

**Free**

January 2017

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MATTHEW 6:33

*Nikki Emore*  
Photography

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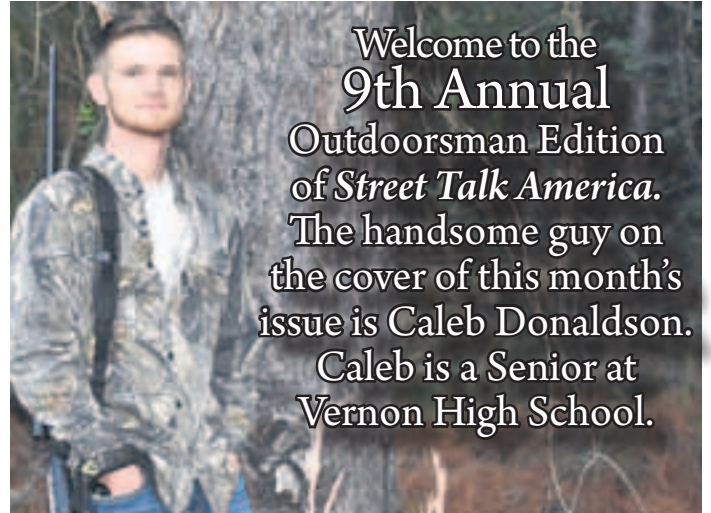
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Welcome to the  
**9th Annual**  
Outdoorsman Edition  
of *Street Talk America*.  
The handsome guy on  
the cover of this month's  
issue is Caleb Donaldson.  
Caleb is a Senior at  
Vernon High School.

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## Wearing Out

Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week." "Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day." "That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in an hour!"

## Last Day of Hunting

On the first day of the deer hunting season, a hunter fell out of a deer stand and broke both his legs. "Why couldn't this happen on my last day of hunting?!" the hunter cried to the doctor. "It did," the doctor replied.

My wife says I never listen to her.  
At least I think that's what she said.

## Street Talk America®

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

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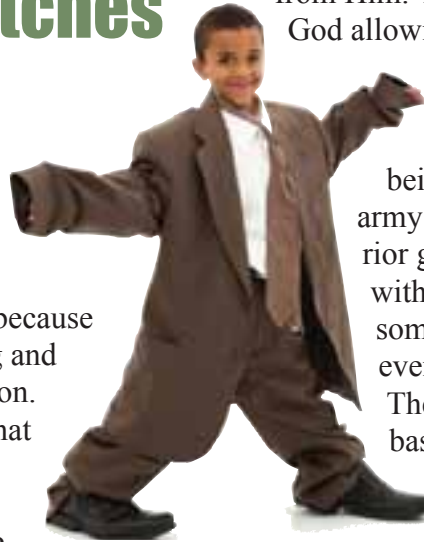
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# Too Big for Your Britches

By: Tim Patton  
Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church

The other day, a friend of mine relayed a conversation that had taken place between our seven-year-old daughters. They were commenting that a mutual friend had finally broken up with her boyfriend (yes, seven-years-old). They were glad about it because (my words here) he was just too controlling and was always demanding her time and attention. They exclaimed that he didn't understand that "she has a life!" My friend was cracking up on the inside but it took everything she could muster not to burst out laughing. She knew that if she did, they would stop talking and this conversation was too good to miss. I asked what exactly she thought they meant by the fact that the boyfriend just did not understand that their friend has a life? Did he make her stay with him during recess? Did he not understand the importance of every now and then allowing her to have a "girls' day out" with her friends on the playground? As adults, our experience, time, and distance (the recipe for wisdom, by the way) told us that while our little girls were having a grown-up conversation using grown-up terms, they had no idea what they were talking about!

The conversation made me wonder if God ever looks at us with the same amusement. While humanity is creative and accomplished, in light of eternity, we are just little people with short attention spans and limited experience speaking with great authority about some topic, acting like seven-year-olds giving dating advice. While we pride ourselves on our independence, our ability to face whatever life may throw at us, God really designed life to be lived in concert with Him, not independent



from Him. All throughout scripture, we see God allowing humans to find themselves in situations they cannot handle apart from Him: world-wide flood, having children at age 90+, being caught between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea, facing a warrior giant, feeding thousands of people with a few small loaves of bread and some fish, being shipwrecked, or even being arrested for one's faith.

The truth is, we need God on a daily basis. This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, "9 But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Paul understood that his greatest successes came when he was fully dependent upon God.

Maybe our best resolution for the New Year is to start each day confessing our need for and dependence upon God and giving thanks for His continued presence. This is how the Christian walk started – by confessing our need for His grace. This is how it should be lived on a daily basis. That way, when life comes hard at you, instead of panicking as you struggle to figure your way out, you have already asked God to strengthen and guide you and you are already leaning on Him. Later, when you talk about the power of Christ at work in you, you are speaking with true wisdom and not sounding way too big for your britches.

*Bob Tim*



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Surround Sound Student Ministry  
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## The Meaning of Golf

GOLF, n.

[1] a game that consists of a lot of walking, broken up by disappointment and bad arithmetic.

[2] a game of opposites - the world's slowest people are ahead of you, and the fastest are behind.

[3] a colorful sport that keeps you on the green, in the pink, and financially in the red.

[4] a game which is allowed to be played on Sunday (under blue laws) because it was not considered a game by the law, but a form of moral effort.

[5] a game a lot like taxation - you drive hard to get to the green, and then you find yourself in a hole.

GOLF CART, n.

[1] A popular mode of transportation because, unlike a caddie, it can neither count, criticize, nor snicker.

GOLFER, n.

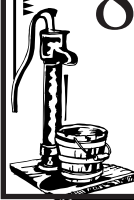
[1] a person who yells "fore," takes six, and puts down five;

[2] a guy who has the advantage over a fisherman - he doesn't have to bring home anything when he brags he had a great day.

**Brain cells come and brain cells go,  
but fat cells remain FOREVER.**

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### Remedy

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 and put it halfway up a mountain." 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."

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Two deer hunters were not having any luck so they asked for advice from an old timer. "You can just about guarantee a deer if you learn to hunt with dogs," he said. The two hunters got a trained deer dog and hit the woods. At the end of the day and still empty-handed, one hunter said to the other, "Maybe tomorrow we'll get one if we throw the dog out of a higher treestand."

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LOG OFF: Don't add no more wood.  
BAR CODE - Them's the fight'n rules down at the local tavern  
BACKUP - What you do when you run across a skunk in the woods  
MONITOR: Keepin an eye on the wood stove.  
DOWNLOAD: Gettin the farwood off the truk.  
MEGA HERTZ: When yer not kerful gettin the farwood.  
FLOPPY DISC: Whatcha git from tryin to carry too much farwood.  
RAM: That thar thing whut splits the farwood.  
WINDOWS: Whut to shut wen it's cold outside and open wen hot.  
SCREEN: Whut to shut to keep skeeters out.  
BYTE: Whut them dang skeeters do.  
CHIP: Munchies fer the TV.  
MICRO CHIP: Whut's in the bottom of the munchie bag.  
MODEM: Whut cha did to the hay fields.  
DOT MATRIX: Old Dan Matrix's wife.  
LAP TOP: Whar the kitty sleeps.  
KEYBOARD: Whar ya hang the dang keys.  
SOFTWARE: Them dang plastic forks and knives.  
MOUSE: Whut eats the grain in the barn.  
MAINFRAME: Holds up the barn roof.  
PORT: Fancy Flatlander wine  
ENTER: Northerner talk fer "C'mon in y'all"  
RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY: Wen ya cain't 'member whut ya paid fer the rifle when yore wife asks.  
MOUSE PAD: That hippie talk fer the rat hole.  
CRASH - When you go to Junior's party uninvited  
DISKETTE - Female Disco dancer  
HACKER - Uncle Leroy after 32 years of smoking  
MAC - Big Bubba's favorite fast food  
NETWORK - Scoop'n up a big fish before it breaks the line  
FAX - What you lie about to the IRS

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### To Save or Not to Save

Standing at the edge of the lake, a man saw a woman flailing about in the deep water. Unable to swim, the man screamed for help. A trout fisherman ran up. The man said, "My wife is drowning and I can't swim. Please save her. I'll give you a hundred dollars." The fisherman dove into the water. In ten powerful strokes, he reached the woman, put his arm around her, and swam back to shore. Depositing her at the feet of the man, the fisherman said, "Okay, where's my hundred dollars?" The man said, "Look, when I saw her going down for the third time, I thought it was my wife. But this is my mother-in-law." The fisherman reached into his pocket and said, "Just my luck. How much do I owe you?"

