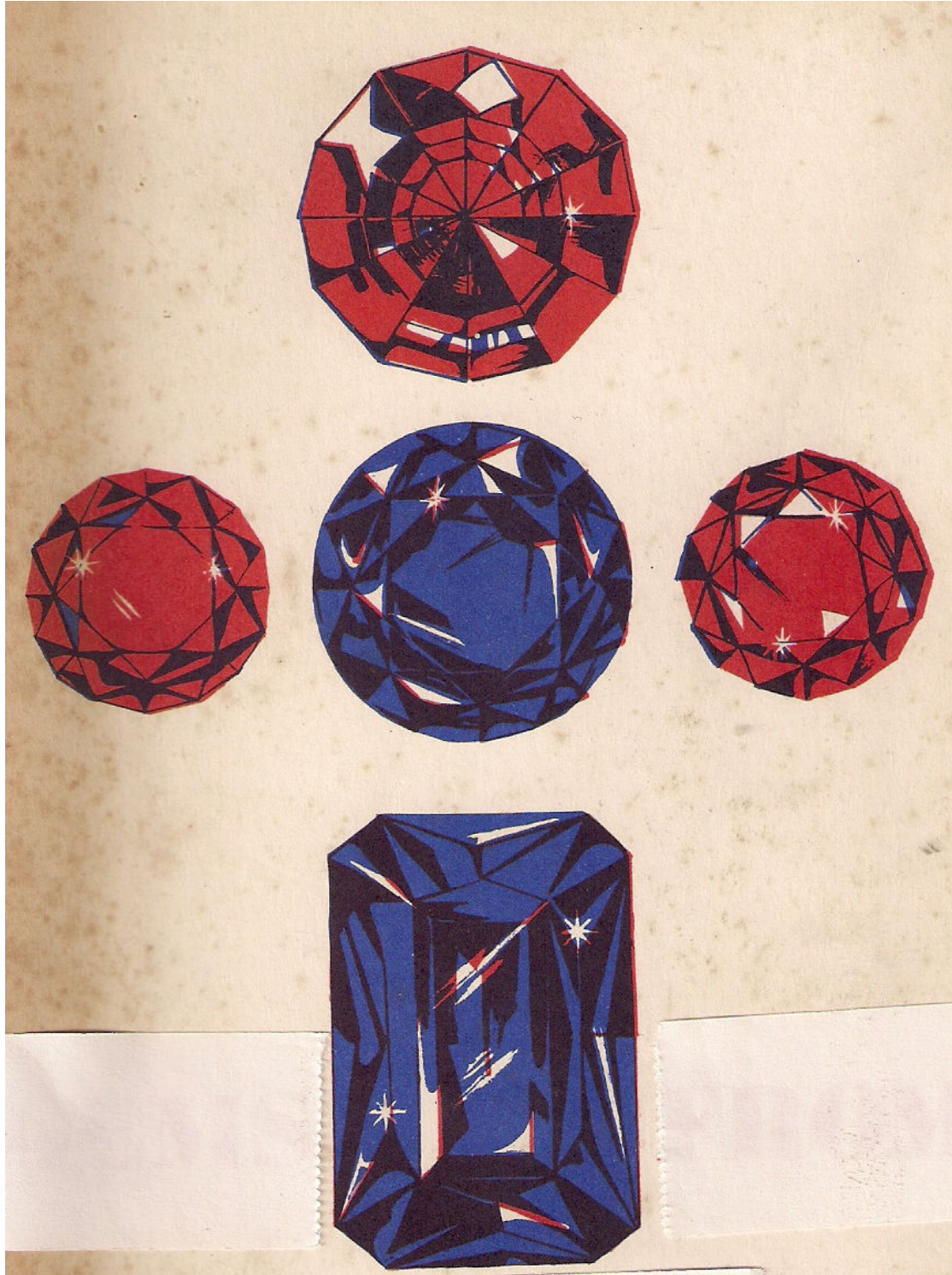


GEMS



foreword

In times past, down through the ages, mankind has been a collector

The list of just what people have found to tickle their fancy and to collect has been as kaleidoscopic as people themselves

An endless variety rocks, precious stones, butterflies, cigarette cards, stamps, art, sculpture, pottery, antiques, hats, artefacts, mugs, sporting memorabilia, vintage cars, vintage anything. In recent times phone cards !!

