

THE "ONE DROP" STORY

In 2002, after the death of my mother, I felt a calling to serve God with greater devotion than I had since my acceptance of Christ some 20 years earlier. I prayed for a word to show me what I could do to glorify God and I got the message that I should melt down the gold that I had been saving for a "rainy day" and make cross jewelry from it.

As a jeweler for 20 years I had built quite a collection of gems, miscellaneous jewelry parts and gold scrap. This was a sort of retirement nest egg. It was clear to me that God wanted me to part with at least some of this and put my trust in Him.

I began making the gold cross pins in the picture by hand in both gold and silver and giving them away to the members of my church and other Christians I met in my daily activities. I made the cross pins since they would be easier for the receiver to wear immediately and because a fellow businessman I greatly admire has always worn a cross on his collar. As the project continued I came to understand that the collar pin is a greater witness than a necklace because it is different and stands out as an obvious testimony to the wearer's faith. It requires a commitment to put on every morning and will permanently pierce a fine dress shirt. In Florida most of us wear knit casual shirts but for my dress shirts I make sure the pin goes through the same hole each time. A man could wear the pin as a tie tack but it simply would not have the same impact.

Many of the people I have given the cross to are quite willing to wear it on Sunday but reluctant to at work or leisure. The Christians who are willing to wear their testimony on their collar have had fantastic opportunities to witness.

My original design began as two styles; one small and plain for men and a second larger design with a cross inside a cross, for the ladies. I soon realized that these crosses had closed outer rims and developed the open-ended cross to signify that salvation through the crucifixion was open to all.

I have a number of "scrap" jewelry items that I have accumulated over the years which languish for the suitable project. From time to time I go through the collection seeking inspiration. On one such occasion I came across a pair of pear-shaped ruby earrings which had been taken in trade for some project many years prior.. At the time I didn't know the reason but I took them out of the box and put them on my desk where I keep a small pile of current projects.

A few days later I was packing another batch of crosses with a scripture note into the gold lame' bags you see in the photo. I usually do a few dozen crosses at a time so the photo is a recreation of what was clearly divine inspiration. Some of the cross pins got pushed to the top of my desk pad and came to rest very near to the ruby earrings. It was clear that the ruby was one drop of Jesus' blood and belonged on the cross.

It had only been a few weeks earlier that a missionary from Voice of the Martyrs had spoken at our church and commented on the fact that the wooden cross that hangs behind our pulpit was a bloodless cross. He was contrasting our Christianity in America versus Christians in China and Korea who often give their lives for their belief and his testimony has weighed heavily on me ever since.

Over time I have come to interpret the one drop cross as:

One drop of Jesus' blood is sufficient to cover all our sins and is greater than all our works.

My mission is to distribute as many of these crosses as I can as a statement of the significance of Jesus' blood which is so often overlooked in modern American Christianity and to promote the greatest opportunity for Christians to expose their faith in their daily contact with others. To accomplish this I still manufacture gold and silver pins and necklaces but have turned to another company to provide a much larger quantity of gold and silver plated crosses. These crosses are manufactured in China so this has become another ministry in that Chinese citizens are seeing the export of large quantities of crosses to America.

I hope that your One Drop cross pin will become part of your daily life. Putting it on each morning is a reminder that Christ is always near and your commitment is fresh each day. Throughout the day you will be a light in the world and will greatly increase your opportunities to witness. Be part of the bold statement that America does in fact stand strong for Jesus Christ.

**HUNTER LAZAR
CHRISTIAN COLLECTION**

1-800-428-6898

www.jewelry1.com

copyright 2005 JC Hunter