**Never do a country girl wrong. Even if she doesn't have a gun, her daddy will.**

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Southern Recipes from "The Old House" By: Judy Jenkins & Friends

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



## Deer Hobo Dinners

Recipe from Justin Coatney

8 - 10oz deer burgers  
Creole Seasoning or Cavender's  
Red Potatoes - cubed  
Sweet Onions - sliced  
Can of whole kernel corn - drained  
Can of sweet peas - drained  
Butter  
Get a Reynolds tinfoil packet and place a 10oz deer burger in the center. Season deer Burger with your favorite seasonings (creole or cavenders) is what I prefer. Cut some red new potatoes and sweet onions. Open and drain one can of whole kernel corn and one can of sweet peas. Then place potatoes, onions, corn and peas around the burger. Put a small amount of butter on top. Wrap up and place in 350 oven for about 35 minutes. We usually make about 8 of them with the ingredients. Easy clean up and no need to cook several different things. It's all in the packet already.

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## Stuffed Duck Breast

Recipe from Justin Coatney

Duck breast  
Dale's Marinade  
Italian Dressing  
Creole Seasoning  
8 oz Cream Cheese  
Sweet Onion - chopped  
1 cup pickled jalapenos - chopped  
Bacon  
Butterfly duck breast and marinade in Dale's & Italian Dressing for several hours. Season outside of duck breast with creole seasoning after removing from marinade. Stuff duck breast with cream cheese, raw sweet onion and pickled jalapeños. Then wrap in bacon. Cook them individually wrapped in tinfoil on the grill or in the oven. Reason for tinfoil is to catch all of the good juices it makes while it cooks.

## Venison Teriyaki

Recipe from Michael Lee Rogers

Tenderloin of venison - cut in 1/2 inch thick slices  
1/2 cup butter melted  
1 tsp basil  
1 tsp thyme  
1-2 tsp marjoram  
1/2 cup teriyaki  
3/4 cup cooking wine  
Combine all remaining ingredients in a saucepan and bring to boil. Add venison slices and cook until done. Serve over wild or brown rice.



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## Grilled Venison Steaks

*Recipe from Michael Lee Rogers*

- 12-14lb venison hind quarter
- 16 oz bottle of Italian Salad Dressing
- 2.75 oz package dry onion soup mix
- ¾ cup butter – melted
- 2 tsp pepper

Slice venison across the grain into 1 inch thick slices. Remove and discard the white membrane surrounding each steak. Combine salad dressing and soup mix in large shallow dish, stirring well, add steaks. Cover and marinate in refrigerator one hour, turning once. Combine butter and pepper stirring well, set aside. Remove steaks from marinade. Grill about 5 inches from hot coals, 10 minutes on each side or until done, basting frequently with butter.

## Venison Chili

*Recipe from Michael Lee Rogers*

- 2 lbs venison – cut into ½ inch cubes
- 1 lb ground pork
- 1 large onion – chopped
- 4 cloves garlic – minced
- 3 tbs water
- 3 bay leaves
- 28 oz can tomatoes
- 6 tbs chili powder
- 1 tbs flour
- 1 tbs dried oregano
- 1 tbs salt
- 1 tbs cumin

Stir all ingredients together and cook for 2 hours over low heat. Add more water if needed. Serve over red beans or rice.

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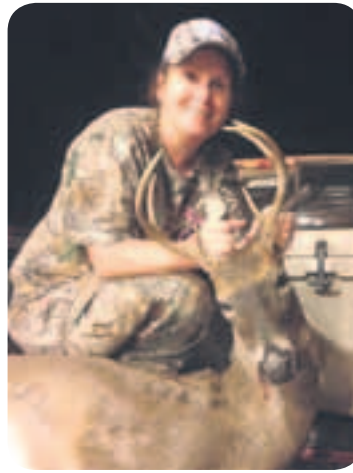
Written by Tina Armstrong Sloan

My addiction began with smoking weed at thirteen. I tried cocaine for the first time on my nineteenth birthday. By twenty-one, I was free basing. My older brother was a drug legend and people assumed I had tried things with him that I had not. By that association, a lot of doors were opened for me, making it easy for me to acquaint myself anywhere I went. In late 1989, in a high and drunken stupor, I found myself married and pregnant.

I immediately stopped everything, even cigarettes. I had to, for my baby's sake. That was a huge responsibility in my life. However, within a few months of his birth, I was using again. My marriage was volatile. We were not good for each other for sure. In my mind, we didn't argue as much when we were high. (The enemy will tell you these things.) Looking back, we are both lucky to have survived each other!

I had never considered myself an addict because I had quit using when I was pregnant and I was able to hold a job. Looking back, I couldn't have done that had I not been in the family business. Plus, I was always in and out of church. I knew who Jesus was.

By the time my dad passed in 2002, we were also doing meth. Meth didn't numb the unhappiness of a bad marriage as coke had. Meth made me want to be free to chase it. I ended that marriage in April 2002. With my dad gone and my marriage over, I had no boundaries.



***"...I see past the addiction. I see someone who just needs to find a love stronger than the dope. I see what Christ saw in me."***

(Today, I can hardly believe the things I did and the places I went.) Then I met someone, but

kept my addiction hidden. It was not hard as we were not in a serious relationship and he was naive about hard drugs. We became serious and a couple of years later, I introduced him to coke. He loved it! Meth was still my drug of choice and when the cocaine dried up, he tried it too.

A year later, my son was trying to bust prison wide open, because while I was free, he was too. My new husband was having seizures from what I thought were overdoses. Then he was diagnosed with diabetes. The same thing that took my Daddy. My nightmares were coming true. Our marriage was falling apart. My mood swings were out of control. I was seeing demons – real ones. We would try to stop and would for several days, but then the dealer would show up. We would joke about him being the devil and he would laugh too. Then we would use.

On a Sunday in February 2008, we were headed to church. (Mind you, I was always in and out of church.) Adrian's mom had invited him. They had a new Pastor and made some changes in the program. By the time we turned on Highway 90, I was standing up in the truck seat turning around and around. I was begging him to stop and let me out. He just kept driving and said "You got to hold it together, I promised my momma." I had never wanted a cigarette so bad in my life!

