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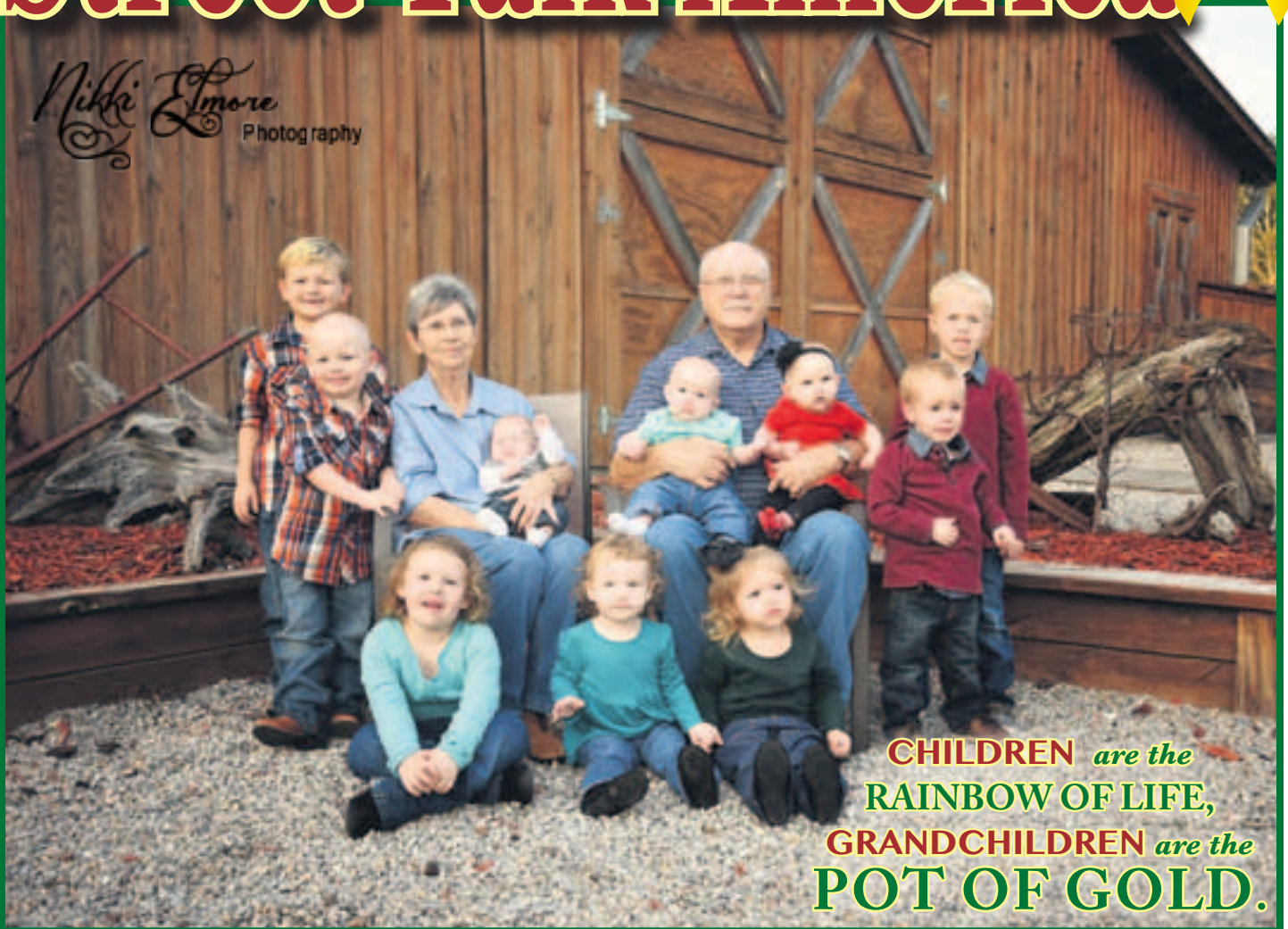
March 2016

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How To Speak Chinese...
Are you harboring a fugitive?:
Hu Yu Hai Ding?
Stupid man: Dum Gai
Small horse: Tai Ni Po Ni



Pictured on the cover of this month's Street Talk America, is Charles and Carolyn Ritner and their laps full of great-grandbabies. Photo taken by photographer, Nikki Elmore.

Rich Man

A very rich man walks into a bar and is about to order a drink when he sees a guy at the far end of the counter wearing a Jewish hat, a prayer shawl and with the traditional locks of hair... very obviously Jewish. So, he shouts over to the bartender so loudly that everyone can hear, "Drinks for everyone in here, bartender, but not for that Jewish fellow over there." When eventually all the drinks have been handed out, the Jew

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gives him a big smile, waves at him, and shouts, so everyone can hear him, "Thank you!" This infuriates the rich man. He once again loudly orders drinks for everyone except the Jew who, as before, does not seem bothered and once again yells, "Thank you!" He does this a third time, again not including the Jew and again being thanked enthusiastically. The rich man by now has become extremely perplexed so he asks the bartender, "What is the matter with that Jew? I've ordered three rounds of drinks for every one of the 113 people in this bar except him and all the silly guy does is smile and thank me. Is he insane?" "Nope", replies the bartender. "He owns the place."

God & The Atheist

An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"



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On Christ, the solid Rock we stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

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Circulation & Distribution: 13,000 copies of **STA** are printed each month. **STA** is free and available at high traffic business locations in Washington, Holmes, Northern Walton and Jackson counties. Copies are also available by subscription.

Street Talk America March 2016 /3



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A Little Attention

By: Tim Patton
Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church

From the cries of “Dad!!” I am pretty sure I know what is going on. It has been a long week. We have had one with the stomach virus who took over the couch in the living room for three days from whom we all had to keep our distance. We had two others at the doctor with possible ailments (thankfully, all tests were clear). We have had another one with four major exams in two days who has done nothing but study and at times needed our help. We have endured storms, multiple long meetings at the church, emergency call-ins to work, two ballgames, one princess tea, and a computer crash! We are exhausted, frazzled, and stressed-out from all the running around.

The boy (it always seems to be the boy!) is also tired and beginning to suffer a little cabin fever. He has not been to taekwondo for several days due to being sick one day and scheduling conflicts another. He has grown bored with TV and video games (I didn’t think that was possible!) and is ready to “do something!” He starts by following one sister around the house and trying to photobomb her “selfies”. Personally, I find this hilarious. The teenager does not. Then, he hides and tries to jump out and scare the other teenager. I also find this hilarious. As you can imagine, the other teenager does not. He seems to have moved on now to the six-year old, taking her balloon and playing keep-away with it. She, too, is not amused. So, I call him into the room. He is giggling incessantly, pleased with the immense amount of aggravation he has wrought so far. I tell him to stop aggravating his sisters. So, he throws himself down on the couch next to me in a huff. We sit there for only a few minutes before he lays over against me and I can feel him trying to poke me in my side. I glance down at him. He is looking at the TV but he is grinning from ear-to-ear.



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"Ok," I say, "You asked for this!"

A tickle fight of epic proportions breaks out in the living room. We roll off the couch and onto the floor. I have a definite height and reach advantage on him plus he is extremely ticklish and I am not. He begs off for a moment claiming he cannot breathe (an amateur tactic!) but the moment I stop, he immediately attacks and we are off at it again. After about 20 frenzied minutes, he declares a truce and drops, red-faced and panting on the couch. He sits grinning for a few minutes and then shuffles off contented to go outside and play. What made the change? He just needed to blow off a little steam. He needed some Dad-time.

As I sit and think about it, all that has gone on this week has caused me to feel stressed and a little pent up. Just like my son needs some time with his father to let it all out, whether that is to talk, cry, wrestle, or laugh, I, too, need some time with my Father to share the burdens of my week. So often, like my son, we choose to allow the stress of our day to lead us to do unproductive or even unhealthy things thinking that will help us deal with the week. When the truth is, God, our Father, is only a thought away and wants to listen, care, comfort, teach, and encourage us. Sometimes we need to talk, sometimes cry, sometimes wrestle with Him spiritually, and sometimes just laugh. The psalmist says, "I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live." Don't ever forget you have a Father in Heaven who loves you tremendously and is always ready to give you some time and attention.

