev. about how wet they were.

All of the local swamp families heard all the commotion and within a few minutes there were animals everywhere including Rev. BullyWink Bullfrog himself. Wally tried to explain that he was just obeying the Bible and doing it quickly like the Rev. had said. "Wait a minute, Wally," BullyWink said, "You are so quick you didn't hear all I said. We are to do what the Bible says, but we are to be quick to hear it and slow to anger. Seems to me you were quick to be angry, right?" Wally agreed and together they dried out the hymnbooks. Wally was really sorry for what he had done. He simply had not really listened to what the preacher had said. The Bible does tell us to do what it says, but what we are to be quick in is listening to it. Rev. Bully Wink had also said that the Bible says to Be quick to hear, and slow to anger. Wally hadn't heard that part. But the Lord was good in protecting all involved, and the books turned out fine, just a little wrinkled. Before everyone left, the Reverend gave Wally a hug just to remind him he still loved him, and always would even when he made foolish mistakes.



FULL ARMOR

“The Full Armor of God”

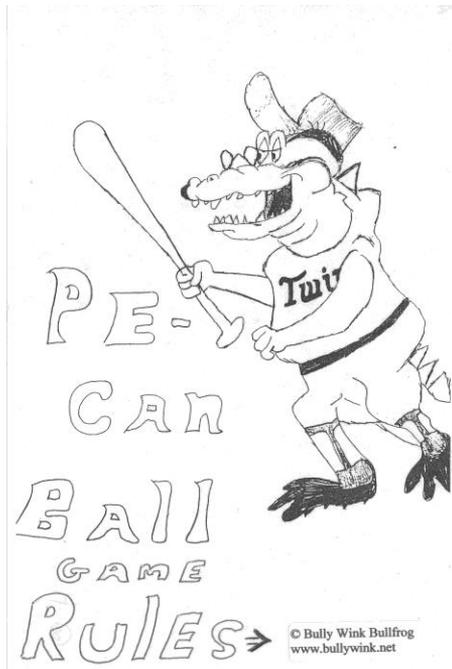
Long, long, long time ago, right after a church picnic, all of the kids from the Swampland church decided to have some real fun. They decided to go down to the old peach grove that hadn't been harvested in years. They knew there would be a lot of good ol' rotten peaches. Their plans were to split up in teams and have a peach fight. No one ever got hurt because the peaches were all mush.

Well, when they got there they were greeted by one, Slimy the Snake. “Hey fellas,” Slimy asked, “How's about me taking all of you on?” “No, that wouldn't be fair, Slimy. We would wipe you out,” said Wally Wabbit. Slimy insisted by saying, “Are you Swamp fellas or yellow bellied chickens?” The swamp kids were so upset they all yelled, “We'll do it!”

Before they knew what was happening, Slimy was throwing those peaches in so fast that the fellas had to run away to protect themselves. That is all but Wally. He didn't want to get his feet smashed so he had worn some big ol' army boots. They were so big he couldn't run. “Help!” he squalled.

Do you want to know what happened then? Those swamp brothers and sisters came running back to protect Wally. Tony Turtle jumped on his tummy using his shell as a shield, Squirrelly Boyly and Squirrelly Girly started chasing each other so fast around Wally's waist that every time Slimy looked in their direction he got dizzy, and Porky the Porcupine curled up on Wally's head like a helmet filled with needles. Slimy was getting so disgusted because every peach he threw was knocked down one way or the other, mostly by Tony's shell on Wally's tummy. “I'll just wear them out,” Slimy said, but then all of a sudden half a dozen rotten peaches came flying over Wally's head heading in Slimy's direction. “Yikes!” Slimy screamed, and turning around one time too many to see what was happening, a peach smacked him right on the nose

making that long slimy body roll up like a piece of yarn and roll down a hill far away. “Hooray!” shouted everybody. Who do you think they found out was standing behind them that threw all those peaches! Well, it was Alli the Gator. After everybody had settled down and were sitting under a shady peach tree, Wally made an interesting statement. “You know what everybody? This may seem weird, but there is a passage in the Bible that sounds a lot like what just happened to us. It says we are to stand firm against the Devil. We are to have strong feet like Wally did by being peaceful. We are also to have a shield like Tony did to protect us and the Bible calls that Faith. We are also to protect our head with a helmet like Porky did and the Bible calls that the helmet of Salvation. It also says we are to protect our mid-section by knowing Jesus and doing good. Finally, it says we are to have the Sword of the Spirit, which I think means to fight back by reading and knowing the Bible. We fought back today by Mr. Alli throwing all those peaches, and with that everybody yelled once again, “Hooray!”



DO GOOD

Long, long, long time ago there lived a minnow named Minner. He was the cutest thing, only about an inch long. He was also always doing good things, especially for Mrs. Toady. She was an ol' widow toad. Her hubby had already gone on to be with the Lord. She was very lonely, so Minner went to see her all the time. He was so nice to her. He would shower her with sprays of water and sometimes he would even bring her some food from the bottom of the creek.