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We walked in the church. It was now a praise church! *I was going to starve to death!* It's funny how I remember that thought, but don't remember the message. I don't remember a particular verse of scripture, but I remember the chorus:

*'He gave His only son for us to know His name  
And live within the Savior's love  
And He took my place knowing He'd be crucified  
He loved, He loved, A people undeserving'*

I never went to the altar. No one came and prayed for me, but I was changed. I have never craved another cigarette. I've been clean for over eight years. I saw my marriage restored. I forgave things within myself and in others that only through Christ could I have



forgiven. My son, with lots of prayer, graduated high school. He has grown up to be a productive person, in spite of me. In spite of the nights he was scared to death from all the fighting. In spite of the broken promises. In spite of the spoiling to make up for it all. He now is chasing his dreams while raising the apple of my eye, my grandson, Eric. I have a successful business. But above this, I have a heart for hurting people. I love the broken ones. I see past the stealing and lying. I see past the addiction. I see a heart that is broken. I see someone who just needs to find a love stronger than the dope. *I see what Christ saw in me.*

## Going to Go Fishing

A young boy arrived to Sunday School class late. His teacher knew that the boy was usually very prompt and asked him if anything was wrong. The boy replied no, that he was going fishing, but his dad told him that he needed to go to church instead. The teacher was very impressed and asked the boy if his father had explained to him why it was more important to go to church than to go fishing. To which the boy replied, "Yes he did. My dad said that he didn't have enough bait for both of us."

## Bear Hunt

Bubba was out hunting for bears one day, and soon came across a large, trophy sized bear. He raised his rifle and took careful aim. Just as he was about to pull the trigger, the bear turned and began to speak to him! "Isn't it better to talk than to shoot? What do you want? Let's negotiate the matter," said the bear. Lowering his rifle in shock, the hunter thought a second, and then replied, "I want a fur coat."

## Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.



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## Dear Sherri,

*My husband left me several months back for another woman. He claims to be a Christian but swears he is in love in with her. My pastor and several people from my church have counseled me to continue to show him love and to stand in the gap in prayer that our marriage will be restored. He has now asked for a divorce. I am tired of having my life on hold and chasing after a man who no longer seems to like me, much less love me. Will God be mad at me if I do not continue to stand for our marriage? I am ready to rebuild my life. Is that so wrong?*

*Deserted*

I am so sorry for the pain that you must be going through. The pain of rejection is especially sharp, and if we do not guard our hearts, it can be devastating. At times like this, it is hard to keep your self-esteem and confidence. But I urge you to avoid defining yourself by your husband's behavior. Your husband is in sin and has turned against the Bible.

If your husband is determined to go his own way, there is no Biblical requirement for you to continue to stand for your marriage. Marital unfaithfulness is grounds for divorce. (Matt. 5:32) Obviously, if he repented and forgiveness and restoration could occur, that would be a beautiful testimony. But you are not obligated to stand for that if he insists he wants out. If he has broken covenant with you, is unwilling to live with you, is acting as an unbeliever and wants to continue in an adulterous relationship, then you are not under condemnation to move on with your life. (I Cor. 7:13-15;)

Many well-meaning believers give advice and counsel that is born of opinion, rather than spiritual doctrine. Only you, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, know what direction you feel led to go. If you feel led to pray for his soul, then pray in the grace that

God gives! I encourage you to resist receiving any condemnation others try to put on you.

As emotional beings, we need closure. There is a limit to how long our emotions can withstand the type of trauma and turmoil you are living in. When God allows these types of situations, He gives us grace to do what He wants us to do. When that grace lifts, it is quite difficult, and possibly fruitless, to continue in an endeavor. Follow peace. Heed God's direction. Man's counsel can only take you so far!

God gives man free will. If your husband chooses to harden his heart to Biblical instruction and to go his own way, God will allow it. And you will have to, also. But be encouraged by this one thing- your husband's rebellion and infidelity cannot cancel the good plans that God has for your life. God can make even this pain work together for your good. He can bring beauty from the ashes that you now have. Ask God to guide you as you begin your life anew. Seek counsel to work through the hurt and rejection. Pray through any unforgiveness that you may have, as it only puts you in bondage. Then ask God to guide you into this next season. God will always - always- remain faithful, even when man is unfaithful, Prayers for help, healing and guidance into this new season in your life!

*Sherri*



Sherri Evans is a wife, and a mother of three boys. Sherri 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](http://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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4. If while running, you suddenly decide to end the race, beware that my K-9 may or may not understand your intentions, and may continue his pursuit of you in full stride whereupon catching you he will devour your backside.
5. You may stop running at any time, at your own risk.
6. Good luck. On your mark, get set.... GO!!!!

*A man and woman were on their first date. The woman was trying to make conversation and said, "So I hear you hunt deer." The man looked away and turned red. "What's wrong?" asked the woman. "I'm not used to someone calling me dear on the first date," the man said.*



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## Jesus in the Restaurant

An Irishman in a wheelchair entered a restaurant one afternoon and asked the waitress for a cup of coffee. The Irishman looked across the restaurant and asked, "Is that Jesus sitting over there?" The waitress nodded "yes," so the Irishman told her to give Jesus a cup of coffee, on him. The next patron to come in was an Englishman with a hunched back. He shuffled over to a booth, painfully sat down, and asked for a cup of hot tea. He also glanced across the restaurant and asked, "Is that Jesus over there?" The waitress nodded, so the Englishman said to give Jesus a cup of hot tea, "my treat." The third patron to come into the restaurant was a Redneck on crutches. He hobbled over to a booth, sat down and hollered, "Hey there sweet thang. How's about gettin' me a cold glass of Coke!" He too looked across the restaurant and asked, "Is that God's boy over there?" The waitress once again nodded that it was, so the Redneck said to give Jesus a cold glass of Coke, "on my bill." As Jesus got up to leave, he passed by the Irishman, touched him and said, "For your kindness, you are healed." The Irishman felt the strength come back to his legs, got up and danced a jig right out the door. Jesus also passed by the Englishman, touched him and said, "For your kindness, you are healed." The Englishman felt his back straightening up, and he raised his hands, praised the Lord and did a series of back flips out the door.

Then Jesus walked up to the Redneck. The Redneck jumped up and yelled, "Don't touch me... I'm drawin' disability!"

A man and his girlfriend were out to dinner one night. The waiter tells them the night's specials are almond chicken and fresh fish. "The chicken sounds good; I'll have that," the woman says. The waiter nods. "And the vegetable?" he asks. "Oh, he'll have the fish too," she replies.

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## Salty Water Fishin'

Two buddies are fishing, but they haven't caught anything all day. Then, another fisherman walks by with a huge load of fish. They ask him, "Excuse me, but where did you get all those fish?" The other fisherman replies, "If you just go down the stream until the water isn't salty, there are a ton of hungry fish." They thank him and go on their way. 15 minutes later, one fisherman says to the other, "fill the bucket up with water and see if the water is salty." He dips the bucket in the stream and drinks some. "Nope. Still salty." 30 minutes later, he asks him to check again. "Nope, still salty." One hour later they check again. "Nope. Still salty." "This isn't good," the fisherman finally says. "We have been walking for almost two hours and the water is still salty!" "I know," says the other. "And the bucket is almost empty!"

