



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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RACHEL JOY SCOTT

Rachel Joy Scott lost her life in the Columbine High School tragedy. Although Rachel is gone, her memory is very much alive through the inspiring words she wrote in her journal. Her parents have shared her words through the film about her life:



"I'm Not Ashamed" follows Rachel, a normal high school girl who loved God. Like many her age, she experienced the angst of teenage life that put her at odds with her faith. However, ultimately, she was devoted to God and making a difference in the world. She documented her thoughts, feelings and letters to God in a journal, which was found after her death. This passage portrays a real-life look into her beautiful mind:

Dear God,

I promise that I will not drink this Friday when I go out with Stefanie. This is so tempting. I want to go so bad. Well, I thought about it (as you know) and I thought

that since you would forgive me anyways I may as well do it. Then I realized that you will always, always forgive, but you may not let it go unpunished. Then I decided not to do it strictly out of fear. Then I thought about it more, and thought that if I did it out of fear it would not be done because I loved you, I obeyed you, and I followed you. That is my reason for not going now and I know that I will always be faced with temptation, but because I love you, I obey you, and I follow you, I will not fall into the core of it. Thank You, Father. Your child, Rachel"

This inspiring true story helps to remind us all that, by surrendering ourselves to God's love, each one of us can make a difference to the world.

Received from Rick Jones

LIFE IS A CAKE

Sometimes we wonder, "What did I do to deserve this?" or "Why did God have to do this to me?" Here is a wonderful explanation! A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her and her best friend is moving away.

Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, "Absolutely Mom, I love your cake."

"Here, have some cooking oil," her Mother offers.

"Yuck" says her daughter.

"How about a couple raw eggs?"

"Gross, Mom!"

"Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?"

"Mom, those are all yucky!"

To which the mother replies: "Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!"

God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful!

God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning.

Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well dance.

⇒ *Received from Joe Downs*



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THE CORN FIELD

There was once a spider who lived in a cornfield. She was a big spider, and she had spun a beautiful web between the corn stalks. She got fat eating all the bugs that would get caught in her web. She liked this home and planned to stay there for the rest of her life.

One day, the spider caught a little bug in her web, and just as the spider was about to eat him,



the bug said, "If you let me go I will tell you something important that will save your life." The spider paused for a moment and listened because she was amused. "You better get out of this cornfield," the little bug said, "The harvest is coming!" The spider smiled and said, "What is this harvest you are talking about? I think you are just telling me a story." But the little bug said, "Oh no, it is true. The owner of this field is coming to harvest it soon. All the stalks will be knocked down, and the corn will be gathered up. You will be killed by the giant machines if you stay here."

The spider said, "I don't believe in harvests and giant machines that knock down corn stalks. How can you prove this?" The little bug continued, "Just look at the corn. See how it is planted in rows? It proves this field was created by an intelligent designer." The spider laughed and mockingly said, "This field has evolved and has nothing to do with a creator. Corn always

grows that way." The bug went on to explain, "Oh no. This field belongs to the owner who planted it, and the harvest is coming soon." The spider grinned and said to the little bug, "I don't believe you," and then the spider ate the little bug for lunch.

A few days later, the spider was laughing about the story the little bug had told her. She thought to herself, "A harvest! What a silly idea. I have lived here all of my life, and nothing has ever disturbed me. I have been here since these stalks were just a foot off the ground, and I'll be here for the rest of my life, because nothing is ever going to change in this field. Life is good, and I have it made."



The next day was a beautiful sunny day in the cornfield. The sky above was clear, and there was no wind at all. That afternoon, as the spider was about to take a nap, she noticed some thick dusty clouds moving toward her. She could hear the roar of a great engine, and she said to herself, "I wonder what that could be?"

I REMEMBER MOM

As we approach Mother's Day I look back and thank God for the godly mother He gave me.

She didn't have an easy life, raising two boys and a girl in the project. Money was short as we lived on Welfare. Yet she never

complained and always made sure to pay her tithe and give extra for Missionary Offering.

One thing I remember about my mother; was Mom couldn't sing very well but she sang anyway. Most of the time the songs she sang were hymns, but once in a while, she would sing songs like, "Little Brown Jug" and "There's a Traven in the Town".

