

Sarah Buss: 10/30/72 Collegium

DEATH OF EMIG CHILD

I am afraid that I find it more difficult than I had anticipated. I than I had anticipated 10 minutes ago. It should be a 3 or 4 hour report in which we just stew together. <sup>Because it is very clear</sup> Whether we were there ~~at~~ or we are not the same body of people/<sup>We are not the same body of people</sup> who will be called to reenact this celebration again and again.

I want to speak in 3 areas if I may do so. I am going to begin by saying a little bit about the background. Marge Emig is a woman about my age, whose husband died of cancer a year ago this month, while in the order. And that on this occasion, her 4 year old son was senselessly killed in an accident as a truck went around a corner. I want to come back to that senseless dimension of it.

The first thing I would point to is the watch. When Fred and I arrived there, a watch was in being, it was every three hours the Canonical hours, with two people assigned ~~f~~ in between the write meditations from Doug's life, and contemplate the meaning of this event and to pray for the in the present. That watch was a fantastic thing. If you read through some of those. No sentimentality. Just a fantastic thing in those books. I think we are going to have to wait a while to know what that means. I stand here to say that Never again will this happen in our body and that one go unwatched until he has been rendered up to eternity. And I would say, secondly, that the fantastic thing that occurred that was determining our whole future, The service was in one of the galaxy churches in the chapel, mostly movement people there, some from the local congregation as well, and from the house, participating in this event. And the witness that was given, was given taking into account the dimension of endlessness. And while that wasn't dealt with headon, I would say that we have now brought back to the local church the meaning of eternal life and that while we are unclear on that yet, and while we have a lot of work to do that is now

done and that that was a fantastic event. The singing, without any music, was fantastic. The presence in that room, No sentimentality, was overwhelming.

Then maybe just say a brief word at the point of the experience of or the struggle, principally of the house, but finally of all of us, to the dimension of guilt. Doug was a four year old boy who went to the preschool 2 blocks down the street. The kids all walked together, he was the youngest one in the group. the others were 11 and 12 years, elementary age and so on and he was standing on the curb, he hadn't run out into the street, the light had already turned red. It would have been perfectly all right for him to have gone out into the street, The truck turned the corner, never knew that he had hit Doug, he ran over his head. and he was killed instantly. He went on several miles and the truck behind him went to notify the man of what had happened. the experience of overwhelming guilt, of if I had done thus and so. Can you think back over the children's structures that you have participated in, that would have been easy if it had been that way, if they had made some mistake, if they had sent him by himself, if they had broken the structures, if they had said to hell with them that morning, think of those times? That would have been releasing, that could have been absolved. But I think what we discovered happened, was there was nothing to absolve, or the guilt that happens interiorly. They showed up knowing, everyone in the house has his reason why it is his fault. And that was the interior struggle that was there. And it began to dawn, that Yeah, this is my fault. The final judgement brings the guilt of everyman to light. And what we discovered/<sup>is</sup> that it is only going to be on the other side of taking to themselves every man's guilt, or just that you first say no to absolution; No to a God that would do such a mean thing; No and that only on the other side of that NO to absolution do you have time and breathing space to take upon yourself the guilt of ~~every~~ every last man. I think, then in taking on the experience of the guilt of every last man, until you alone bear the guilt

of the whole world, can you then receive absolution. And then when you receive absolution in that context, not only your life is received but you know that every life is received and particularly you know that the life of Douglas Emig is received and that is the one that rendered up to History. the one who knew what it meant to be Loved of God, and if you didn't think the children participated in the Order, if you didn't think they participated in the March, that ~~it~~ <sup>will</sup> never again/in <sup>be</sup> doubt. That as he participated in those emerging ~~the~~ generation structures, in his life given him, he participated in what it meant to be Loved of God. and now, he is rendered up to be free to be forever one who loves God without the distraction of the cares of this world. Who he's his being eternally in the love of God.