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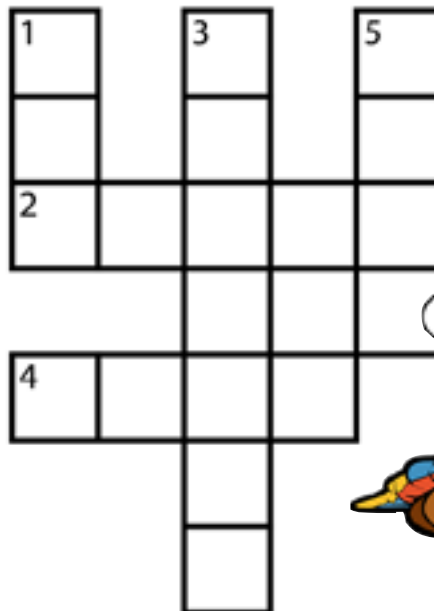
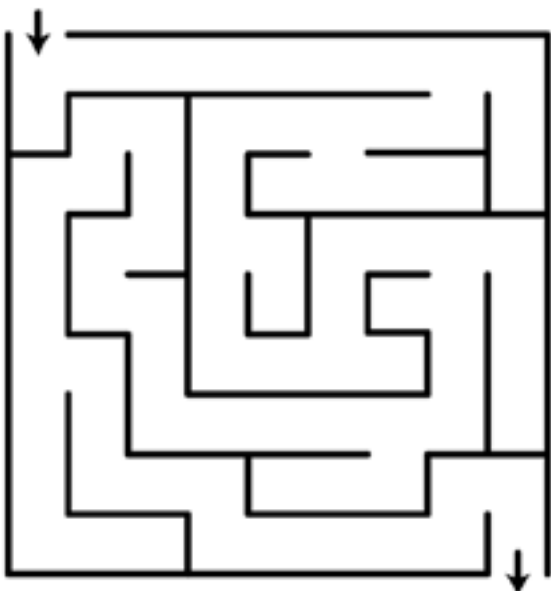
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## The Untold Story

I want to share a story that was told to me by my Grandad when I was about ten years old. Grandad got this story from his Dads' Dad, so this story is close to being 300 years old. I can remember Grandad smiling and showing his brown stained tobacco teeth as he began telling the story. We were sitting by the fireplace with Christmas just a few days away. Someone had made a big fruitcake filled with cherries and gave it to us.

Grandad never made it past the 3rd grade in school, but I have never met a smarter man. As we sat by the warm fire and munched on the Christmas fruitcake, Grandad began his story, *"Boy, I first heard this story when I was near your age. My Pa told me and his Pa told him, now I'm about to pass it on down to you. I can't say if this here story is true or ain't true, you can be the judge of that."* I can't remember ever seeing Grandad in a hurry and he was sure taking his sweet time telling me the story. I wanted to say, *'Come on, spit it out, I can't wait.'* But I just picked out one of the green things in the cake and looked at it.

The fire had burned down so Grandad got up and

put more wood on it. I thought he had forgotten about the story. Again he started, *"Yep, about your age,"* he stopped and stared at the fire. I put the green thing in my mouth, It was chewy. *"Now this here is a tradition of sorts because it goes a fur piece back and it is only told to someone near Christmas time."* I thought, *'if he didn't hurry up, it wouldn't be told this Christmas.'* While watching the fire, waiting on him to continue, I dozed off. Grandad told his story to a sleeping boy, but he never knew it. Finishing the story, he rose up to put more wood on the fire and I woke up. *"Well boy, was that a good one or not? Why do you reckon it all happened like that?"* Being ashamed that I had fallen asleep and missed the story, I told him that I needed a few days to think about it. *"Yup, this here is a tough one to swaller and even harder to digest."*

Grandad never mentioned the story again and neither did I, but that's not to say I didn't think about it. Over the years, I wish I had fessed up and told him that I had fallen asleep, but I didn't. Around Christmas time and every time I see a fruitcake, I think of the story. I sometimes wonder if he knew I was asleep and didn't even tell the story. Not long after this happened my mom remarried, we moved out and I didn't get to spend as much time with the old man.

Being young, you think that everything and everyone will stay the same forever, but it doesn't. Time has a way of slipping up on us and hitting us in the backside. To you younger folks, if you have the choice to work overtime and make big money or spend time with family, choose family time. This advice comes from someone that chose the overtime and stayed gone. One day I woke up and the kids were grown-up and I had missed it. Working for the Federal Government, we did a lot of emergency jobs and I was the first one there and the last to go home.

The last two years on the job, before I retired, I promised my best friend, my wife Lilla, that where I went, she could go. I can't replace the time I was gone

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or make up for it. Some of my buddies call me *hen-pecked* and ask if I can get a kitchen-pass to go with them. They can't understand why I spend hours in mall parking lots waiting on Lilla as she shops. Making her happy is what makes my day. Even our kids don't understand. They say, "Daddy, I thought you were going fishing today." I reply, "No, your mom wanted me to take her shopping." My daughter will tell me to go fishing and she will take her mom shopping. "Nope, she don't want to go with you." I say, "She wants me to take her, but thanks anyway."

All the shopping trips from now until Eternity wouldn't come close to paying Lilla what I owe her. A lot of Veterans couldn't stop fighting the war when they came home and I am one of them. Most wives couldn't put up with us going crazy and doing crazy things. Lilla didn't know about PTSD and neither did I, but she was there by my side and never gave up. She had the right to take the kids and tell me to leave and go back to hell. I was fortunate to have my best friend as a wife. A wife can take only so much, but a best friend will stick by you no matter what. A lot of nights I would wake up sweating from a flashback and tell Lilla to hold me. She should have said, "Are you crazy? You scared me to death with your screaming nightmares." But she didn't, she held me until I went back to sleep.

Lilla is a lot of fun to be with, Jesus knows that I didn't deserve her, but He still gave her to me.

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### Did You See That?

Two guys are out hunting deer. The first guy says, "Did you see that?" "No," the second guy says. "Well, a bald eagle just flew overhead," the first guy says. "Oh," says the second guy. A couple of minutes later, the first guy says, "Did you see that?" "See what?" the second guy asks. "Are you blind? There was a big, black bear walking on that hill, over there." "Oh." A few minutes later the first guy says, "Did you see that?" By now, the second guy is getting aggravated, so he says, "Yes, I did!" And the first guy says, "Then why did you step in it?"

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### Put A Period On It.

By: Dr. Charlie Hinson

Only one punctuation mark can properly close the twenty-third Psalm---a period. That's the whole story, and there are no "repeats" in the age to come. You won't need a Shepherd, or discipline for waywardness, no ugly self-revelations, no more possibility of walking in wrong paths, no more valley of the shadow of death, no more rod and staff, no more enemies, no more need for anointing, and you won't have to be looking over your shoulder to see if goodness and mercy are following you.

The step from this world to the next is not a comma, it's a period. Oh, life will continue, but the time for adjustments is over. You see, there is no change beyond a period. Other things may be written, but they cannot change what was written before the period. A comma, for instance, allows for a total about-face. A semicolon allows a complete qualifying clause. A colon allows a dependent clause or phrase. But once you put down a period, that sentence is over.

How do you know when you are putting down the last period? The Apostle Paul, who had preached justification by faith in the blood of Jesus, had the answer. Facing execution, he could say, *"I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give on at that day: and not to me only, but unto them also that love His appearing."*

The twenty-third Psalm is beautiful. It tells of God's faithful dealings with His children. It pictures His love and His long-suffering. It displays His strength when we are weak, His companionship when we are lonely, and His joy when we are sad. But the twenty-third Psalm, like life, must come to an end. It must

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have its final punctuation mark, and for the sweet singer of Israel, it was a mark of rapture. Where will you be when you put the period on your last day on Earth? Don't know why. Just felt like we need to think about it.

### You Might Be in a Southern Church if...

- People ask, "when Jesus fed the 5000, whether the two fish were bass or catfish, and what bait was used to catch 'em."
- Opening day of deer season is recognized as an official church holiday.
- A member of the church requests to be buried in his 4-wheel-drive truck because "It ain't never been in a hole it couldn't get out of."
- The choir is known as the "OK Chorale."
- Baptism is referred to as "branding".
- There is a special fund raiser for a new church septic tank.
- High notes on the organ set the dogs on the floor to howling.
- People think "rapture" is what you get when you lift something too heavy.
- The final words of the benediction are, "Y'all come back now, ya hear?" (banjo accompaniment optional)



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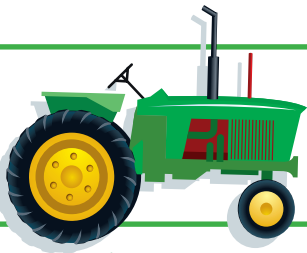
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Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.  
Proverbs 19:21 NIV



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By: BN Heard



## Memories are the Fabric

The other day I was visiting my in-laws and picked up a little book they had been given years ago called, *"The World According to Mister Rogers."* It was simply a collection of Mister Rogers (Fred Rogers) thoughts on *"Important Things to Remember."* One of the quotes struck me as quite appropriate. On page 181, Mister Rogers had the following to say, *"I find out more and more every day how important it is for people to share their memories."* That is so very true... It reminded me of a story "Mr. T" had recently shared regarding his family. No, not the "Mr. T" with the Mohawk haircut and jewelry who rode around with *"The-A Team"* in the 1980s and fought Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone in Rocky III.) My "Mr. T" was my high school history teacher, who everyone loved and still loves years later. He and his wife just had that kind of impact on their students.