When we moved from Monroe to Seattle, my mother made sure we all understood that everyone was to be treated the same regardless of the color of their skin. Our house was filled with kids from many different walks of life. There was Ronald Brinson, a black kid that we got in trouble together doing Bible Drills during church service. The pastor had to stop preaching and I had to go and sit with my mother. Ron's dad was in the Navy and they had to move away, but I think of Ron often and wonder how his life turned out. Another friend, Wilber Lew, took me on my first ferry ride and bought me my first banana split.

There are so many things I remember about Mom, she had a wonderful sense of humor. She taught us many different saying that I still use today.



The one thing I remember most about mom was her love for God and how she sought to instill in us a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. She was a great student of the Bible. Every night she would read or tell us a story from the Bible.

Thanks mom, I love you and thank you for loving me.

ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

WORSHIP AND SERVICE

SUNDAYS

MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 am
& 11:00 am
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 am

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MONDAY'S

BIBLE STUDY: DANIEL: 1:00 pm

~

SATURDAY MAY 12th

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:
9:00 am

~

LADIES LUNCHEON: 11:00 am

~

SUNDAY, MAY 13th

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

~

MONDAY, MAY 14th

TEA & PRAISE: 10:00 am
@

WINLOCK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH

~

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16th

SENIORS ON THE GO: 12:00 NOON

~

THURSDAY, APRIL 19th

AMERICAN LEGION: 6:00 pm
@

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

~

SATURDAY MAY 19th

GAME DAY 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Bring your favorite snack & game

~

SUNDAY, MAY 20th

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

~

GET A GRIP – MEDITATE

By Kathleen A. Mulkins

Meditating on scripture helps you "hide God's word in your heart" (Psalms 119:11). There are several ways you can meditate on Scripture. The most common is to take a single verse or passage. This is very useful, and I have fallen under conviction doing this. Usually they are direct commands that I need to trust God to help me obey. Application of what God reveals to you is as important as understanding what you're studying.

The weakness of doing one verse (or even passage) at a time is that it's easy to take things out of context. Consider the verses from the Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 6:28-33 about how God supplies the lilies of the field that do not toil for what they have. From this, it is possible to conclude (as some have) that seeking God is all that is needed, and you don't have to work for a living or what you want or need. Another possible conclusion is why even ask God for your needs if He already knows them. (I have been asked this question)

Here it is necessary to consider also the seemingly contradictory verses that help complete the insights and action points. In the interest of space, I have only included the key part of each of these passages. A Bible study of 'themes or subjects' will help you discover these and more seemingly contradictory passages.

"For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either." (2 Thessalonians 3:10 (NASB))

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and

it will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7 (NASB))

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 4:6 NASB)

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men," (Colossians 3:23 NASB)

"The mind of man plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps." (Proverbs 16:9 NASB)

If you meditate on the combined passages you will see that the overall point Jesus is making in Matthew is "don't worry". We are still to work and plan and ask. That's stewardship. Stewardship includes the planning and carrying out the plans that involve your time, talent and treasure. Not worrying about your time, talent and treasure is the theme of trusting and obeying (the Righteous man will live by faith – faith includes acting on what you believe). I guess that's why one of my favorite hymns is "Trust and Obey". I don't need to find out what others think I should or shouldn't do (though I might seek counsel to get better insights) ...the only opinion that really matters is God's. I discover His will, let go of my own plans (no matter how much better I think they are than God's) and do what He says. I plan, He tweaks the plan and I obey, trusting Him to use my actions and efforts (or sometimes just sitting still) to provides what I need. I end up with peace of mind that passes all understanding.

Meditating on seemingly contradictory passages will help you avoid taking things out of context and give you a deeper understanding of how God's Word fits together. You'll end up knowing God better and that's the goal. Life, real life is knowing God. The more you know Him, the easier it is to trust and obey Him ... applying His Word in your life.

A MOTHER'S CONCERN

A Mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.

So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.



As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is".

The friend said, "Well, who is she?"

"That's just Shirley Goodnest", Timmy replied, "and her daughter Marcy".

"Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us"?

"Well", Timmy explained, "Every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it"!

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today, and always.

A MOTHERS WORK



"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother - which is the first commandment with a promise - that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth"

Ephesians 6:1-3

One of the great tragedies of society today is the minimizing of the work performed daily by stay-at-home moms. Women who decide to stay home to raise their kids are a rare breed indeed. They must overcome the stigma of comparison to others who pursue careers outside the home. They fail to get the feelings of accomplishment that can come from a career. They are the unseen missionaries of our day. There will be a special reward for these selfless servants.