Bob Tim

An older lady passed away recently. She'd never been married and she specifically asked that her casket service not have any male pallbearers. Her contract with the funeral parlor stated: "They never took me out when I was alive, so they sure won't be taking me out when I'm dead."



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Mr. Curtis' Classics

Can you guess what year, make & model this beauty is? Turn to page 32 to learn more!



Do you have a classic car or truck that you'd like to share with Mr. Curtis and the Street Talk readers? Send us a picture and any info you'd like included about your car to STA P.O. Box 170 Vernon, FL 32462 or email streettalkamerica@live.com

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Worst Priest Available

A man was struck down by a bus on a very busy street. As he was lying near death after being pulled up onto the sidewalk, a crowd of spectators began to gather around him. The injured man whispered, "My God, a priest. Somebody get a priest!" the critically injured man gasped. A policeman checked the crowd, and yelled out, "Is anyone here a priest?" Out of the large crowd stepped a little old man of at least 80-years-of-age. "Mr. Policeman," said the old man, "I'm not a priest or even a preacher, I'm not even a Christian. But for 50-years now, I've lived behind the Catholic Church, and every night I've overheard their services. I can recall a lot of it, in fact, most of it. So, maybe I can be of some comfort and assistance to this poor injured man here?" The policeman agreed and cleared the crowd away so the old man could get through to where the injured man was laying. The old fellow knelt down beside him, leaned over him, and said in a solemn voice..."B-4, I-19, N-38, G-54, O-72!"

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Cure for a Lawyer

A Chinese doctor opens a clinic and puts a sign outside that reads: "GET TREATMENT FOR \$20 - IF NOT CURED GET BACK \$100." An American lawyer thinks this is a great opportunity to earn \$100 and goes to the clinic.

Lawyer: "I have lost my sense of taste."
 Chinese: "Nurse, bring medicine from box no. 22 and put 3 drops in patient's mouth."
 Lawyer: "Ugh. this is kerosene."
 Chinese: "Congrats, your sense of taste is restored. Give me \$20."
 The annoyed lawyer goes back after a few days to recover his money.
 Lawyer: "I have lost my memory. I cannot remember anything."
 Chinese: "Nurse, bring medicine from box no. 22 and put 3 drops in his mouth."
 Lawyer (annoyed): "This is kerosene. You gave this to me last time for restoring my taste."
 Chinese: "Congrats! You got your memory back. Give me \$20."
 The fuming lawyer pays him, and then comes back a week later determined to get back \$100.
 Lawyer: "My eyesight has become very weak I can't see at all."
 Chinese: "Well, I don't have any medicine for that, so take this \$100."
 Lawyer (staring at the money): "But this is \$20, not \$100!!"
 Chinese: "Congrats, your eyesight is restored. Give me \$20."

Two young boys were whispering outside the church after hearing a scary sermon on the devil. The first one said, "Satan sounds awful. Do you think he's real?" The second boy said, "I don't know, but remember how Santa Claus turned out? It's probably just your dad."

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Election Day you must vote in the precinct where you live. All polling locations are open from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.. Your picture and signature ID will be required when voting in person. Deadline to request a “Vote By Mail” ballot to be mailed for the Presidential Preference Primary is **Wednesday, March 9th**. All “Vote By Mail” ballots (absentees) must be returned to the Elections Office by 7 p.m. on Election Day. It is very important that your signature and address on record in the Supervisor of Elections Office is up to date.

2016 Presidential Preference Primary Holmes County

Early Voting Dates

Saturday, March 5th • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 6th • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday - Saturday, March 7th - March 12th
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

2016 Early Voting Locations

Supervisor of Elections Office
201 N. Oklahoma Street, Bonifay

*(located in the basement of the Holmes County Courthouse,
entrance and parking is behind the courthouse)*

Debbie Wilcox Morris

Supervisor of Elections

201 N. Oklahoma Street, Suite 102
Bonifay, FL 32425
Phone: 850-547-1107
Fax: 850-547-4168
Website: www.holmeselections.com

2016 Presidential Preference Primary Jackson County

Early Voting Dates

Saturday, March 5th • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 6th • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday - Saturday, March 7th - March 12th
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

2016 Early Voting Locations

- Supervisor of Elections Office
2851 Jefferson St., Marianna
- Graceville City Hall 5348 Cliff St., Graceville
- Sneads City Hall 2028 Third Ave., Sneads

Sylvia Stephens

Supervisor of Elections

2851 Jefferson Street
Marianna, FL 32448
Phone: 850-482-9652
Fax: 850-482-9102
Website: www.jacksoncountysoe.org

2016 Presidential Preference Primary Washington County

Early Voting Dates

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Sunday, March 6th • 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday - Saturday, March 7th - March 12th
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

2016 Early Voting Locations

Supervisor of Elections Office
1331 South Blvd., Suite 900 Chipley

Carol Finch Rudd

Supervisor of Elections

1331 South Blvd., Suite 900
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Florida is a closed primary state. Only registered Democrats and Republicans will be eligible to vote in this election.



Aunt Judy's Kitchen

*Southern Recipes from
"The Old House"
By: Judy Jenkins*

By His hands we are fed,
thank you Lord for daily bread.

Scalloped Potatoes with Ham

- 6 tbs butter – divided
- ¼ cup all purpose flour
- 1 tsp dried parsley flakes
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp dried thyme
- ¼ tsp pepper
- 3 cups milk
- 6 cups thinly sliced, peeled potatoes
- 1 ½ cups fully cooked ham – chopped
- 1 small onion – grated

In saucepan, melt 4 tablespoons butter. Stir in flour, parsley, salt, thyme and pepper until smooth. Gradually add milk, bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 2 minutes. Combine potatoes, ham and onions and place half in a greased 2 ½ quart baking dish. Top with half the sauce, repeat layers. Cover and bake at 375° for 65-75 minutes. Dot with remaining butter and bake an additional 15 minutes.

Pecan Cream Cheese Squares

- 1 yellow cake mix
 - 3 eggs
 - ½ cup butter – softened
 - 2 cups chopped pecans
 - 8 oz. Cream cheese – softened
 - 3 2/3 cups confectioners sugar
- In a mixing bowl, combine cake mix, 1 egg and butter. Stir in pecans and mix well. Press into a greased 13x9x2 baking pan. Beat the cream cheese, sugar and remaining eggs until smooth. Pour over pecan mixture. Bake at 350° for 45-55 minutes or until golden brown. Cool and cut into squares.

Lemon Bars

- Lemon Cake Mix (we used Duncan Hines)
 - 1 egg
 - 1/2 cup vegetable oil
 - 8 oz cream cheese
 - 1/3 cup white sugar
 - 1 tbs lemon juice
- In mixing bowl, combine cake mix, egg and oil until well blended. Press into greased 13x9x2 pan reserving 1 cup for the topping. Bake for 15 min in 350° preheated oven, set aside to cool. Beat cream cheese, sugar and lemon juice until smooth. Spread mixture evenly over baked crust. Crumble the reserved cup of cake mixture over top. Bake for an additional 15 minutes or until filling is set and topping is lightly toasted. Cool and cut into squares.

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16 oz tricolor spiral pasta
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1 medium tomato – chopped
1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped
1 medium green pepper – chopped
2 tbs minced fresh parley

Dressing

1 ½ cups sugar
½ cup vinegar
1 tbs ground mustard
1 tsp salt
1 tsp garlic powder
Cook pasta according to package, drain and rinse in cold water. Place in large bowl. Add the onion, tomato, cucumber, green pepper and parsley; set aside. In a sauce pan, combine the dressing ingredients and cook over medium-low heat for 10 minutes. Pour over salad and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours.