Some collections are small and personal and of only intrinsic value, some are vast and of great value even deemed priceless, some occupy space in a home garage while others require special buildings and museums and galleries to house them.

The list of collectable items is endless, whatever objects mankind has used to assist his work or existence, or intrigued him from the creation around him, seems to have been collected for personal gratification or for the wonder of the masses.

And so is this collection of **Gems**

Gems items that stand out from the ordinary and that are deemed of some extraordinary or precious value to me at least !

This collection is of a different sort some spiritual Gems, Gems of thought and wisdom, Gems that have struck a chord with this individual on his own personal pilgrimage, that have helped to inspire, and uplift, and stimulate, and somehow encourage onward and upward.

Some are merely amusing, or "quirky", or fascinating, or they maybe have just caught the admiration whatever !

I share them with you

These items that I value as **my G E M collection**

Ray Miller Auckland 2006

**Acknowledgements where known are recorded
Otherwise, indulgences are requested, even begged !!!!**

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Section A

ARTICLES

from the ages

ALL I EVER REALLY NEEDED TO KNOW, I LEARNED AT KINDERGARTEN A1

Most of what I really needed to know about how to live, and what to do, and how to be, I learned in Kindergarten.

Wisdom was NOT at the top of the University Mountain, but there in the sand box at Kindergarten.

These are the things I learned :

Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat. Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life.

Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and work every day some. Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

Be aware of wonder.

Remember the little seed in the plastic cup.

The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and rabbits and white mice and even the seed in the plastic cup - they all die. So do we.

And remember the book about Janet and John and the first word you learned the biggest word of all : L O O K.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world -- had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap.

Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and in other nations, to always put things back where we found them and to clean up our own messes.

And, it is still true, no matter how old you are,

When you go out into the world,

It is best to hold hands, and stick together !

Robert Fulghua

Reprinted from Kansas City Times 17.9.86

never again

A2

the story of the little red hen

Once upon a time there was a Little Red Hen, who scratched about and uncovered some grains of wheat.

She called her barn-yard neighbours together and said " If we work together and plant this wheat, we will have some fine bread together. Now, who will help me plant the wheat ?? "

" Not I " said the Cow

" Not I " said the Duck

" Not I " said the Pig

" Not I " said the Goose

" Then I guess that I will have to do it myself " said the Little Red Hen, and she did

After the wheat was planted there was a very dry spell, and no rain in sight

" Who will help me water the wheat ?" asked the Little Red Hen

" Not I " said the Cow

" Not I " said the Duck

" Not I " said the Goose

" Then I will " said the Little Red Hen, and she did.

The wheat grew rapidly into tall golden grain.

" Now will you help me reap the wheat ? " asked the Little Red Hen.

" Wrong Union " said the Cow

" Lose my Pension " said the Duck

" Out of my classification " grunted the Pig

" Lose my child's benefit " said the Goose

" Then I will " said the Little Red hen, and she did.

When it came to grinding the grain into flour

" I'd lose my unemployment dole " said the Cow

" I'm on sickness compo " said the Duck

When it came time to bake the bread

" That's overtime for me " said the Cow

" I'm a dropout, I never learned " said the Duck

" I'd lose my welfare benefits " said the Pig

" If I'm the only one to help, that's discrimination " said the Goose

" Then I'll do it myself, said the Little Red Hen, and she did.

She baked five most beautiful loaves of crusty bread and held them up for her neighbours to see.

" I want some " said the Cow
" I want some " said the Pig
" Gimme " said the Goose
" That's for me " said the Duck

" No, " said the Little Red Hen, " You wouldn't help,
I baked them all by myself, they are mine"

" Excess profits " said the Cow
" Capitalistic leech " cried the Duck
" Company fink " grunted the Pig
" Equal rights " screamed the Goose

They decided to hurriedly paint a picket sign and start a protest march around Little Red Hen, singing lustily " We will overcome "

And do you know, that's just what they did

The Farmer came out to investigate the noise and said to Little Red Hen "You mustn't be greedy, look at the oppressed Cow, the disadvantaged Duck, the under-privileged Pig, and the less fortunate Goose, you are guilty of making them into Second-Class citizens. "

" But," stammered the little Red Hen, " I found the grain, I planted and watered it, reaped it, and baked the bread. I earned it. "

" Exactly," said the Farmer, " That's our wonderful Free Enterprise system. Anyone here in the barn-yard has the right to work as hard as they like, and to earn as much as they want to.
You should be happy with this freedom. In other barn-yards you would have to give all 5 loaves to the Farmer, here you only have to give 4 to your suffering neighbours and you can keep one for yourself.
You should be grateful ! "

And so they all lived happily together ever after, including the Little Red Hen.