My Mr. T was sharing a story about his trips he would take to his grandparents' house with his brother. This particular memory was of *"what was out back."* He noted that when you would go out the back door and through the tin-roofed well shelter, his grandmother had a bed of what he called, *"White Cane."* In the South, we know about *"Decoration Days,"* when churches celebrate the lives of those who have gone on

by decorating the graves in the cemetery and more than likely eating potluck lunches from a long concrete table.

His memories of the White Cane were paired with those of snow white sand that his grandfather would have delivered to the cemetery before their Decoration Day, *"the first Saturday in May."* Their tradition was to rake that white sand into mounds on their plot at each tombstone (to make it look pretty). Since his grandparents were still *"above ground,"* his grandmother called this routine, *"grave-digging."* It makes sense when you think about it. Grandmothers are known to make a lot of sense when you take the time to listen to them.

Now this piling of the white sand was not all that had to be done on Friday. The White Canes had to be combined with *"glads"* (gladiolus) that his stepfather had gone to town specifically to buy for Decoration Day. It was imperative to get all of this done on the Friday before Decoration Day so that his grandparents and everyone else could sit back and enjoy it and talk about how pretty it was... I am from the South, I know this not only to be true, but to be very important. Mr. T in his story paints the prettiest picture of a huge oak tree covering his family's plot and how everyone would bring folding chairs and sit there amongst his grandparents - admiring their work. And as you would expect, there to the side of the Methodist church was a long covered pavilion where everyone would place their home-cooked dishes for everyone to enjoy for




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lunch. I bet they had that “Pink Stuff with little marshmallows” I always loved eating and fighting the flies for, and a lot of other colored jello stuff with neat things suspended in it.

The point of my history teacher’s story was to emphasize how important it was that the bed of “White Cane” was preserved and why he transplanted into his yard. And now when he sees it, he sees his grandmother smiling as she trimmed it and added to the glads that were specifically bought for that purpose.

Mr. T, who never stops teaching, noted that with the White Cane, you have to cut it back each year in July because it turns green as it grows taller. In a few weeks after it is cut, the “white canes” come back.

Mr. T called his grandmother, “Granny,” and his grandfather, “Pop.” In his wisdom, he noted that “Memories are the fabric of our soul!”

That is so true, because not only is Mr. (and Mrs.) T part of the fabric of my soul, but now so are his Granny and Pop.

*Good teachers never stop teaching, as a matter of fact, they just get better.*

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The young man at the summer camp, who had become engaged to the pretty girl, received information that led him to question her: “Is it true that since you came up here you’ve gotten engaged to Jason, Edward, Mark and Larry, as well as me?” The young lady glared at him shocked. “What is that to you?” she demanded. “Just this,” he replied gently. “If it’s so, and you have no objection, we fellows will all chip in together to buy an engagement ring.”

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## Eight

A man asked his wife what she would like for her birthday. "I'd love to be eight again" she said. So he pulled out all the stops to make her dream come true. He whisked her off to Disneyland, made her go on all the scariest roller coasters, and force-fed her candy and ice cream. Then he took her to McDonald's for a special kids' meal before rounding the day off with a trip to the cinema to see a two-hour cartoon carnival. That night she slumped into bed, feeling exhausted and queasy. "So what was it like being eight again?" asked the husband. "Actually," she said, "I meant my dress size?"

## Duck Hunting

Five doctors went duck hunting one day, included in the group were: a GP, a pediatrician, a psychiatrist, a surgeon and a pathologist. After a time, a bird came winging overhead. The first to react was the GP who raised his shotgun, but then hesitated. "I'm not quite sure it's a duck," he said, "I think that I will have to get a second opinion," and of course by that time, the bird was long gone. Another bird appeared in the sky thereafter. This time, the pediatrician drew a bead on it. He too, however, was unsure if it was really a duck in his sights and besides, it might have babies. "I'll have to do some more investigations," he muttered, as the creature made good its escape. Next to spy a bird flying was the sharp-eyed psychiatrist. Shotgun shouldered, he was more certain of his intended prey's identity. "Now, I know it's a duck, but does it know it's a duck?" The fortunate bird disappeared while the fellow wrestled with this dilemma. Finally, a fourth fowl sped past and this time the surgeon's weapon pointed skywards. BOOM!! The surgeon lowered his smoking gun and turned nonchalantly to the pathologist beside him. "Go see if that was a duck, will you?"



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## Back by Popular Demand... The Redneck Horoscope

### **OKRA** Dec 22 - Jan 20

Although you appear crude, you are actually very slick on the inside. Okra has tremendous influence. An older Okra can look back over his life and see the seeds of his influence everywhere. Stay away from Moon Pies!

### **CHITLIN** Jan 21 - Feb 19

Chitlins often come from humble backgrounds. Many times they're uncomfortable talking about just where they came from. A chitlin, however, can make something of himself if he's motivated and has plenty of seasoning. When it comes to dealing with Chitlins, be very careful. Chitlins can burn and then erupt like Vesuvius, and this can make for a really terrible mess. Chitlins are best with Catfish and Okra. Remember that when marriage time rolls around.

### **BOLL WEEVIL** Feb 20- Mar 20

You have an overwhelming curiosity. You're unsatisfied with the surface of things, and you feel the need to bore deep into the interior of everything. Needless to say, you are very intense and driven as if you had some inner hunger. Nobody in their right mind is going to marry you, so don't worry about it.

### **MOON PIE** Mar 21- April 20

You're the type that spends a lot of time on the front porch. It's a cinch to recognize the physical appearance of Moon Pies. Big and round are the key words here. You should marry anybody who you can get remotely interested in the idea. It's not going to be easy. This might be the year to think about aerobics. Maybe not.

### **POSSUM** APR 21 - May 21

When confronted with life's difficulties, possums have a marked tendency to withdraw and develop a don't-bother-me-about-it attitude. Sometimes you become so withdrawn, people actually think you're dead. This strategy is probably not psychologically healthy,

but seems to work for you. One day, however, it won't work and you may find your problems actually running you over.

### **CRAWFISH** May 22 - June 21

Crawfish is a water sign. If you work in an office, you're always hanging around the water cooler. Crawfish prefer the beach to the mountains, the pool to the golf course, the bathtub to the living room. You tend to be not particularly attractive physically, but you have very, very good heads.

### **COLLARDS** June 22- July 23

Collards have a genius for communication. They love to get in the "melting pot" of life and share their essence with the essence of those around them.

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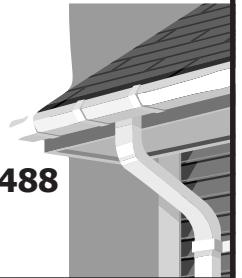
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Collards make good social workers, psychologists and baseball managers. As far as your personal life goes, if you are Collards, stay away from Moon Pies. It just won't work. Save yourself a lot of heartache.