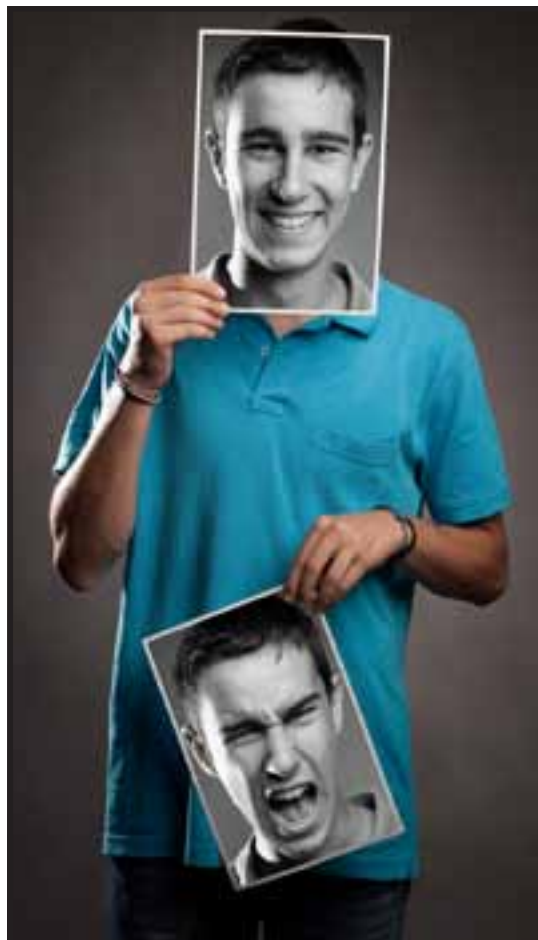
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Abraham's FAMOUS FAITH

By: Angie Knight

You're going where?" Abram's friend leaned in to make sure he heard right. *"I said, I don't know. We are just going, my friend."* Abram firmly, but quietly stated. He had been getting this a lot. As they had been packing up their tent and all their belongings, loading camels and the many pack animals, friends had been stopping by, each one with the same question and the same incredulous look on their faces. Abram swatted a fly from his face with his hand. *"The LORD GOD will show us."* Again, that firm quiet to his voice spoke more than the words he said. Abram's friend muttered under his breath, patted him on the back and turned and left. The heat that usually bore down on Abram, felt today, like a calming Presence. Almost like a hand on his shoulder giving him comfort as one by one, each friend, who didn't seem to understand his actions, turned away.

While the above is completely a made up conversation in my mind, and it's not in the Bible, it's how we felt when we began making life changes, preparing for the mission God has ahead. Abraham, formerly known as Abram, has been a story that I have related to time and time again. I felt the excitement he must have felt the night he threw his head back and gazed at the endless curtain of blinking stars. My husband and I both have experienced that look or expression of incredulity from friends, and maybe even a family member or two, as we shared what we believe (not just feel), that God has called us to do.

This experience of our faith walk has been targeted at

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different parts of our lives, at various times in this season of life. One by one, God has pointed His finger at things in our lives and said either *"keep-or-give."* Or, at least to me, that's how it has felt.

To be missionaries at the ages of 54 and 60 was not what we had on our agenda 10 years ago. Actually, it wasn't even in my planner 3 years ago. Mission work? *Yes.* Spending a month at a time on a specific project there? *Yes.* But packing up everything that doesn't get sold to live in a country where I can't speak the language (yet)... *Not quite.* BUT GOD has a way of changing our hearts to YEARN for His will and His direction. He has a way of changing our hearts' desires the closer we get to Him.

I want to share something one of the missionaries has said this week as we have toured with our District Women's Ministry Director, Rese Moore. I believe it was Whitney Taylor who said it best, *"God has called us ALL to go. But some—He has given you the assignment to stay."* Your assignment has come with a job. He has called and directed you to, and in that job, He expects you to be an onsite missionary. One who lives by example and builds relationships (just like we will do) with those He puts in your path. One who leads by conversation. *(Really makes you re-think the joke you told last week, huh...)*

Your assignment comes with benefits of a dependable weekly salary, as long as you keep up your end of the bargain, your boss will keep up his. Our assignment comes with a question to our friends and family: *"Do you want to join our team?"* Meaning, *"Do you want to help win the lost in these last days? Do you want to help us show them JESUS?"* It comes down to two things really. Either we want to do all we can to share Jesus where they don't know Him, in the unreached villages of this world, or we are completely satisfied with them not knowing and stand idly by as they leap off into eternity lost. Our assignment right now is two years. Do you think for two years you could give up ONE Starbucks coffee a month? **Just one.**

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What about 2? If 35 of our friends and family gave up Starbucks just ONE time each month, to take part in a soul reaching team, that would put us over half way to our budget goal.

What if ONE time each month you give up ONE dinner out of, say a Zaxby's drive through meal. Just for two people. That's close to \$25 with large drinks and tax included, and maybe one milkshake to share as dessert. **JUST ONE TIME** in a whole month for two years. Give it up and maybe just cook a simple meal of rice and chicken and fry some cornbread. That's more of a meal than most anyone in a third world country will ever have in a day. They may have the rice, but they likely won't have any meat.

I don't know if you have read down this far or got tired and stopped, but maybe you are saying, well, Angie, exactly what are you and Jeff giving up? **Everything.** And every time I think of all the times I won't get to drive to my mom's house, or sit on a comfy couch in an air-conditioned living room and drink coffee with my baby sister, and join her hand and pray for her family and my family, I will be honest. I cry. Every time I think about our daughters and how much I love spending time with them or of our grandsons and how sweet their sugar is, or our precious granddaughter who I won't get to see turn into a godly young woman and graduate high school, I cry.

But, then I think of all those children I have met...and those I've not yet met...who are waiting for someone to show them Jesus. Waiting for someone to BE Jesus in their lives and love them no matter how poor they are. They are waiting for someone to join our team so that we can get there and introduce them to Jesus Christ.



God's Only Son, who loved them so much that HE came and died so that they might have life.

We're only asking for one thing each month for two years. Then, if God continues our assignment, we will see what He asks you to do. Or, God may have another assignment for us...OR, He may have another assignment for you.

To join our team, simply visit:

www.tinyurl.com/sendjeffandangie OR you can download a copy of the commitment form and send it in, our account number is 2853562, our Region is Latin American, and of course our names, Jeff & Angie Knight.

http://agwm.com/agwm_commit_form_ma.cfm

Thank you in advance for listening to Him and for reading our hearts.

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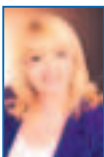
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Getting into Heaven

A man dies and meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. Peter says to the man, "Here's how it works. You need to have one hundred points to get into Heaven. You tell me about all the good things you've done. They are all worth a certain number of points. If your total is one hundred or more, you can come in." "Well," says the man. "I was happily married to the same woman for 52 years. I never looked at another woman. I was attentive and loved her dearly." "That's great," says St. Peter. "That'll be two points." "Hmmm," says the man. "This is going to be harder than I thought. Well, I attended church regularly, volunteered my time and tithed faithfully." "Wonderful," says St. Peter, "That's worth another point." "One point!" says the man. "Okay, okay. I was involved with a prison ministry for twenty-five years. I went into the prison, at least monthly, and shared Jesus with them." "Wow!" says St. Peter. "That's another two points!" "Only two points!" says the man. "At this rate, it'll be only by the grace of God that I'll ever get into this place." "Bingo!" says St. Peter. "That's one hundred points! Come on in."

The trouble with a three-day weekend is that it turns Tuesday into Monday.

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- If you have a bad cough, take a large dose of laxatives, then you will be afraid to cough.
- Have a bad toothache? Hit your thumb with a hammer, then you will forget about the toothache.

This old guy was talking with his neighbor telling him about the new hearing aid he just got. "It cost a fortune, but it was worth it. It works perfectly." "Really," said the neighbor. "What kind is it?" "Ten thirty."

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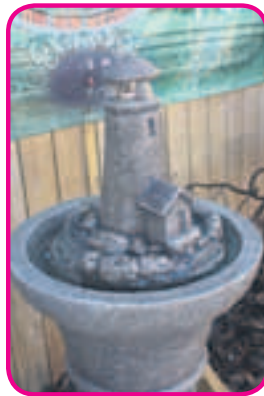
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Tooth Fairy

Mary was playing tooth fairy when her daughter suddenly woke up. Seeing the money in her mom's hand, she cried out, "I caught you!" Mary froze and tried to think of an explanation for why she, instead of the tooth fairy, was putting the money under her pillow - but her next words let her off the hook. "You put that money back!" the daughter said indignantly. "The tooth fairy left that for me!"

Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one - and let the other one off.

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A Very Berry Mess for Tollie the Sheep

Continued from the February issue of Street Talk America.