But her neighbours wondered why it was that she never baked any more bread !

paradox

A3

The PARADOX of our time in History is that we have

taller buildings	but	shorter tempers
more convenience	but	narrower viewpoints
we spend more	but	have less
we buy more	but	enjoy it less

We have

bigger houses	and	smaller families
more convenience	but	less time
more degrees		but less sense
more knowledge	but	less judgement
more experts		but more problems
more medicine	but	less well-ness

We have multiplied our possessions but reduced our values
We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too much
We've learned how to make a living, but not a life
We've added years to our life, but not life to our years

We've been all the way to the moon and back,
but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour.
We've conquered outer space, but not inner space
We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul
We've split the atom, but not our own prejudice

We have higher incomes, but lower morals
We've become long on quantity but short on quality

These are times of tall men and short character;
steep profits and shallow relationships

These are times of world peace, but domestic warfare;
more leisure, but less fun;
more kinds of food, but less nutrition

These are days of 2 incomes, but more divorce;
of fancier houses, but broken homes

It is a time when there is much in the shop window and little in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose to make a difference or just hit "Delete"

Author - an unknown American high-school student.
Garth George - Diary NZ Herald 24.11.99

desiderata

A4

During the new Year

GO PLACIDLY AMID THE NOISE AND HASTE AND REMEMBER WHAT
PEACE THERE MAY BE IN SILENCE

As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons.

Speak your truth quietly and listen to others, even the dull and the ignorant - they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexatious to the spirit

If you compare yourselves with others, you may become vain and bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career however humble - it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery.

But let not this blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself.

Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.

But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be careful. Strive to be happy

Found in OLD SAINT PAULS CHURCH, BALTIMORE dated 1692

PARKINSON'S LAWS

A5

- WORK EXPANDS SO AS TO FILL THE TIME AVAILABLE FOR ITS COMPLETION
- EXPENDITURE RISES TO MEET INCOME
- EXPANSION MEANS COMPLEXITY, AND COMPLEXITY DECAY
- DELAY IS THE DEADLIEST FORM OF DENIAL
- THE TIME SPENT ON ANY ITEM OF A COMMITTEES AGENDA WILL BE IN INVERSE PROPORTION TO THE SUM OF MONEY INVOLVED
- THE MOST EFFECTIVE SIZE OF ANY MEETING IS FIVE
- THE PECULIAR TENDENCY OF ORGANISATIONS TO BUILD PERFECT HEADQUARTERS FOR THEMSELVES
JUST AS THEY GO INTO DECLINE

helping

A6

A few years ago at the Seattle Special Olympics. nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100 metre dash.

At the gun, all started out, not exactly in a dash but with relish to run the race to the finish and win.

All, that is, except one boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over and began to cry.

The other eight heard the boy cry, they slowed and looked back.

They all turned around and returned to the starting line - every one of them.

One girl with Downs syndrome, bent down and kissed the crying boy and said: "This will make it better."

Then, all nine linked arms and walked across the finish line together.

Everyone in the stadium stood and the cheering went on for several minutes.

People who were there are still telling the story.

Why ??

Because deep down we know this one thing: what matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves.

What truly matters in this life is helping others, even if it means slowing down and changing course.

Wow

animals

A7

ALL CREATURES GREAT & SMALL

God loves animals,
and how YOU treat them reveals a lot about your character !!!

The Living Bible says *Proverbs 12 : 10*
" A good man is concerned for the welfare of his animals "

Jesus said that *a good Shepherd would lay down his life for his sheep*
John 10 :11

One woman could only take people in short doses, yet could spend endless hours with her Bible and her pet.

Maybe you think that this is not very spiritual think again !

Doctors have discovered that people with pets live longer, stay healthier, recover faster and experience less depression - now that sounds very spiritual to me !

A man wrote to a hotel, where he wanted to go for a vacation, and asked, "Could I bring my dog with me ? He's very well behaved "
The hotel owner replied

"I've been operating this hotel for years, and in all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly, and I've never had a dog run out without paying the bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel, and if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here too "

When God made pets, He said "It was good "
because they have

Beauty	without	Vanity
Strength	without	Insolence
Courage	without	Ferocity
and all the virtues of man without his vices		

So enjoy them, thank Him for them, and take good care of them !