One day Minner's friend Taddy the tadpole asked him how come he was so nice to her. "Well," Minner whispered, "the truth is that she is teaching me to niii...dip so that when I become a bullfrog I'll be better than everybody else." Hearing that, Taddy just rolled over and over in the water laughing so hard.

"What's so funny?" insisted Minner. Taddy said between his laughs, "You are not gonna ever niii...dip. You ain't gonna be no frog you silly minnow." Minner felt terrible. "You mean I'm not going to grow up and niii....dip?" "The only dippin you will ever do is dipping your head in and out of the water" said Taddy.

Minner felt kind of sick and do you know what? He didn't go back to see Mrs. Toady. She sure missed him. One day she called his mother on the lily-pad line. That's kind of like our long distance telephone calling. Minner's mom called him in from playing to ask him why he never seemed to have time to go see Mrs. Toady anymore. He hee-hawed around until he told her the truth and let me tell you, she was upset!

"You mean to tell me the only reason you saw the poor ol' widow was for yourself to learn to niii...dip."

"Shaw, shaw, shaw,..." (That means shame in people talk) "That was your motive?" she asked. "Little Minner, you ought to be nice to everyone, even old toads."

Minner agreed with his Momma and you know what, Minner and Mrs. Toady became great friends once again.

What's your motive for doing right things, or nice things? Why do you do them? I think the Ol' Reverend BullyWink would tell us that since God loves me and treats me so nice, then I ought to treat others like that. What do you think?



REPENTENCE



Long, long, long time ago in the swampland community a problem arose. Squirrely Girly decided she wanted to leave home. Now she was of age physically but mentally she wasn't quite ready to be on her own. After many a talkins (parent to child conversation) Squirrely Girly left on her own. Her dad, Pa Squirrely, gave her all that he planned on leaving her when he was old. She wanted it because she said it belonged to her. Pa gave it to her even though he didn't really want to. He was afraid she would lose it all, but she was of age. Now let me tell you, she was rich! Everybody knew the Squirrely family was one of the wealthiest families in Swampland, but they were all surprised when they saw just how wealthy. She had a little red wagon full of every kind of nut you can imagine. She had walnuts, hickory nuts, pecans, etc., and the most cherished of all ... thousands of chestnuts.

Well, Pa was right. It wasn't long before Girly was spending every nut she had, and the strangest thing of all, were all of her new friends. They just loved her, at least as long as she kept buying them things. These were different kinds of critters too. They seemed to only come out at night. One gang was called the Skeeters. They were little fellows who flew around stinging other folks, that is besides themselves. They were buddy buddy with Squirrely Girly until one morning just before daylight Girly woke up to find herself alone. She hated to be alone. Where were the Skeeters? It wasn't daylight yet. About that time Girly looked over in her wagon and saw that there were no more nuts, but in the very center of the wagon sat one little skeeter. "You'll be my friend, won't you?" Girly asked and immediately after that question, that

little mean fly rose up and attacked Girly. "Yikes" she screamed. "Take that and that," screamed the little skeeter. "I'll teach you to run out of nuts." Squirrelly was so glad when daylight arrived and that skeeter left her alone.

Alone is where she remained that next day. She also grew hungrier and hungrier by the minute. What was she to do? She would never return home broke. Why, she would be so ashamed and embarrassed. Why hadn't she at least listened to her dad? He wasn't always right but he deserved to be listened to. Finally, Squirrelly decided to go work for someone. The only job she knew that was available was working for Piggy Pete. They needed a babysitter with their new little piglet. It was a nasty job because that little pig loved to play in the mud and other nasty places. "Yuck," thought Girly but she had no choice.

Well, back in the Swampland Community, Pa Squirrelly was so worried. He prayed continually for his little squirrel and he was so glad to hear from his friend Piggy Pete that Girly was working for them. No matter though, Pa wanted her home.

Now, I want to tell you something truly amazing. It just so happened to be Homecoming Sunday at the Swamp Church and the guest speaker was ol retired preacher Piggy Paul, who happened to be Piggy Pete's uncle. Because he was coming there, Piggy Pete wanted all his family and workers there to meet and hear him. That even included Squirrelly Girly. About the time Squirrelly came in, the choir was singing that favorite Critter Hymn, "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, That Saved a Critter Like Me." She couldn't take it anymore. She ran over to her Pa and said that she had sinned against him and God. Squirrelly's Pa just hugged her close and he began to cry. "Continue the Song," he cried out and the choir sang, "I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see." Pa pulled out of his pocket a brand new chestnut ring and placed it on Girly's claw. "You were lost but now you are found, you were like a blind one not knowing which way to go, but now you see." After that Girly moved back in with Pa and the family. She realized how much love she really had with Pa and the family and especially God. What a great homecoming day!