I don't know if you remember the beginning of the story, but we left Tollie, the sheep, and her cousin, Boisk in quite a predicament, having purposefully gone where she had absolutely no business—and had actually been warned, not once, but often... "stay away from the ridge, it is too dangerous for young sheep—for any sheep". Now it's raining, ground-shaking thunder is rattling the rocks, and Tollie is crying. She was generally always brave—never wanted to show fear—but now there was no reason to be brave—and every reason to be afraid. She had even put poor cousin Boisk in danger. "Boisk—go home. I'm sorry for getting you in this mess". Tollie tried her best to convince him to go home—perhaps he could send for help! "Tollie, I can't leave you—besides, that hill we came over is a slippery mess now. I would slide down and probably fall in a hole. We'll think of something." As they were talking they heard some twigs snap nearby. "Oh my goodness!" Boisk said. "It's a mountain lion for sure! My daddy said that mountain lions lived up here and have sheep for supper! Oh Tollie! We are about to be supper!!!" Boisk heard the sound of a low grunt-growl before Tollie and he poised himself into action to limp to her rescue, for he was sore from wrestling the tangled mess of thorny vines, and bleeding from the mouth, as he had tried, unsuccessfully to release his cousin from her prison of vines. "GGGrrrruuuumph". The sound came louder and so did the pawing scratching sound



from the south side of the ridge. "GGGrrrruuuumph—OH MY STARS!! Couldn't you two have picked a better place to wander off—and just before the biggest storm of the season strikes?" The voice of the gray-haired Irish Wolfhound greeted them, none too cheerfully. Randall, as he was called by his master, landed right near them with his final leap over the rocks. Tollie was trying to stop her shaking and crying, but relief had washed over her when she saw that it was Randall and not some mountain lion coming for his supper. Randall, however, was not too happy to be out on this rescue mission in the storm. "Tollie, whatever made you and Boisk leave the flock? Haven't you been told about the dangers up here on the ridge?" Randall lowered his head as he spoke to examine the hooves and the bleeding on

Tollie's legs. She was in the fiercest grip of the vines he had ever seen. This would take a while, he thought as he began to bite off the vines. "I'm so sorry Mr. Randall". All the sheep had respect for Randall, for he guarded them and watched them, seemingly 24 hours a day—every-single-day, with never once closing his eyes. "I had heard that the best berries were up here and I didn't really think I would be gone this long," Tollie winced as some of the thorns were still digging into her skin. She didn't even dare to tell him she wanted adventure or excitement—because at this point—she was completely done being adventurous. Boisk had been watching their surroundings and noticed the darker clouds in the distance were now closer. "Randall, we may not get off the ridge in time—it looks like the storm is almost on us!" Randall bit the last of the vine and turned to Boisk, "Oh we will! The Master is right behind you coming up on his horse, Ruby! He will carry you and Tollie down to safety and I can run almost as fast as Ruby." Tollie and Boisk had thought the earth shaking thunder was coming from overhead, when actually it was coming from underfoot! The rocks were rattling and the dirt was dancing as the hooves of Ruby pounded out their rescue song! What a sight they were when Ruby slid to a halt right in front of them. Their Master jumped down from the saddle with a pouch in his hand. He immediately began to shush the still whimpering Tollie and rub something soothing onto her bleeding and swelling legs.



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Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. Colossians 3:23

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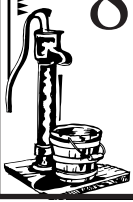
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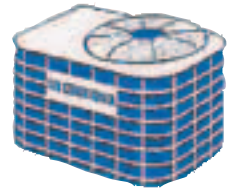
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He gave Randall orders to keep close by and he scooped up Tollie, then Boisk, and laid them across the saddle. Once they had navigated the ridge and were back on more level ground he climbed up in the saddle after he let Boisk down to walk with Randall keeping him close. It didn't seem to take them long to get back to the barn and they arrived just in time, almost seconds after The Master dismounted, the rain began coming down in pounding sheets all over the valley. After Tollie and Boisk had been checked, medicated, fed and watered, The Master gave Randall instructions to stay with them in the barn through the night and left him in confident charge. Randall walked over and pulled the blanket up closer to Tollie's chin, humming as he did so. Her breathing was calm and her legs bandaged, she was falling asleep. Her cousin, Boisk scooted closer to her and propped his head on her back. "Thanks Randall." Boisk said, with sincere gratitude. "We would not have made it home without you." "Boisk, you and Tollie did a very foolish thing. Going against all instructions and advice, wandering off to a dangerous place could have indeed cost you your lives. I hope that in the future you will listen to your mamas, and most of all to The Master. He wants the best for you—and even though you thought there was more fun to be had outside the fence—I guess you learned different tonight didn't you?" "We sure did", Tollie said in a sleepy voice. She was listening and grateful for the warmth and safety of home. "Mr. Randall, it was all my fault that Boisk left. He went to keep me from danger—and I thought I was brave enough to handle anything. All I wanted was some excitement and those juicy berries... but thinking about them now, they taste no different than the berries on our fencerow here at the barn. I wanted to be an explorer, but I wound up getting hurt and putting Boisk in danger. And you too, Mr. Randall! I'm sorry." Tollie finished with tears in her voice. Randall could sense the sincerity in her voice and knew that neither one of these two sheep would ever wander from the valley again. They were not mountain goats, they were valley sheep—and they knew what was best for them... staying close to The Master.

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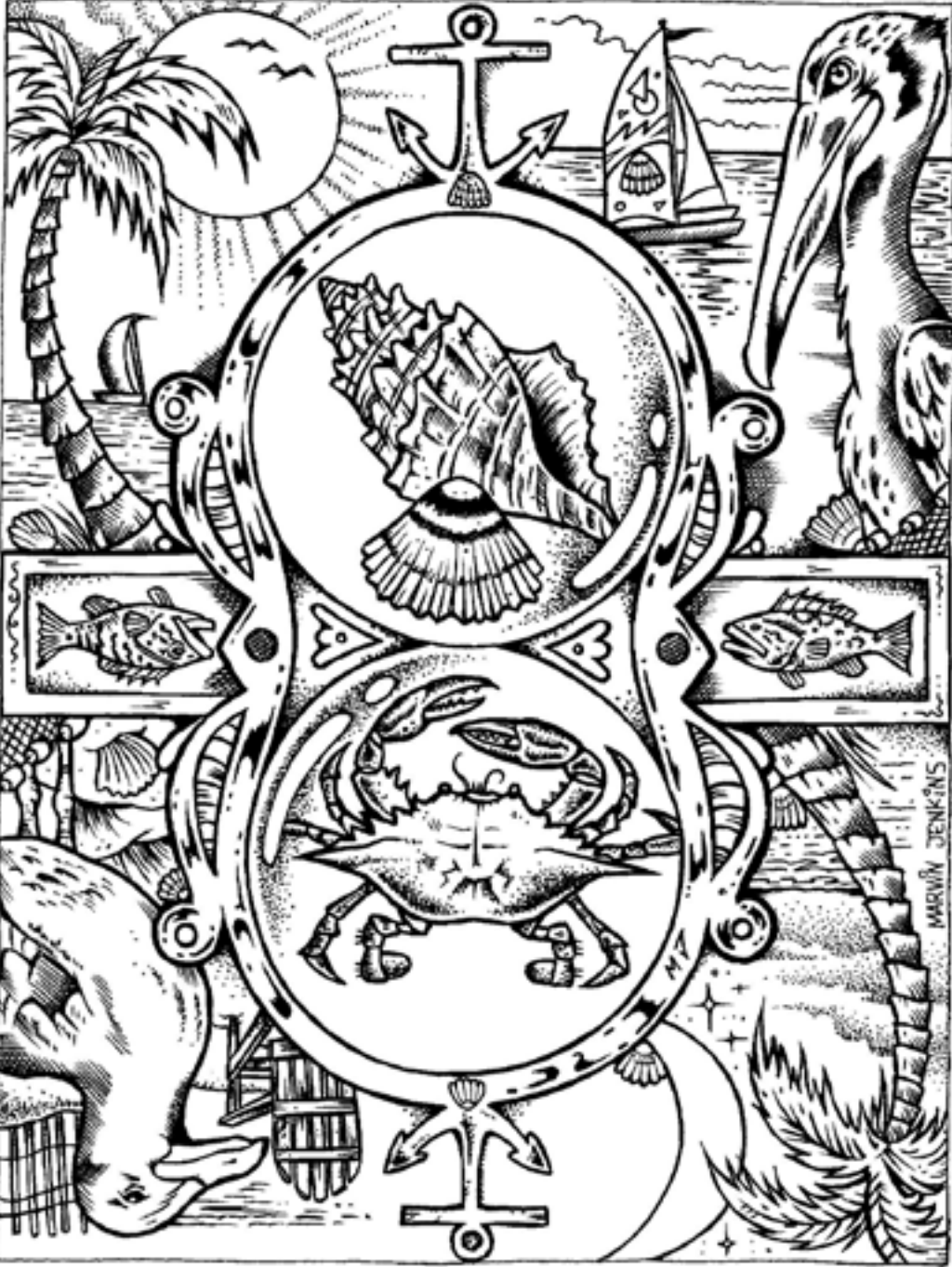
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Bucket List, Frog Legs & The Rapture