Bob Gass Word for Today Thursday 13 August 1998

spell cheque

A8

Who needs to be able to spell in these days of the computer anyway ??

That amazing device of computer wizardry is so able to do it all for us

Praise be to the Spell Check - its so handy and reliable !

A Sample

SPELL CHEQUE is sew useful four yew too revue weather your
spelling is write.

Ewe don't have too ask ore bee tolled.

Wen eye was in the forth form, wee were tort too always apply basic
principals and bee dependant on sauce references like dictionaries witch
where inn the children's' stationary room.

Butt, the currant practise is sew easy

Just run yore peace threw you're machine, weight a moment and sea at a
glance if awl the words are spelled rite.

Its gnu technology that saves thyme, has a grate affect on the reader
and

lets everyone no what's going on - inn it's own whey !!

Its sew One-dir-full to have it!

Were wood wee bee without it ?

Rufus Wallingford - Kaimai

Plus RHM

TEENAGERSsssss

A6

Love him or hate him, he sure hits the nail on the head with this!

Bill Gates recently gave a speech at a High School about 11 things they did not and will not learn in school.

He talks about how feel-good, politically correct teachings created a generation with no concept of reality and how this concept sets them up for failure in the real world.

Rule 1: Life is not fair - get used to it!

Rule 2 : The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3 : You will NOT make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.

Rule 4 : If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.

Rule 5 : Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your Grandparents had a different word for burger flipping. They called it opportunity.

Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes. Learn from them.

Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parent's generation, try de-lousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life HAS NOT. In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as MANY TIMES as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

Rule 9: Life is not divided into terms. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you FIND YOURSELF.

Do that in your own time.

Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.

If you agree, pass it on.

If you can read this - Thank a teacher!

let's hear it for the parents

A10

These days, as we hear much about delinquent fathers (and not so much about delinquent mothers), so very much about the rights of the children (and not so much about their responsibilities), what about something on behalf of the parents ...

Parents have the right to act like human beings :

They have the right to fall into sudden and irrational rages, to change their minds without reason, to contradict themselves and be stubborn, prejudiced, capricious and bloody minded - in short, to act like children

Parents have the right to freely hold and express opinions without being scoffed at, or discriminated against :

If they consider that the popular ballad "do your own thing, yeah, yeah, yeah, wave your knickers in the air" ranks slightly behind the Hallelujah chorus from the Messiah, that is their business entirely.

Parents have the right to be free of political indoctrination :

It may be well that the world would be a better place if all possessions were held in common, the police force abolished, pot legalised, schools handed over to the control of pupils, and Parliament turned into a commune, but parents are not necessarily shambling morons if they hope that the revolution does not come in their lifetime.

Parents have the right to freedom from unnecessary worry :

If it takes you four hours to nip out to the local dairy for a drink, it will not occur to them that half way down the road you decided to join a protest march into town. Instead, they will assume that you have been kidnapped, raped, murdered or some grisly combination of all three

Parents have the right to their sleep :

If you promise to be in by 12.30 they will not wish to be still counting the flowers on the wallpaper at 3.00 in the morning

Parents have the right to enjoy their homes :

If one of the bedrooms appears to have been converted without a Building Permit into a piggery, you may argue that your room has nothing to do with them. A quick glance at the signature on the cheques that pay the bills will prove otherwise

Parents have the right to criticise and rebuke their children without fear of reprisals :

In this context, "reprisals" shall mean muttering, sulking, screaming, slamming doors, making motions with the hands, and threats to run away from home

Parents have the right to expect a reasonable return for their labours :

Having acted for years as unpaid nursemaid, cleaner, nightwatchman, valet, banker, laundress, sports coach, guidance counsellor, chauffeur, odd-job man, and general dogs-body, they are entitled to ask you to put the rubbish out.

Parents are not to be humiliated for their inadequacies :

They may not be addressed in high-school French, interrogated about the rain-fall in Peru, or be expected to make head or tail of modern maths. On public occasions, they have the right to waltz without being mocked.

Parents have complete freedom to nag, cajole, warn, scold, forbid and offer unsolicited advice, not because they enjoy it, but because they have a duty to exercise their most precious and inalienable right --

they have the right to be parents

Teaching Magazine - November then in Harold Angel's column

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MEN A11

..... according to Women !!