**CATFISH July 24 - Aug 23**

Catfish are traditionalists in matters of the heart, although one: Whiskers may cause problems for loved ones. Your catfish are never easy people to understand. You prefer the muddy bottoms to the clear surface of life. Above all else, Catfish should stay away from Moon Pies.

**GRITS Aug 24 - Sept 23**

Your highest aim is to be with others like yourself. You like to huddle together with a big crowd of other Grits. You love to travel, thought so maybe you should think about joining a club. Where do you like to go? Anywhere they have cheese or gravy or bacon or butter or eggs. If you can go somewhere where they have all these things, that serves you well.

**BOILED PEANUTS Sept 24 - Oct 23**

You have a passionate desire to help your fellow man. Unfortunately, those who know you best -- your friends and loved ones--may find that your personality is much too salty, and their criticism will probably affect you deeply because you are really much softer than you appear. You should go right ahead and marry anybody you want to because in a certain way, yours is a charmed life. On the road of life, you can be sure that people will always pull over and stop for you.

**BUTTER BEAN October 24 - Nov 22**

Always invite a Butter Bean because Butter Beans get along well with everybody. You, as a Butter Bean, should be proud. You've grown on the vine of life and you feel at home no matter what the setting. You can sit next to anybody. However, you too, shouldn't have anything to do with Moon Pies.

**ARMADILLO Nov 23 - Dec 21**

You have a tendency to develop a tough exterior,

but you are actually quite gentle. A good evening for you? Old friends, a fire, some roots, fruit, worms and insects. You are a throwback. You're not concerned with today's fashions and trends. You're not concerned with anything about today. You're really almost prehistoric in your interests and behavior patterns. You probably want to marry another Armadillo, but Possum is another possibility.

**The B.C.**

A woman who was rather old-fashioned, delicate and elegant - especially in her language - was planning a week's vacation in Florida. So she wrote to a particular campground and asked for a reservation. She wanted to make sure the campground was fully equipped, but didn't quite know how to ask about the toilet facilities. She just couldn't bring herself to write the word "toilet" in her letter. After much deliberation, she finally came up with the old-fashioned term "bathroom commode." But when she wrote that down, she still thought she was being too forward. So, she started all over again, rewrote the letter and referred to the bathroom commode merely as the B.C. "Does the campground have its own B.C.?" is what she actually wrote. Well, the campground owner wasn't old-fashioned at all. When he got the letter, he just couldn't figure out what the woman was talking about. That 'B.C. business' really stumped him. After worrying about it for a while, he showed the letter to several campers, but they couldn't imagine what the lady meant either. So the campground owner, finally coming to the conclusion that the lady must be asking about the location of the local Baptist Church, sat down and wrote the following reply: "Dear Madam: I regret very much for the delay in answering your letter. I now take pleasure in informing you that a B.C. is located nine miles north of the campground and is capable of seating 250 people at

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one time. I admit it is quite a distance away if you are in the habit of going regularly, but no doubt you will be pleased to know that a great number of people usually take their lunches along and make a day of it. They usually arrive early and stay late.”

“The last time my wife and I went was six years ago and it was so crowded that we had to stand up the whole time we were there. It may interest you to know that right now, there is a supper being planned to raise money to buy more seats. They’re going to hold it in the basement of the B.C.” “I would like to say it pains me very much not to be able to go more regularly but there is no lack of desire on my part. As we grow older, it seems to be more of an effort, particularly in cold weather.” “If you do decide to come down to our campground, perhaps I could go with you the first time you go, sit with you, and introduce you to all the other folks. Remember, this is a friendly community.”

*One Sunday a Minister faked an illness so he could go deer hunting. On that morning he shot a fantastic 14-point buck! Saint Peter looked down from Heaven and said to God, “You aren’t going to let him bag a prize like that, are you?” “Why not?” God replied. “Who’s he going to tell?”*

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## The Times of P.L. (Pea Likker) Mcpherson Squirrel Hunting

My grandson, Wyatt, asked me why I didn't go squirrel hunting? Truth is, as I have gotten older, I just don't want to kill anything just for the kill. In my day, we hunted for food and ate whatever was killed, whether it was squirrel, coon or rabbit.

My cousin George was one of my hunting partners down at *Hinson's Crossroads* and every chance we got during season, we were in the woods. We usually hunted in an old swampy area we called *Rabbit Springs*.

Sometimes we had rifle cartridges, but sometimes we didn't and when we didn't, we would find hollow trees with a hole at the bottom.

We would put moss and leaves inside the hole, set it on fire, then smoke would go up the hollow and if there was no hole at the top, the squirrel would soon slide down inside the tree, and you could reach in and grab him. You had to be very careful using this method: 1. Because the squirrel may not be completely overcome with smoke and serious injury could occur; and 2. You had to keep from setting the tree on fire, which we did occasionally and had to put it out.

One day we were hunting and George had come up with 23 rifle cartridges for his single shot 22 rifle from

somewhere, and with 23 cartridges we could expect to kill at least 20 squirrels, with us being dead shots and all.

On top of the hill, before getting into the swamp, cousin George spotted a squirrel on the top limb of a very large pine tree, about 100 ft up and gave me the "be quiet signal with his arm" (all trained hunters know the "be quiet signal"), and said here is number one. Now, my cousin George could spot a squirrel when no one else could, because he had spent countless hours studying their habits. He pointed to the limb and said, "There he is, do you see him?" I didn't see anything. I guessed he could see better than I could, so he took a shot, missed, took another shot and missed, but swore he hit him that time. The squirrel didn't fall and nothing moved, so he laid the gun barrel on a low limb and took dead aim but missed again and again.

After the first three shots, I told him I believed that was only a knot on the limb, but he would have none of that because he saw movement at some point, and continued loading and firing, bang, bang, bang, first, from one side of the tree then the other. He would have me go around the back side of the tree and make noise in the leaves to make the squirrel move and continued firing, swearing he hit the mark every time, and couldn't understand why the old squirrel didn't fall.

Finally, all 23 cartridges were gone, after which he still believed that knot was a squirrel and began throwing rocks and pinecones up in the tree to prove his point and make him run.

After all the firepower was spent, and we could find no more rocks and pinecones to throw, we went on down to the swamp and began hunting for hollow trees and moss.

Gill: Well, fishin' wasn't so great today.  
Bill: But I thought you said you had thirty bites.  
Gill: Yeah, one tiny fish and 29 mosquitoes.



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## Indian Chief Interview

The old Indian Chief sat in his home on the reservation, smoking his ceremonial pipe, eyeing the two U.S. government officials sent to interview him. "Chief Two Eagles," one official began, "You have observed the white man for many years. You have seen all his progress and all his problems." The chief nodded. The official continued, "What do you think of all the white man has done?" The chief stared at the officials for more than a minute, and then calmly replied. "When white man found the land, Indians were running it. No taxes. No debt. Plenty buffalo, plenty beaver. Women did most of the work. Medicine man free. Indian men hunted and fished all the time." The chief paused, then added, "Only white man dumb enough to think he could improve system like that."

## Divorce

Earl and Manker are quietly sitting in a boat fishing, when suddenly Earl says, 'I think I'm gonna divorce my wife - she ain't spoke to me in over two months.' Manker sits back slowly in his boat seat and says, "Better think it over...women like that are hard to find."



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## New Bird Dog

An avid duck hunter was in the market for a new bird dog. His search ended when he found a dog that could actually walk on water to retrieve a duck. Shocked by his find, he was sure none of his friends would ever believe him. He decided to try to break the news to a friend of his, the eternal pessimist who refused to be impressed with anything. This, surely, would impress him. He invited him to hunt with him and his new dog. As they waited by the shore, a flock of ducks flew by, they fired, and a duck fell. The dog responded and jumped into the water. The dog, however, did not sink but instead walked across the water to retrieve the bird, never getting more than his paws wet. This continued all day long; each time a duck fell, the dog walked across the surface of the water to retrieve it. The pessimist watched carefully, saw everything, but did not say a single word. On the drive home the hunter asked his friend, "Did you notice anything unusual about my new dog?" "I sure did," responded the pessimist. "He can't swim."