It's another cloudy, cold, miserable, wet and windy day. The north wind has pushed the dark grey clouds and it seems that the sun will be hid for another few days. Not being able to go outside, I will sit here by the fireplace and think. The house is quiet except for the fire. My wife is a substitute teacher at Vernon Elementary School and was called in today. I very seldom have time alone because of the twin granddaughters and the four grandsons. They are at school today as well.

Thinking on where I have been, where I'm going and what I want to do is somewhat exciting and could be downright scary. Looking back some twenty years, I had just retired from working for Uncle Sam and was pleased to put the workforce behind me. These past twenty years have been some of the best of my life. If I make it another twenty, I'll be ninety-two years old, and friend, that is old in anyone's book. So far in life I have been blessed with good health. I'm not planning on being here another twenty years. I'm just planning for ten and I will be eighty-two. I know a lot of people

that are eighty-two and they are still active, doing whatever they please.

If I am checking out of here in ten years from now, I don't have much time left, I need to get started on my bucket list. Most of us are making plans on living and I wonder how many actually are making plans to die. Dying is more important to plan for because we are only here maybe one-hundred years. One-hundred years on Earth doesn't seem very long when you compare it to the millions and millions of years of eternity. I believe Jesus will come before I'm done here on Earth so I better get busy on my bucket list.

One of the things I have always wanted to do was raise bull frogs and then have a frog-leg cookout, inviting everyone to a free meal. Before we sit down to break bread, I will thank everyone for coming and then I will tell them about Jesus. I will ask them if they are ready to meet Him. The hushpuppies, cheese grits, frog legs, french fries and ice tea will be good, but that won't be the real reason for the cookout.

Some of you know about Jesus coming back to Earth and you've heard words like: The Tribulation, God's Wrath, The Rapture, Armageddon, The New Earth and The Great White Throne of Judgement. These are events you need to know about and understand. I've told you about the frog leg feast I'm planning, but I also want to tell you about another great feast that no one wants to miss. Jesus is throwing a supper and wants you as the guest. You're invited. You don't want to be here on Earth when this meal is served and I'll tell you why. When Jesus comes in the air, we (the church) will go up to meet Him. This will not be everyone, only for those who have given their hearts to Jesus and let Him be their Master and Savior. It will be for those who have been washed in His sin cleaning blood. Today, Satan can travel between Heaven and Earth accusing us. Read the book of Job if you don't believe me.

Not everyone will see when we are taken to meet

Jesus in the air. Later, when He returns to Earth, every eye will see Him and every knee will bow. After the believers (the church) have been taken out (raptured), will a person still have the chance to go to Heaven? Yes, but it will be a thousand times harder as Satan will do all he can to keep you from it. The Beast, False Prophet and Satan will be on your back and it will be nearly impossible not to take the mark of the beast and worship Satan.

Today we have the Holy Spirit and Comforter to encourage us. At the Rapture, the Holy Spirit as we know Him, will depart with the church. How can anyone be saved if the Holy Spirit doesn't draw him? The Holy Spirit has always been here and will always be. He will be here in The Two Witnesses and in the one-hundred and forty-four thousand Jewish Preachers, just like He was in the womb of John the Baptist's mother. Don't count on turning to Jesus as your Savior during the Great Tribulation, it will be Hell here on Earth. Today Jesus is calling and if you can't hear Him it's because you have your eyes and ears tuned to what the world has for you.

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Twins

A woman has twins, and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named 'Amal.' The other goes to a family in Spain, they name him 'Juan.' Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his mom. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wished she also had a picture of Amal. Her husband responds, "But they are twins. If you've seen Juan, you've seen Amal."

Wise people think all they say,
fools say all they think.

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Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
John 11:25-26



Almost Missed It

By: Dr. Charlie Hinson

He almost missed it today. Sitting in a Shoney's Restaurant, many miles from where anybody knew him, enjoying the company of his mom and dad, not wealthy but upper middle-class with no money worries. Life is good.

The family of six that arrived at the restaurant shortly after he did was less well-dressed, and the markings of poverty were obvious. His private space was further compromised when the waitress brought the mother, dad and four children aged one to seven, and sat them down at the table next to his. He could have come to the conclusion that it is difficult to have a quiet meal in a decent establishment these days without needs staring you in the face. But he didn't. Walking in the Spirit is not all that easy, but he was there, and the "chance" meeting of the two families was not an accident, but a miracle crafted in Heaven hours previously.

Conversation between the parents and the waitress could be overheard, and the debate as to whether they had enough money for all of them to eat that day was obvious. Ralph knew the answer before the question



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ever arose. It was God's timing that the family should be able to eat a good meal, and it was God's timing to see if Ralph really believed 1st John Chapter 3, Verse 17.

He discreetly indicated to the waitress that their bill should be added to his, for he was going to pay for their food. No show-off. No glory-hog. Just let me be obedient and be on my way. But the waitress could neither believe it nor hold it.

I wasn't there, but I know two families that were blessed out of their boots today; one for giving, and one for receiving.

Oh, 1st John 3:17? *But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?* For my benefit, TLB: But if someone who is supposed to be a Christian has money enough to live well, and sees a brother in need, and won't help him---how can God's love be within him? Thanks, Ralph.

Doing Time

A criminal with a long record of transgressions was on trial for his latest crime. The jury found him guilty on 33 counts and the judge sentenced him to 189 years. Realizing that even with time off for good behavior he would be over one hundred when he was released, the prisoner burst into tears. Noting this display of remorse, the judge reconsidered. He said, "I didn't mean to be so severe. Thinking it over, I can see that I've imposed an extremely harsh sentence. So you don't have to serve the whole time." The prisoner beamed with new found hope until the judge leaned toward him and said, "Just do as much as you can."

A man decided to call his toilet the Jim instead of the John. He said it sounds better when he tells people he goes to the Jim everyday.



Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

John 11:25-26 KJV

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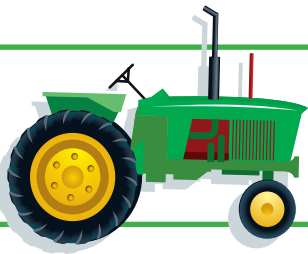
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Animal Rights

Anne went away to college and promptly became an avid animal right activist. When she came home for the Holidays she noticed her mother wearing a beautiful genuine fur coat. "Oh Mom!" Anne exclaimed in a disapproving tone, "Some animal must have suffered terribly just so you can get a fur coat." "Anne!" Her mom screamed with anger, "I send you away to college and you come back talking like that?! How dare you talk that way about your father?!?"



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By: BN Heard



Bread Stuffing

Do not worry, this story has a happy ending. I have to say that because of my Mama, who spent time as a Baptist missionary and would have wanted me to make it clear before getting into the details. She would also want me to say that I understand the importance of taking communion at church and that I understand the meaning. *I said it.*

Some of my fondest memories of church as a little boy involve getting to drink the leftover Welch's Grape Juice and eat the Nabisco Premium Saltine Crackers. We went to a small church in a very rural area of Alabama; we didn't have fancy communion bread and it was a dry county. Even if it weren't dry, we still wouldn't have used the hard stuff.