HERE'S A LIST OF 33 THINGS

- 1 Men basically think that there is nothing wrong with them at all
- 2 Men are genetically unable to remember birth dates apart from their own
- 3 Men must have control of the TV remote and channel surf
- 4 Men turn the TV off when they go to bed, even if others are still watching
- 5 Men always want to talk to you when you're on the phone
- 6 Men think its never the right time to talk about the relationship
- 7 No matter how many clothes are in the wardrobe, men always wear the same thing
- 8 Men can step over something for weeks, but never pick it up and put it away
- 9 Men never remember rubbish day
- 10 Men buy full cream milk
- 11 Men don't understand that Andrew Mertens lost the World Cup
- 12 Men are genetically unable to make a sandwich or find something to eat
- 13 Men " just looking" too much
- 14 Men can't supermarket shop !
They'll spend \$100 and come back with camembert and olives

- 15 "I'm just having a quick beer" is a meaningless remark
- 16 Men are incapable of getting the children ready to go out,
then complain when women take too long
- 17 Men don't know when you want them to lie
- 18 Men don't think
- 19 Men will put a bet on anything
- 20 Men take your selection off the CD player, and put their own on
- 21 Men refuse to argue and cant if they try
- 22 Men are genetically unable to separate the whites from the coloureds
- 23 They wont give you a Valentines present because its "too commercial"
They say they will give you a surprise present some other day,
but never do
- 24 You plan a romantic night out, and he invites friends !
- 25 Men still think NO means Yes
And don't know when it really does
- 26 Men need to visit their mothers all the time
- 27 Men wont ask directions
- 28 Men don't appreciate how damaging five o'clock shadow can be
- 29 Men don't mind dirty sheets
- 30 Men fart and snore to much And are proud of the former
- 31 Men cant buy attractive furniture Unless they're gay !
- 32 Men are too chicken to write lists like this without back-up from
their mates

There is NO number 33 Women don't need to compete !!

An Old Farmer's Advice A12

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plough around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.

Meanness don't just happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honourable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with something that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgement comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgement.

Letting the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.

If you get to thinking you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply.

Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

being a good listener ! A12

There is an old story about a young man who came to Socrates to be instructed in public speaking and oratory.

The moment the young man was introduced to the great philosopher he began to talk in a non-stop flow of words. This went on for such a long time that Socrates could not get a word in edge-wise.

He finally silenced the young man by putting his hand over his mouth.

"Young man," he said, "I am going to have to charge you a double fee for my training."

The man complained, "A double fee! Why would you do that?"

Socrates replied, "Because to make you a good leader I will have to teach you two sciences. First, you must learn the science of holding your tongue; then you can learn the science of using it correctly!"

Good leaders are always good listeners. That is how they learn.

That is how they assess what needs to be done.

Unfortunately, one reason we often don't have alert ears is because we have open mouths.

Someone has conjectured that since God gave us two ears and only one mouth, He must intend for us to listen twice as much as we talk - to use them in the proportion to which they are given.

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry." James 1:19

The fact is, if we follow the first two parts of this verse, the third part is automatic. When we are quick to listen and slow to speak - we are slow to become angry.

Studies have shown that there are four basic styles of listening:

THE JUDGMENTAL LISTENER

This person already has his mind made up and doesn't want to be confused by the facts. He is critical, negative, and prejudiced.

17% of the population fall into this category.

THE INTERROGATIVE LISTENER

This person thinks that good listening consists of continuously firing a series of questions at the person.

Questions are important to conversation but this gets old very quickly.
26% of all people use this approach.

THE ADVICE-GIVING LISTENER

More people (35%) are in this category.

They listen only long enough to make a quick assessment and then they get to what they really want to do - offer unsolicited advice.

The problem with this approach is that you are so busy thinking about what advice you are going to give - you don't really listen.

You aren't hearing everything they are saying.

THE EMPATHETIC LISTENER

This style is used by only 22% of the population but it is by far the most effective. You listen to capture the feeling of the person you are listening to, not just the content of their words.

You pay attention to tone, facial expressions, and body language - the non-verbal signs.

Try listening with your eyes, not just your ears this week.

You may learn something new !

Views on AGING

A13

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids?

If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.

"How old are you?" "I'm four and a half!" You're never thirty-six and a half; You're four and a half, going on five!

That's the key.

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead.

"How old are you?" "I'm gonna be 16!"

You could be 13; but Hey, you're gonna be 16!

