

*Precious Pilgrim,*

*I got a "demo" this week.*

*The last car I'd had for five years was a red Blazer. It had a lot of personality. It was dented from a hailstorm. The speedometer could do a dance all the way around the gauge. The horn worked when it felt like it. The radio had a little man in it who would change the station every time I got out of the car. The back window had a built-in guillotine window. There were leftover stickers on the visor so I knew who I was and where I'd been. A round rock, given to me by my middle son, along with sticky money, resided in the seat divider. The smell (created by hundreds of buckets of water spilled over from carting flowers) outdid any skunk - so only real friends would ride with me. I mean it took me a long time to get this car "broken-in" just right!*

*Now I have a "demo" - shiny, clean, raring to go - but with one big drawback - it's not mine. There can be no stickers - no food or drink creatively partaken - no sticky money - no buckets of water and after four thousand miles, I have to give it back. You see, I have to take real good care of it, for it's not mine.*

*My mind jumps to Lazarus - I wonder about Lazarus. I wonder what it was like coming from that tomb - in death - in total darkness - having the burial clothes unwound - then seeing Jesus, whose light infused him back to life. He probably blinked his eyes, trying to get used to the light and felt the*

*warmth of his blood once more flowing and then he saw Jesus - his friend - his Lord - with a tear in His eye - smiling.*

*Do you think Lazarus saw his body and life differently after having died? Do you think he took better care of it - was more aware of the preciousness of life - of friends - of loved ones? Do you think that seeing Jesus with a tear was stamped indelibly on his brain, so that everything he did and said was from then on filtered through this experience?*

*The Bible says I must be born again - that I am to die unto self - that I am a new creature in Christ - that I am not my own, but Christ's.*

*All of these verses make me think about my red demo and how I am to care for it, for it's not mine. All of these verses make me think of "me" and how I am to care for "me," for I am not mine.*

*Lazarus - Lucy - A Demo. I think we have more in common than meets the eye.*

*I've got a "demo" which is not mine. What are going around in?*

*Your sister in Christ,*

*Lucy*