Years later, at my church, I get to work the left door at church and stand on the end of the aisles and manage the offering plates and communion trays. I take my shift every third month. We have communion on the first Sunday of every month and I've been doing this for a long time, so I know the ropes.

I'm guilty of saving seats for older folks and those



with walkers and canes. I know where they like to sit and I will put church bulletins and glasses from the lost and found to hold their seats. With folks I know, I ask them silly questions like, "Would you like smoking or non-smoking?" With folks I know really well, I might note in jest on communion Sundays that, "We will be serving the hard stuff in the front left section this morning." They know I

am kidding and I am simply trying to use one of the gifts I feel I have been given.

At our last communion service, I was standing in the back of the church holding my nice plate of communion bread (I like it over the saltine crackers). It was about time for me to go take my place and pass the breadplate down the aisle. I folded the nice white cloth back as I normally do and then – I panicked. I saw what looked like and I thought was mold on the bread I was about to send down the aisle. I was in a predicament and had to make a split second decision.

Everyone has a perfect answer for situations like this after the fact. I didn't have time to study the situation. I was standing behind other ushers in the back of the church and I am sure I was starting to sweat. Therefore, I did what I thought I could do with the time I had. I started selectively and carefully picking out the little pieces of bread that looked like they had mold on them. I couldn't keep them in my hand, because I was about to walk down the church aisle. So... I started stuffing the little pieces of bread in my pocket. I thought to myself, "The lump isn't that big, maybe

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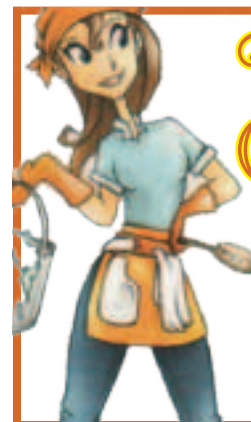
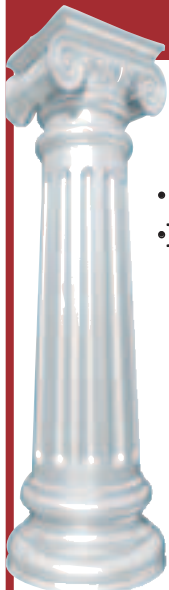
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no one will notice.” As I went from aisle to aisle, I tried to carefully shake the breadplate and see if I had missed any bread with white spots. With the couple I found, like a magician, I palmed them in my hand...

When this little ordeal was finally over, I was relieved, yet still very concerned. I addressed my concerns to my head usher fellow, who looked at it and was equally concerned. He took it to the kitchen, where the fellow who had just cooked the bread explained that it was not mold, but flour or something normally on bread.

Yes, I felt foolish standing there with a pocket full of communion bread, but what else could I have done? Stuffing my pocket full of bread and palming bread like a birthday party magician, it was a tough day in the life of a left door usher. I needed a shot of Welch’s Grape Juice.

Mama would have said, “You did the right thing.” That’s what mothers do. Daddy would have found the humor in it and asked, “Do you need money for food?”

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2 cloves garlic – minced	1 tsp baking powder
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	1 cup whole kernel corn
	1 egg

In skillet, cook onion in a tbsp of oil until tender. Add garlic and cook a minute longer. Add shrimp and cook until shrimp turns pink. Remove from heat. In large bowl, mix flour, cornmeal, cornstarch, baking powder, salt and pepper. In small bowl, mix corn, eggs and shrimp; stir into dry ingredients. In small batches, drop corn mixture by rounded tablespoonfuls into heated oil. Fry until golden brown. Drain on paper towels.

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Two Blonde Fellas

Two blonde fellas were watching an old cowboy movie and it came to the part when the cowboy, on his horse, at full gallop, was headed right towards a cliff. One of the guys said to the other, "Hey, I'll bet you 10 bucks that he rides over the cliff." The other said, "You're on!" Well the cowboy and the horse went right over the cliff. The fella that lost the bet paid up. A while later, the guy who won said, "Hey, I'm feeling a little guilty about our bet and need to make a confession ... I have already seen the movie." The other fella replied, "Well, I have also seen the movie before ... but I didn't think he'd do it again!"

The Faithful Fiance

A young woman visits her parents and brings her fiancé to meet them. After an elaborate dinner, the mother tells her husband to find out about the young man. The father invites the fiancé to his library for a cup of coffee. "So what are your plans?" The father asks the young man. "I am a full time college student." He says. "A college student, hmmm," the father says. "Admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in, as she is accustomed to?" "I will study," the young man said, "God will provide for us." "And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring, such as she deserves?" asks the father. "I will concentrate on my studies," the young man replies, "God will provide for us." "And children?" asks the father. "How will you support children?" "Don't worry, sir, God will provide," replies the fiancé. The conversation continues like this, and each time the father questions, the young idealist insists that God will provide. Later, the mother asks, "How did it go, Honey?" The father answers, "He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I'm God."

"Grandma, how long have you and Grandpa been married?" asked young Shelley. "Fifty years," Grandma replied. "That is so wonderful," exclaimed Shelley. "And I bet in all that time, you never once thought about divorce, right?" "Right Shelley. Divorce, NEVER. Murder, lots of times, but never divorce."

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Ephesians 2:8-9

Base 51

You've heard of the Air Force's ultra-high-security, super-secret base in Nevada, known simply as "Area 51?" Well, late one afternoon, the Air Force folks out at Area 51 were surprised to see a cessna landing at their "secret" base. They immediately impounded the aircraft and hauled the pilot into an interrogation room. The pilot's story was that he took off from Vegas, got lost, and spotted the base just as he was about to run out of fuel. The Air Force started a full FBI background check on the pilot and held him overnight during the investigation. By the next day, they were finally convinced that the pilot really was lost and wasn't a spy. They gassed up his airplane, gave him a terrifying "you-did-not-see-a-base" briefing, complete with threats of spending the rest of his life in prison, told him Vegas was that-a-way on such-and-such a heading, and sent him on his way. The next day, to the total disbelief of the Air Force, the same cessna showed up again. Once again, the MP's surrounded the plane... only this time there were two people in the plane. The same pilot jumped out and said, "Do anything you want to me, but my wife is in the plane and you have to tell her where I was last night!"

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HEALTH TALK

by: Michael Kennedy, ARNP
Hawkins Family Medicine

March is upon us. Each March in our family we celebrate the birthday of my oldest child and our wedding anniversary. My wife takes just a little more time each March to look back at how awesome her husband has been and how lucky she is. It is not unusual for her to be just a little giddy with excitement waking up each morning to my smiling face. At some point recently, we have decided that if we want to enjoy many more anniversary celebrations together, we need to make some changes to our daily routine though. This museum-sculpture-level body of mine won't look this way forever, so I knew I had to make some changes if I wanted to keep giving my hand-me-downs to ole Channing T.



We are wanting to enjoy this and every stage of our children's life and be an example to them. A simple trip outdoors to let them explore and learn can involve a fair amount of exercise and allow us to teach them to bring food and snacks that will keep them fueled up. I know in about two blinks of an eye that we will be doing the same with grandkids, Lord willing.

As far as my wife and I, we are focusing on improved nutrition, including more activity in our daily

life, and overall less calories. We enjoy food. We enjoy food that is bad for us. Bring on the fried chicken, extra mashed potatoes, cheesecake and wash it down with a gallon of sweet tea. You will never hear me say we don't want and enjoy this food, but we are having to focus on making nutritional changes that we can maintain. One way we look to make long term changes successful is by giving ourselves a day we can enjoy some of the "bad for us foods". I am well aware of the negative psychology of using food as a reward or pleasure, but you know what?, it works! And, as we have made these changes, we can find, as can you, that sugary drinks and fried foods can lose some of their appeal when you eat healthy all week. They tend to cause a little heartburn and coma feeling after overeating.

So how does one make changes? March is a good time to get focused. The excitement of a New Year's resolution has worn off, and it is time to actually put your words into actions. I have said it before for good reason, fail to plan and plan to fail. It takes more effort, time and money to eat more nutritious. Sit down and plan out meal ideas, go to the grocery store and get it done! Taking more time up front to choose meals that everyone can enjoy will turn those "I don't want to eat this" crying fits from your spouse, I mean children, to happy and smiling expressions. Get everyone involved in not only the planning, but shopping. This will give children a sense of ownership over their decisions and make them more likely to follow through with those good choices. Guide them in colorful fruits and vegetables and encourage them to try new foods at least 10 or more times to develop their palate.