And then the greatest day of your life. You become 21.

Even the words sound like a ceremony . . . YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!!

But then **you turn** 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk!

He **TURNED**; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong? What's changed?

You **BECOME** 21, you **TURN** 30, then you're **PUSHING** 40.

Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you **REACH** 50 and your dreams are gone.

But wait !! You **MAKE IT** to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you **BECOME** 21, **TURN** 30, **PUSH** 40, **REACH** 50 and **MAKE IT** to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you **HIT** 70! After that it's a day-by-day thing; you **HIT** Wednesday!

You get into your 80s and every day is a complete cycle; you **HIT** lunch; you **REACH** 4:30; you **MAKE IT** to bedtime.

And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; "I Was **JUST** 92!"

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. "I'm 100 and a half !"

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half !!

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Throw out non essential numbers. This includes age, weight and height.
Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay "them".
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever.
Never let the brain idle.
" An idle mind is the devil's workshop."
And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves.
Be ALIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love. Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever; your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it.
If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, to the next county, even to a foreign country: but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. Tell the people that you love, at every opportunity that you love them --.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

We all need to live life to its fullest each day

George Carlin

section B

the BIBLE

odds and ends

John 3 : 16

B1

Probably the best known verse in the Bible

the Greatest POWER	GOD
the Greatest MOTIVE	to LOVE everyone <i>so LOVED the world</i>
the Greatest GIFT	<i>that He gave</i> <i>His ONLY SON</i>
the Widest WELCOME	to anyone, everyone <i>that WHO.SO.EVER</i>
the Simplest SOLUTION	Faith <i>BELIEVES IN HIM</i>
the Greatest GAIN	<i>should NOT DIE</i>
the Richest REWARD	<i>but have</i> <i>ETERNAL LIFE</i> W O W

LIFE	is	Short
DEATH	is	SURE
SIN 's	the	CURSE
CHRIST 's	the	CURE

the 23rd Psalm

B2

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

I shall not want

CONTENTMENT

He makes me lie down in green pastures

REST

He leads me beside the still waters

PEACE

He restores my soul

FORGIVENESS

*He leads me in the paths of righteousness
for His names sake*

GUIDANCE

*Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil
for You are with me*

COMPANIONSHIP

Your rod and staff, they comfort me

COMFORT

*You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies*

SUSTENANCE

You anoint my head with oil

JOY

My cup overflows

ABUNDANCE of
EVERY good THING

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life*

EVERYTHING IN LIFE

*And I shall dwell in the House of the Lord
FOR EVER*

EVERYTHING
IN E T E R N I T Y

C H Spurgeon

the 23rd CHANNEL

B3

The television is my Shepherd, my spiritual life does want.

It makes me to sit down and do nothing.

It leads me beside men of no faith.

It restores my desire for earthly pleasures.

It requires all my spare time and keeps me from doing the will of God,
because it presents so much foolishness which I must see.

It increases my knowledge of nonsense and keeps me from a study of the
Word of God.

Yes, even though I live to be a hundred, yet my television viewing shall
have first place in my life, as long as it operates, for it is my closest
companion.

Its sound and its picture, they comfort me.

It presents foolishness and folly before me continually, and keeps me
from surrendering my whole life to God.

It anoints my mind with seeds of corruption and fills my head with vanity,
which profits me nothing; my cup remains empty

Surely, no good thing will come of my life, because I am devoted to my
television, which leaves me no time to serve God acceptably; thus will I
dwell in the House of Confusion for ever.

Joseph Blake

symphony in f

B4

Luke Fifteen is the Inspiration

Feeling footloose and frisky, a featherbrained fellow forced his fond father to fork over the family farthings and flew afar to foreign fields and frittered his fortune, feasting fabulously with faithless friends.

Fleeced by his fellows - in - folly and facing famine, he found himself a feed - flinger in a filthy farm-yard.

Fairly famishing, he fane would have filled his frame with foraged food from fodder fragments.

Finally, he finks " Fooyey, my Father's flunkies fare far finer "

The frazzled fugitive finally facing facts, frustrated by failure and with foreboding fled forthwith to his family.

Falling at his Father's feet, he forlornly fumbled, " Father, I have flunked !
I have fruitlessly forfeited family favour "

The far - sighted Father, forestalling further, flinching frantically, flagged the flunkies to fetch a fatling from the flock to fix a feast !