You then, my son, be strong in the  
grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:1 NIV

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1/2 cup chopped green onion      1/2 cup mayo  
1 red pepper –chopped  
1 cup mozzarella cheese  
1 cup cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350°. Sauté onions and peppers until peppers are soft. Chop shrimp into bite size pieces. Fold in shrimp and remaining ingredients. Spray casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray and pour shrimp mixture into dish. Bake for 30 minutes and serve with Tostitos.

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## This History of the Workin' Man

My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory,  
but I got canned. Couldn't concentrate.  
Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack,  
but just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe.  
After that, I tried being a Tailor, but wasn't suited for  
it -- mainly because it was a sew-sew job.  
Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory,  
but that was too exhausting.  
Then, tried being a Chef - figured it would add a little  
spice to my life, but just didn't have the thyme.  
Next, I attempted being a Deli Worker, but any way  
I sliced it..... Couldn't cut the mustard.  
My best job was as a Musician,  
but eventually found I wasn't noteworthy.  
I studied a long time to become a Doctor,  
but didn't have any patience.  
Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory.  
Tried hard, but just didn't fit in.  
I became a Professional Fisherman,  
but discovered I couldn't live on my net income.  
Managed to get a good job working for a  
Pool Maintenance Company, but the  
work was just too draining.  
So, then I got a job in a Workout Center,  
but they said I wasn't fit for the job..  
After many years of trying to find steady work,  
I finally got a job as a Historian  
- until I realized there was no future in it.  
My last job was working in Starbucks,  
but had to quit because it was the same old grind.  
So, I tried retirement and  
I've found that I am perfect for the job.

A boastful hunter kept telling his buddies  
the same story, and they chided him for  
telling it over and over. He reminded them  
that they often tell the same stories. "Not so,"  
said one friend. "We re-share, you repeat."

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## Answered Prayers and Dreams Come True

In 2009, The LORD blanketed my heart with the idea of hosting a retreat, but I have to be honest. . . I was a tiny bit apprehensive. What if no one shows up? I questioned the LORD. I almost felt like Kevin Costnar in the movie, "Field of Dreams" . . .if you build it they will come. . .

In February, a blogger friend, Marsha Harwood, devotional writer, wife, mom, and grandma (not to mention her various other ministries), and I met in real life. We chose to meet at a little restaurant in North Carolina called "Brother's Cafe" since Jeff and I were vacationing near her home. My life has not been the same since. What I felt sitting at that table with Marsha was a feeling I wanted to share with every single blogging heart I knew! The LOVE of Jesus Christ—manifest in the flesh of another! Getting to meet a fellow writer was a dream come true!

The Bloggers Retreat was more than just a retreat to learn about blogging. It became a retreat for the

soul. A place where sisters, perhaps a bit weary of heart, from various walks of life came together and under one roof, worshiped God! Not everyone's style was the same, yet there was such a love and unity of heart that no one minded, nor noticed if I praised a little louder (\*grinning\*), or said "Amen" as I do in my home church. It was in fact titled, "Free to be Me!"



We were, and still are, free to be what God has created us to be. Daughters of the King! Each with our own unique and very much loved personality! I just LOVE that about Him!

The Holy Spirit moved in a powerful way! The prayer room was set up and we had a sweet time of prayer and devotion to the LORD before the retreat began! We were blessed with awesome worship music and the Holy Presence of the Almighty God was THERE!

During the retreat, we had a sweet time in the altar. These anointed times reminded me so much of our "Sisters Retreats" at the cabin in North Georgia! Where, after supper we would gather around the fireplace, read, sing, worship, and share—then pray. At our Sisters Retreat's, this might last well into the night. We didn't mind though, for where the Spirit of the Lord is . . .there is freedom! (2 Corinthians 3:17)

The altar is a significant part of our lives as Christians. Many of us have in our homes, a preferred place to pray and meet with the Lord. That, my dear friends is your altar. The place where you and I lay it all out before Him. The place where He meets with us.

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The altars in your church and my church are no different. They may look different, some may be padded kneelers, or the “old timey” altars of solid wood, or some may be a simple banister railing where you can go and stand or kneel. But make no mistake, the altar in your home is just as important as the altar in your church. I have visited various Churches over the years and I always get such a blessing when I see the altars being used.

Tears unashamedly flow freely at the altar. All our masks are laid aside and we become real before the Father as He lovingly peels away the layers of pain, hurt, guilt and sin. As the prayers from our hearts go out to Him—He meets us in our point of need. Every. Single. Time. At home or at church, He is there. Everywhere....all the time.

My brother-in-law made this comment one day about their tremendous times in the altar: *Altar calls aren't reflective of one style of worship; they are a channel where the hungry, weary, broken and bruised heart can "tarry in" the presence of a loving, caring and ever present God!* ~Juno Douglas, Pastor Tarry. Linger. Stay until you hear from Heaven. As you get up and go about your daily living, keep the attitude of a prayerful heart. Make an altar of prayer wherever you go. An extra altar time I am blessed with is when I am driving. Without any other interruptions, I am able to talk to Him, hear from Him and worship Him with all my heart! No matter how long it takes to get your answer from the Father, keep praying. Those prodigal children? Hand them over to Christ at the altar. Leave them with Him. Soon, you will find that they will be searching for an altar to kneel and pray.

What's on your altar? Is it children? A spouse? Financial needs? Worries of life? Whatever the trouble, heartache or need—take it to the altar. Today.

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*Father, I am so thankful that You met me at that altar all those many years ago and You've never left my side. Thank You, Father for the assurance we have that YOU hear every prayer—no matter where it is prayed, if our hearts are tuned into You—You hear. Thank You Father for the answers that we don't have yet. I know they are coming! Help us to persevere when we don't see the answer right away. Teach us, mold us and create us to be the vessels You can use to bless others! For it is Your will that we desire to do! In the Holy Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ we pray—believing for the answers! ~Amen!*

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## Soup

Much to the concern of his parents, an eight-year-old boy have never spoken a word in his life. Then one day after lunch, he turned to his mother and said, “Soup’s cold.” His mother hugged him and exclaimed, “Son, I’ve waited so long to hear you speak! Your father and I have been worried sick. So why have you never said a single word in all these years?” The boy said, “Up until now, everything’s been OK.”

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## Top Country Songs of All Time

- If I Can't Be Number One In Your Life, Then Number Two On You
- If The Phone Don't Ring, You'll Know It's Me
- How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?
- I Liked You Better Before I Got to Know You So Well
- I Still Miss You Baby, But My Aim's Gettin' Better
- I Wouldn't Take Her To A Dog Fight 'Cause I'm Afraid She'd Win
- I'll Marry You Tomorrow But Let's Honeymoon Tonight
- I'm So Miserable Without You It's Like Having You Here
- If I Had Shot You When I Wanted To I'd Be Out Of Prison By Now
- My Wife Ran Off With My Best Friend and I Sure Do Miss Him
- She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger
- You're The Reason Our Kids Are So Ugly
- Her Teeth Was Stained But Her Heart Was Pure

## Wedding Date

The cook, Noreen, announced her engagement to a frequent customer at the kitchen, named Bob. A year passed and nothing was heard of the wedding date. So, one day, a friend of Noreen's asked, "When are you two going to set your wedding date, Noreen?" "I'm thinking never at all," answered Noreen sadly. "Really? Why, what's wrong?" The reply was explicit, "I won't marry Bob when he's drunk, and he won't marry me when he's sober."