Make small lifestyle changes you can live with and don't give your body an excuse to break down on you. Cherish and enjoy all the birthday and anniversaries you can.

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Last Wish

An old preacher was dying. He sent a message for his State Representative and his lawyer, both church members, to come to his home. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his bedroom. As they entered the room, the preacher held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The preacher grasped their hands, sighed contentedly, smiled and stared at the ceiling. For a time, no one said anything. Both the Rep. and lawyer were touched and flattered that the preacher would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled; the preacher had never given them any indication that he particularly liked either of them. They both remembered his many long, uncomfortable sermons about greed, covetousness and avaricious behavior that made them squirm in their seats. Finally, the lawyer said, "Preacher, why did you ask us to come?" The old preacher mustered up his strength and then said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves, and that's how I want to go."

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.



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But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8



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The Captains Parrot

One of the entertainers on a cruise ship was a magician. Since the passengers were different each week, the magician always had a new audience. So he always did the same tricks. The captain's parrot, however, was stationed in the performance hall, and observed the magician's tricks week after week. Being a wise old bird, he eventually figured out all the magician's secrets. Then, irritatingly, he started heckling during the show. "Hey, why is every card the same?" "It's in his cape pocket!" "It's a different rabbit!" The magi-

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cian was fuming, but it was the captain's parrot so he couldn't really do anything. One terrible day, however, the ship had a boiler explosion and sank. The magician wound up on a small raft in the middle of the Atlantic with, as luck would have it, the captain's parrot. They glared at each other with visible hatred but didn't say a word. This went on for several days. Finally on the tenth day, the parrot couldn't take it any longer. Exasperated, he said, "Okay, I give up. Where's the ship?"

Poisoned

Man goes to see the Priest. "Father, something terrible is happening and I have to talk to you about it." The Priest asked, "What's wrong?" The man replied, "My wife is poisoning me." The Priest, very surprised by this, asks, "How can that be?" The man then pleads, "I'm telling you, I'm certain she's poisoning me, what should I do?" The Priest then offers, "Tell you what. Let me talk to her, I'll see what I can find out and I'll let you know." A week later the Priest calls the man and says, "Well, I spoke to your wife. I spoke to her on the phone for three hours. You want my advice?" The man anxiously says, "Yes." "Take the poison," says the Priest.

At the end of the day, a policeman parked his van in front of the station. As he was gathering his equipment, his dog started barking. The policeman looked up to see a puzzled looking little boy. "Is that a dog you have back there?" "Yes, it is," said the policeman. "What'd he do?"

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Dear Sherri,

I am a single mom on a tight budget. I can't afford to take my daughter on a spring break trip like a lot of families do.

Her best friend's mom has invited her to go with them to stay at Panama City Beach for the week. I want her to be able to go, but her mother does not share my values. She drinks and parties and allows her daughter way too much freedom. But my daughter is 17, and I know I can't control her forever. Could you give me some advice? What would it hurt for her to go?

Dear Spring Broke,

Spring Broke

You ask a loaded question! As moms, we want our kids to enjoy all of the perks of childhood. It is very tempting to make concessions when you want so much for them, but are unable to afford it. So, I do understand your conundrum.

Having said that, let me start by agreeing that you are wise to be concerned. In your absence, her friend's mother becomes her barometer of morality. If she is not protective of her own daughter, you can safely assume that her concern for your daughter will be even less.

What could it hurt if she goes?

- She could be put in dangerous situations where she could be attacked or violated. When drinking and drugs abound, so does the victimization of young girls. Even if your daughter stays away from parties, you cannot necessarily keep parties from your girl!
- She could get a taste for drinking, drugs and a promiscuous lifestyle. This could result in years of wrong choices and heartbreak.
- She could become pregnant or contract a sexually transmitted disease.
- She could be exposed to adults who are hanging around with the mom, but have an eye for young girls.
- She could die of alcohol poisoning or drug use the first time she tries it.



OK. So, admittedly, all of that is a worst-case scenario. But these activities happen each year during spring break. Perhaps the real question is, *what good could come from it?*

She is still a minor and your sole responsibility. Even if she makes wrong decisions once she is an adult, now is your last window of time to influence her in the right direction. Do not squander your last year to instill values in your daughter. Fun is short-lived. Character is for a lifetime. Resist guilt about what you cannot afford, and put a premium on what you do provide- love, guidance and wisdom!

Sherri

Sherry Evans is a wife and a mother of three boys. She is an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God and an Associate Pastor at a local church. To read more from Sherri, visit her blog "When God Whispers Over Your Life" @ sherrievans.blogspot.com.

The advice offered in Dear Sherri, is intended for informational and inspirational purposes only. Use of the column is not intended to replace or substitute for any professional, financial, medical, legal, or other professional advice. If you have specific concerns or a situation in which you require professional, psychological or medical help, you should consult with an appropriately trained and qualified specialist.

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Preparing for the Resurrection

A young preacher recently came upon a farmer working in his field. Being concerned about the farmer's soul the preacher asked the man, "Are you laboring in the vineyard of the Lord my good man?" Not even looking at the preacher and continuing his work the farmer replied, "Naw, these are soybeans." "You don't understand," said the preacher. "Are you lost?" "Naw! I've lived here all my life," answered the farmer. "Are you prepared for the resurrection?" the frustrated preacher asked. This caught the farmer's attention and he asked, "When's it gonna be?" Thinking he had accomplished something the young preacher replied, "It could be today, tomorrow, or the next day." Taking a handkerchief from his back pocket and wiping his brow, the farmer remarked, "Well, don't mention it to my wife. She don't get out much and she'll wanna go all three days."

Blind Date

An 85-year-old widow went on a blind date with a 90-year-old man. When she returned to her daughter's house later that night, she seemed upset. "What happened, Mother?" the daughter asked. "I had to slap his face three times!" "You mean he got fresh?" "No," she answered. "I thought he was dead!"

Mr. Curtis' Classics

(Continued from page 5)



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Double Decker Bus

Two softball teams, one of all Blondes and one of all Brunettes, chartered a double-decker bus for a weekend trip to Alabama. The Brunette team rode on the bottom of the bus, and the Blonde team rode on the top level. The Brunette team down below really whooped it up, having a great time, when one of them realized she hadn't heard anything from the Blondes upstairs. She decided to go up and investigate. When the Brunette reached the top, she found all the Blondes in fear, staring straight ahead at the road, clutching the seats in front of them with white knuckles. The brunette asked, "What in the world is going on up here? We're having a great time downstairs!" One of the Blondes looked up at her, swallowed hard and whispered... "Yeah sure, You've got a driver."

Living to Die

A fellow went to the doctor who told him that he had a bad illness and only a year to live. So he decided to talk to his Pastor. After the man explained his situation, he asked his Pastor if there was anything he could do. "What you should do is go out and buy a late '70 or early '80 model Dodge Pickup," said the Pastor. "Then go get married to the ugliest woman you can find, and buy yourselves an old trailer house in Louisiana." The fellow asked, "Will this help me live longer?" "No," said the Pastor, "but it will make what time you do have seem like forever."



Nathan Jackson
HCHS Senior

Nikki Emore 850-547-1747
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Pleasure

A man walked into a shoe shop and asked for a pair of shoes, size 8. The sales assistant said, "Are you sure, sir? You look like a size 12 to me." "Just bring me a size 8," insisted the customer. So the assistant fetched a pair of size 8 shoes and the man squeezed his feet into them with obvious discomfort. He then stood up in the shoes, but with considerable pain. "Listen," he explained, "I've lost my house to the taxman, I live with my mother-in-law, my daughter ran off with my best friend, and my wife wants a divorce. The only pleasure I have left is to come home at night and take my shoes off!"

A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He slides up to the bar and announces:
"I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."

Smart Dog

A dog is so smart that his master decides to send him to college. Home for vacation, his master asks him how college is going. "Well," says the dog, "I'm not doing too great in science and math, but I have made a lot of progress in foreign languages." "Really!" says the master. "Say something in a foreign language." The dog says, "Meow!"