Without the commitment of our stay-at-home moms we would not have some of our greatest leaders. "All that I am,

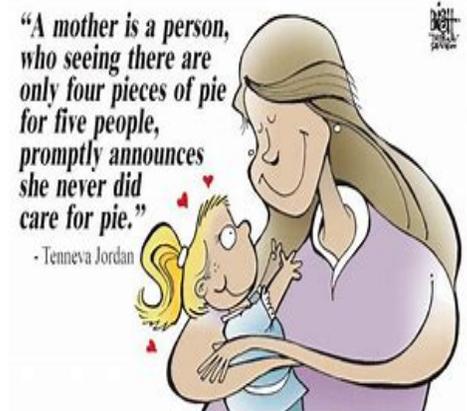
or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother," said Abraham Lincoln.

Though poor, Ida Stover was determined to go to college. She scraped together enough money to attend Lane College in Lecompton, Kan., where she met fellow student David Eisenhower. She was known as a firm but gentle disciplinarian and was deeply religious. It is said she once won a prize for memorizing 1,365 Bible verses. As a pacifist, she was not in favor of her son attending West Point but decided to let him go. She was the mother of Dwight David Eisenhower, one of the greatest U.S. presidents.

Mary Litogot grew up on a farm, and met her future husband, William Ford, when he came to work on their farm. She was 12 and he was 26. They married nine years later. Mary was self-sufficient and a diligent worker. Henry later attributed his clean factories to her belief in cleanliness. She encouraged his interest in machines early on. He later said, "I have tried to live my life as my mother would have wished. I believe I have done, as far as I could, just what she hoped for me." She was the mother of Henry Ford.*

Has God called you to be a stay-at-home mom? Know that your obedience and sacrifice will be recognized by the Lord.

⇒ **TGIF Today God Is First Volume 2**
by Os Hillman
Friday, May 01 2009



Q
U
I
Z



Last month there were three who were able to come up with the correct answer to the quiz. The story is found in the 17 chapter of I Kings. The answer was *Elijah and the widow of Zarephath*. **Linda Ray** was the first to come up with the answer, **Katie Jackson** and **Mert Horrocks** also answered the quiz.

Lets see who can answer this month's quiz.

*It's no fun being number two
Especially if you fail to do what
you should do
Number one made fun of me
And it hurts so bad as you can
see.*

*He did his best to make me feel
okay
He gave me extra blessings on
that day
It didn't help me I'm sad to say
My eyes flowed with tears as I
pray.*

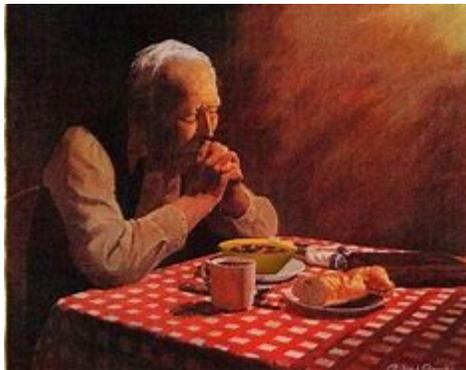
*The pain was heavy in my heart
My prayers had no words from the
start
But God He answered my word-
less prayer
The gift He gave I gladly shared.*

*Now there are three names I wish
to know
Don't be late and don't be slow
Now give me the names of these
three
And I'll be as happy as I can be.*

THE WOODEN BOWL

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table.

But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.



The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about father," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor."

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a Wooden bowl!

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometime he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence. One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?"

Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

JUST FOR TODAY

Lord, for tomorrow and its needs
I do not pray;
Keep me, my God, from stain of
sin,
Just for today.

Now, set a seal upon my lips,
For this I pray;
Keep me from wrong or idle
words,
Just for today.

Let me be slow to do my will,
Prompt guide me, use Lord,
Just for today

*Therefore do not worry about to-
morrow, for tomorrow will worry
about itself. Each day has enough
trouble of its own.*

Matthew 6:34 (NIV)

KATHLEEN'S UPDATE

Kathleen's Cancer Mark continues to go down. Her last count was 404. She is looking for 0 – 30. The Chemo is tough but at the same time she also feels stronger. Four more treatment to go. God is faithful.