

HOW DO I ESCAPE?

"What? Here!" was all I heard of the conversation between a shopper and the grocery store clerk. "That's shocking and so stupid," the employee continued. As the conversation continued – just far away to prevent my hearing the entire discussion – my curiosity superseded my Mother's admonitions to mind my own business.

"Excuse me," I said to the clerk as she rang in my bananas. "I couldn't help but overhear your exclamations of surprise. If it isn't too personal, could you tell me what happened?" Without hesitation she explained: "There was an attempted break-in at the Credit Union last night. The ATM is down and the Credit Union's closed."

Aha, I thought, that's why the door was locked. I'd assumed the administration decided to add an extra day to the long weekend.

"How do people think they're going to escape?" the clerk continued. "They'd have to leave on the ferry, take a boat, or fly out. The cops would be right there and besides, there are security cameras. Whoever it was sure is stupid."

While this type of crime is common in many areas, it's the first attempted bank robbery I've heard of in the six years we've lived here; if the crime's unique, so are the limited routes of escape. It really was stupid.

A cartoon in today's church bulletin summed it up (albeit unintentionally). In the caricature, the artist depicted someone reading, *How to Run from God: by Jonah*. "It just says, 'don't do it'," states the caption below.

The one guilty of breaking humanity's laws faces punishment; the one guilty of breaking God's laws can find forgiveness by running to Christ.

"God wiped out the charges that were against us for disobeying the Law of Moses. He took them away and nailed them to the cross." (Colossians 2:14 CEV)

How do I escape? Surrender.