Two atoms are sitting next to each other  
and one says, "I've lost an electron."  
The other asks, "Are you sure?"  
"Yeah," the first replies. "I'm positive."

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## Apple Pie

In a country home that seldom had guests, the young son was eager to help his mother after his father appeared with two dinner guests from the office. When the dinner was nearly over, the boy went to the kitchen and proudly carried in the first piece of apple pie, giving it to his father, who passed it to a guest. The boy came in with a second piece of pie and again watched his father give it to a guest. This was too much for the boy, who said, "It's no use, Dad. The pieces are all the same size."

**True grits, more grits,  
fish grits, and collards.  
Life is good where  
grits are swallered.**

## Ugly

A small boy turned to his Aunt Edna and said, "My goodness, you're ugly!" His mother overheard the remark and was appalled. She took him to one side and gave him a real telling-off before ordering him to go back and say sorry to Aunt Edna. Suitably chastened, the boy went over and said quietly, "Aunt Edna, I'm sorry you're ugly."

## January Planting Dates

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**Best Days for Above Ground Planting:**

6-7, 10-11, 24-26

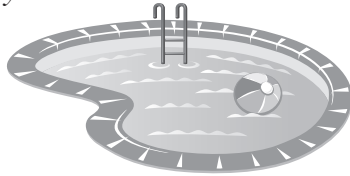
**Best Days for Root Crop:**

17-18, 24-16

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## Street Talk Announcements

Free announcements for Church and Non-Profit Organizations.  
Announcements must be emailed to [streettalkamerica@live.com](mailto:streettalkamerica@live.com).

-**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** The ReNEWed Lifestyle Group provides Christ-centered twelve-step addiction recovery meetings and is certified by the Chemical Addiction Recovery Effort (CARE) as a Faith Based Outpatient Recovery Group. Meetings are free and are offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:30 at Caryville Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, located at 4217 Old Bonifay Rd, Caryville, FL. For more info, call 850-326-0886

-**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.

**Just a thought.....**

**Always take a good look at what  
you're about to eat. It's not so  
important to know what it is,  
but it's critical to know what it was.**

## In a Mess

A big-game hunter went on a safari with his wife and mother-in-law. One evening, while still deep in the jungle, the wife awoke to find her mother gone. Rushing to her husband, she insisted on them both trying to find her mother. The hunter grabbed his rifle and started to look for her. In a clearing not far from the camp, they came upon a chilling sight: the mother-in-law was backed up against tree and a large male lion stood facing her. The wife cried, "What are we going to do?" "Nothing," said the hunter husband. "The lion got himself into this mess, let him get himself out of it."

## A Man's Three Follies

A wise old woman once said that men were guilty of three most astonishing follies. The first was the climbing of trees to shake down the fruit, when if they would but wait, the fruit would fall of itself. The second was the going to war to kill one another, when if they would only wait, they must surely die naturally. The third was that they should run after women, when, if they did not do so, the women would surely run after them.

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He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the LORD require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to  
walk humbly with your God.  
Micah 6:8 NIV

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# Papa Shu's Movie Review

By: *Tim Shumaker*  
*Children's Minister & Christian Magician*

## ROGUE ONE

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

Even though the "Rogue One" story only bridges a small gap in the storyline of the Star Wars saga, this stand-alone film packs an epic punch. It has all the elements of one of Shakespeare's tragedies. The central character is Jen Erso, who is the only daughter of Galen Erso, who is a retired weapons designer for the Galactic Empire. His retirement is cut short when his wife is killed and Galen is conscripted to engineer the Empire's version of the atomic bomb, namely the Death Star. In order to keep imperial attention off of his daughter, Galen willingly complies. Meanwhile, Jyn has lost her parents and left is alone in the galaxy. She ends up imprisoned, but is rescued by the Rebel Alliance who hope to use her to locate Galen before the Empire's superweapon is completed. Unknown to the Alliance or the Empire, Galen has designed a single flaw in the Death Star which, if exploited will cause a cascading failure and completely destroy this nightmare planet-destroying superweapon. Deeply entrenched in Empire territory, Galen sets forth a plan to get word to the rebels about this fatal flaw. So the stage is set for one awesome Star Wars movie with plenty of near misses, the mystical Force, strange alien creatures, ATATs and Stormtroopers, dogfights, laser fights and insurmountable odds as the Rebellion repeatedly comes close to failure in the plan to stop the oppressive Empire.

*Seriously, Spoiler Alert!!* Even casual viewers of the classic 1977 Star Wars know that many lives were lost getting the plans to the Death Star, but this film depicts the struggle to give the Rebellion even a glimmer of hope. Parents should be aware that one major character after another will die in the struggle to get the Death Star plans to the Rebellion, including the main character, Jyn. This may be seriously disturbing to younger viewers. The call sign, "Rogue One," was given to the Rebellion fighters and mercenaries who disobeyed orders to retrieve the plans and sacrificed themselves to give hope to the Rebellion. There is definitely a jump off point in this film to talk with your kids about, the concept of self-sacrifice for the sake of the greater good.

This movie is more realistic than the other Star Wars films. The armor of Stormtroopers gets dirty. The Rebellion seems uncertain of success and how to proceed against this enormous threat. People get hurt and killed when they are thrown in the air. However, to the franchise's credit, the Star Wars saga manages to have plenty of violence and explosions, but, refrains from being graphic and bloody. The film also refrains from strong language and sexual content. There is a spiritual element that's not found in the other Star Wars films. One of the freedom fighters is a blind monk, named Chirrut Îmwe, who comes close to a personal relationship with the Force. He "prays" to the Force during times of need much like the Christian concept of prayer. The parallel is obvious and well worth discussing with your kids the idea of Holy Spirit being with you always, even in times of trouble. Our faith also gives us hope and courage in our everyday struggle. Followers of Christ are in rebellion against the darkness of this World's system. And like Jyn said, "Rebellions are built on hope." Our hope is not in some impersonal Force, but in our living Savior, Jesus Christ. "May the Lord be with you, always."

Blessings,  
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Declaring Wonders to the Next Generation Psalm 71:17-18

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

THOUGHTS, PUNS & FUN BY ROBERT BIRGE

- My girlfriend just accused me of being unfaithful. I told her that is ridiculous and that she is starting to sound like my wife.
- Of all the martial arts, Karaoke inflicts the most pain.
- I always close my eyes when I kiss a woman. Experience tells me that if my eyes are open, I get a lot more pepper spray in them.
- Sunglasses allow you to stare at people without getting caught. It's like facebook in real life.
- Dear Whoever ate my fries while I was in the ball pit at McDonalds..NOT FUNNY, GROW UP!
- It's such a bummer when someone you know is having a bad day, while you're having a great day and you have to... avoid them until tomorrow.
- If I've learned anything in my twenty-two years on this Earth, it's that it's okay to lie about your age.
- No matter how hard I try, I just never seem to run out of bad ideas.
- These animal crackers are crap, this elephant tastes exactly like that giraffe did.
- My hobbies include working out, staying fit, eating healthy, and lying...
- If I ever get arrested, my one phone call will be to the police station to do a bomb scare, I'm not spending the night there .
- Don't ask me to kill a spider for you & then criticize my methods. Yes, I had to use a samurai sword and fire & no, I'm not sorry about your table.



*Kaleb Hood* **850-768-2611**

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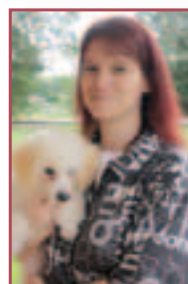
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*So do not fear, for I am with you;  
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you and help you; I will  
uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
Isaiah 41:10 NIV*

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