March Planting Dates

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Best Days for Above Ground Planting:

8, 11-12, 15-17

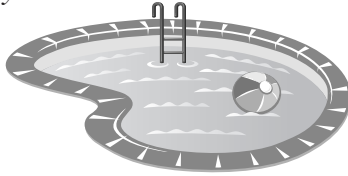
Best Days for Root Crop:

3-4, 7, 23-27, 30-31

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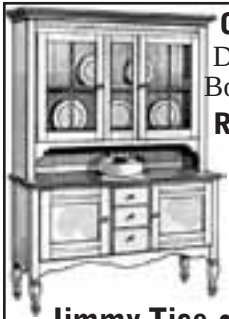
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Street Talk Announcements

Free announcements for Church and Non-Profit Organizations.
Announcements must be emailed to streettalkamerica@live.com.

- **Yard Sale at Bonifay United Methodist Church** Sat.,
March 5th, 8am til. Includes furniture. Youth holding car
wash and bake sale.

- **Would you like to know God?** Would you like to be one
of God's children? If so, come join us at Grace Lutheran
Church on Sunday 8:15a.m. On Hwy 90 1 1/4 mile east of
Bonifay. Let the Lord touch you with His love.

- **Marianna's Gathering Place Foundation** is holding a
monthly meeting for senior singles on the last Friday of
every month at 6p.m. at Eastside Baptist Church Hwy 90E.
in Marianna. Speakers, entertainment and lots of fun. Call
Lilia for more info. 850-272-6611

- **Free Health Clinic** for the uninsured. 203 W. Iowa Ave.
Bonifay, FL. Open on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each
month. For more info call 850-510-3779

- **Alford Community Health Clinic** 1770 Caroline St.
Alford, FL. 2nd & 4th Saturdays starting @ 10a.m. For
more info call 850-272-0101

- **Life Recovery Meetings @ First Baptist Church, Boni-**
fay. The Life Recovery Group provides Christ-centered
twelve-step addiction recovery meetings and is certified by
the Florida Department of Children and Family as a Faith
Based Outpatient Recovery Group. Meetings are free and
are offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-
6:30 at the Annex adjacent to First Baptist Church, Bonifay.
For more info, call (850)547-2420

- **Senior Fellowship Association** meets the third Monday of
each month, in the Youth Center of First United Methodist
Church, Clinton Street, Marianna, at 12 noon for a potluck
luncheon and meeting. The meat is furnished. Speakers
and door prizes at each meeting. All seniors are welcome.

- **The Home Extension Club (HEC)** would like to invite
you to a luncheon and meeting at the Hinson Crossroads Fire
Department in Vernon, FL. Come and join us on the third
Tuesday of every month at 10a.m.. For more info call 850-
547-3879

- **Washington County Council on Aging** is hosting BINGO
for senior citizens 60 and over, every Thursday 12:30 - 1:30,
For more information please call Kim @ 850-638-6216.

- **Community Garage Sale** April 2 (Sat.), 8:30am til
5:00pm, in Activity Room @ Oak Terrace Apartments, 100
Oak Terrace Lane, off of S. Hwy 173 (McGee), Bonifay.
Lots of VHS movies!

On the **VERGE** with **BIRGE**

THOUGHTS, PUNS & FUN BY ROBERT BIRGE

- I bet all you girls that ignored me in high school..... would still be pretty pleased with that decision.
- Lesson learned from last night: there is no such thing as a goalie in darts.
- You should get at least 8 hours of beauty sleep.... 9 if you're really ugly.
- Life's most terrifying 10 seconds: Being held hostage in the corner of the shower by cold water.
- When me and my brothers were growing up as kids, we were so poor that dad gave us syrup sandwiches and told us "there is your honey bun."
- Shout out to people who are hard of hearing.
- Apparently, you can only say, "Look at you! You got so big!" to kids..... old girlfriends tend to get offended. Who knew?
- Just saw a car at McDonalds take 4 tries to get lined up in a parking space. I'm not judgmental, so I won't assume what sex she was.

Chess Enthusiasts

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."



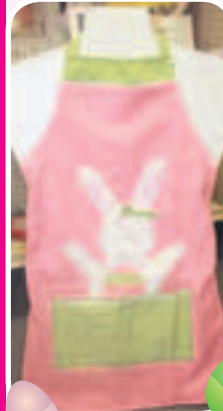
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John 20:29

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Papa Shu's Movie Review

By: Timothy Shumaker
Children's Minister, Gulf Beach Baptist Church

RISEN

Spoiler Alert! If you do not want to know how this movie ends please stop reading. Movie plots will be revealed!

Movie viewers often have issues with film makers concerning artistic license versus historical accuracy, especially when it comes to religious films. A good rule of thumb concerning artistic license is whether the film contradict or change history or the message of the Bible or not. The makers of the film "Risen" certainly passes that test and manages to have produced a film that is noteworthy.

This is a very familiar story about the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ only told through the eyes of a Roman tribune, Clavius. He has every reason to be skeptical about the stories surrounding this Jewish troublemaker, Yeshua. The governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate, charges Clavius with overseeing the execution and burial of Yeshua...and making sure that his body stays in the tomb.

Clavius arrives at the crucifixion shortly after Christ finishes His work on the cross. He orders the legs of the thieves to be broken but seeing that Yeshua was already dead, Clavius orders the body to be pierced with spear to make certain of it. Joseph of Arimathea immediately presents Clavius with order to allow him

to bury the body. Pilate then orders the tomb sealed to squelch rumors of a resurrected leader. When the Roman guards assigned to guarding the tomb fail in that assignment, Pilate charges Clavius with finding the body of Yeshua. The tribune is very meticulous and fair in his pursuit of finding the truth; but, he cannot reconcile the empty tomb that he personally sealed. He eventually finds the truth he is looking for...but it is not a corpse.

"Risen" imagines what it might look like if a historical character we do not meet in the Biblical account intersects with characters we do find in the Bible and witnesses the events surrounding and following the Resurrection. Clavius interviews Mary Magdalene concerning the empty tomb. He interviews Bartholomew and finds himself breaking into the upper room just ahead of doubting Thomas. Clavius ends up in the boat fishing with the disciples at the shores of Galilee. He is even fortunate enough to have a one-on-one conversation with the resurrected Yeshua and witnesses the Great Commission and Ascension of Christ. Clavius has great difficulty reconciling the world he has always known with the things that he has witnessed with his own eyes. Eventually he believes and comes to realize that he cannot return to his former life.

Parents are warned there are violent and brutal scenes in this movie because this is the world in which Yeshua was born. Viewers must not consider this film to be an accurate historical account of the Resurrection of Jesus; however, this work of fiction challenges believers and unbelievers to understand there is reasonable and reliable evidence of the Resurrection account. An honest review and consideration of that evidence lead Clavius to place his faith in a Messiah who is clearly no longer in the grave. Unbelieving viewers will be challenged to examine their position and might also come to the same conclusions.

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Where is Jesus Today?

A Sunday School teacher of pre-schoolers was concerned that his students might be a little confused about Jesus Christ because of the Christmas season emphasis on His birth. He wanted to make sure they understood that the birth of Jesus occurred for real. He asked his class, "Where is Jesus today?" Steven raised his hand and said, "He's in Heaven." Mary was called on and answered, "He's in my heart." Little Johnny, waving his hand furiously, blurted out, "I know, I know! He's in our bathroom!!!" The whole class got very quiet, looked at the teacher, and waited for a response. The teacher was completely at a loss for a few very long seconds. Finally, he gathered his wits and asked Little Johnny how he knew this. Little Johnny said, "Well... every morning, my father gets up, bangs on the bathroom door, and yells, "Good Lord, are you still in there?!"

A man walks into a flower shop and says, "I'd like some flowers please." The florist replies, "Certainly sir. What did you have in mind?" "I'm not sure." the man exclaims. "Perhaps I could help." suggested the florist. "What exactly did you do?"



Blonde with a Handgun

A young blonde woman is distraught because she fears her husband is having an affair, so she goes to a gun shop and buys a handgun. The next day she stops by her husband's office to find him in the arms of a beautiful redhead. She grabs the gun and holds it to her own head. The husband begs and pleads with her not to shoot herself. Hysterically the blonde responds to the husband, "Shut up...you're next!"

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