IMITATION

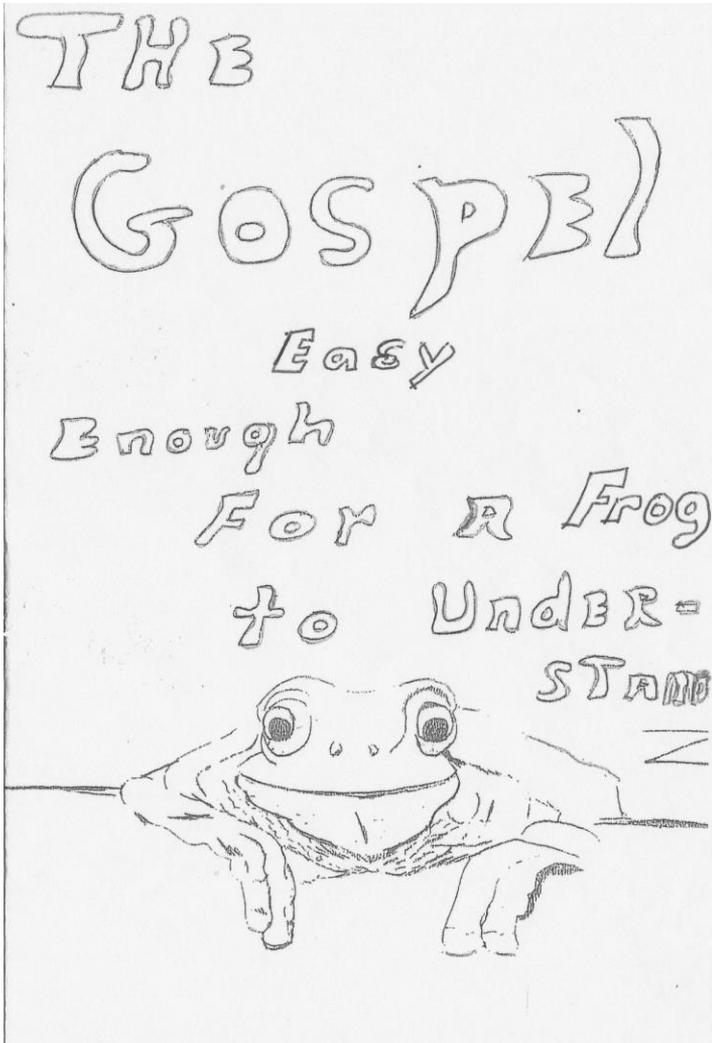
Be Like Jesus

A long, long, long time ago the Swamp church was putting on a musical entitled, "Who". Everybody was gathering at the church to worship. Little Joey Ant and Darlene Ant were the first to get there so they could get a front row seat. That way they could see the program. The church was packed so critters began to sit everywhere and one ol' opossum sat right in front of the two little ants completely blocking their view. Joey had just begun to ask Darlene what they were going to do when all of a sudden both of them were lifted sky high. Darlene screamed but it didn't disturb the beginning of the service, since no one has ever been able to hear an ant scream before anyway. Shaking, the two turned around and realized that they were sitting on Mr. Gator's tail. "Phew!" exclaimed Darlene, "It's just you Mr. Gator. Thanks."

Just then the choir began to sing. Wally Wabbit stood forward and sang, "Who is so gentle..." and the choir answered with a long melodious, "Whooooo..." and the last solo was by Mrs. Piggy Pete singing, "Whooooo is so pure.." and with that the oldest member of the choir as well as the church, flew down to the stage and sang Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a critter like me. I once was lost but now I am found, was blind but now I see." The wonderful thing about the song was that this wise ol' member kind of hummed those words with only singing Whoooooooo...since she was an owl. Joey realized in the midst of this that everybody was crying, even his sister Darlene. "What's going on sis?" he asked. "Well," she replied, "That song means so much to all of us because we know that it was Jesus who saved us. At one time we were blind to the fact that God loved us that much but now we can see." "So the answer to the song of who is so gentle, merciful, peaceable, and pure is Jesus," said Joey. "Yes," answered Darlene.

At the close of the musical, each of the four soloists stood forward once again and shared how they could be like Jesus. Wally said that he was gentle like Jesus when he didn't always expect to get his own way. Tony said that he was merciful like Jesus when he forgave others for being mean to him like Tony

Turtle had at one time. Sister Snail said that she was peaceable like Jesus when she got rid of anything in her life that was not God's will and Mrs. Piggy Pete said that she was pure like Jesus when she desired to do what he wants more than what she wants, even in being a wonderful wife to her husband. At the end of the musical the wise ol' owl shared that these ideas of Jesus come from James 3:13-18 in the Bible. Everyone loved the service.





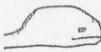
Our Lord Jesus died for our sins on the cross.



Jesus served communion, the cup represents Jesus' life/blood poured out for us.

I AM

Jesus said, "before Abraham was, I AM", this is also the name God called himself in the Old Testament.



Jesus said that just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale for three days, so would Jesus be in the grave for three days but on the third he would rise from the dead.



Jesus is our good Shepherd. the Shepherd's rod was used to protect sheep.

Α Ω

Jesus said he is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the New Testament was written in Greek. Α is the first letter of the Greek alphabet and Ω is the last letter.

Χ Ρ

These are the first two letters of the Greek word CHRIST.



This was the symbol in the early church for the Christians, Jesus said we would be "FISHERS OF MEN".

IHS

These are the first three letters of the Greek word Jesus, many like to believe it also stands for "IN HIS SERVICE".