The fugitives fault - finding brother, frowned on the fickle forgiveness of the former faulterer.

But the faithful Father figured filial fidelity is fine, -- the fugitive is found - what forbids fervent festivity ??
Let flags be unfurled, let fanfares flare !

So a Father's forgiveness formed a foundation for the former fugitives future fortitude.

Far out, even funkey eh ??

Phil (Fill) KERR American Song-Writer

the **LAWYER** spoke B5

"We respectfully petition, request and entreat that a due and adequate provision be made, this day and date first above and inscribed, for the satisfying of petitioners' nutritional requirements and for the organising of such methods of allocation and distribution as may be deemed necessary and proper, to assure the reception by and for said petitioners, of such quantity of cereal products (here-in-after and herein called 'bread') as shall in the judgement of the aforesaid petitioners, constitute a sufficient amount."

Whereas **J E S U S** said

"Give us this day our daily bread"

70 words versus 7

Also to consider

The entire **LORD'S PRAYER** is only 56 words !!

PS

Why use a big word, when a diminutive one will do ??

something to aim for

B6

"LOVE is patient and kind"

... even after having said something again and again
It doesn't easily blow its fuse, stamp its feet or toot its horn.
It accepts that all humans stumble and fall,
and instead of accusing "You always" "You never"
it picks them up, dusts them off,
and searches for the chance to be constructive.
it is cheerfully interruptable, and never too busy to just listen.

"LOVE is never jealous or envious"

It doesn't have to compete, use a leash, or employ a private detective.
It is not petty or insecure, or afraid to let go.
It doesn't suffocate or smother, clutch or cling.
It trusts others and gives them the right to be different and free.

"LOVE is never boastful or proud ... "

It doesn't parade or dress up, big-note or name-drop.
It's in no hurry to say, "I did it!" "Where would you be without me?"
and doesn't go begging for a pat-on-the-head or a round-of-applause,
It's not afraid of losing face, and is quick to say,
"I'm sorry - my mistake," "I blew it - please forgive me."

"LOVE is never stuck-up or selfish or rude ... "

It is courteous, willing to step back, able to give way,
happy to say "Thanks!"
It doesn't make a point of being first, being in front, being blunt,
butting in, or shooting its mouth off.
It accepts and cares about itself in a healthy responsible way
and treats others with the same respect,

"LOVE does not demand its own way ... "

It doesn't get the pip and pout, bully or blackmail others.
It doesn't threaten, "I won't be your friend,"
"I won't play with-you anymore," "I'll take my ball and go home."
It isn't out to master or control, but says, "Let's do this together!"
It seeks to encourage others without shoving or shouting, leaving them
room to grow .

"LOVE is not irritable or touchy ... "

It doesn't snap and snarl, get its knickers in a knot,
or give others the silent treatment,
When it does climb out of bed on the wrong side, it tries not to wipe its
mood all over everyone else.
It doesn't nag or nit-pick, nor find fault with everything.
It knows and accepts its own limits, and makes others feel better about
theirs.

"LOVE does not hold grudges"

It doesn't compile statistics, keep the score, or chalk up words sent in
anger. It isn't easy to offend, hasn't got a long memory, doesn't seek
revenge, and refuses to build walls that shut people off from each other.
It chooses instead to forgive, to make others the gift of a new start

"LOVE is never glad about injustice"

It never cheers when someone comes a-cropper or gloats when someone
goes down. It won't paint over the cracks, sell the truth, or water it
down for some personal advantage.
It doesn't stand by like a whimp, while someone gets a rotten deal
but goes out on a limb to see that right is done.

"There is nothing that LOVE cannot face ... "

It can cope with - the unwanted - the unplanned, - the unpleasant,
- the unchangeable, - the unending.
It never shouts "This is the last time ... " "if you do that again ..."
"I'm not going any further ... "

**"LOVE never stops believing, never gives up hope, always
endures ..."**

It's a survivor and won't quit, no matter how black the night or bleak the
forecast.
It says what it means, means what it says,
and can outlast, outrun, and outlive anyone or anything anywhere,

"LOVE will never come to an end ..."

It really is the answer.
It's the only thing that works when nothing else will
After all the other solutions have withered away, wound down, or worn
out, love will still be doing its job,

"GOD is LOVE ... "

And this kind of love is God's.

Maybe he can help us become the lovers we were meant to be.

Grapevine's editor confesses that writing about love is much easier than doing it - he misses the mark on most of these most of the time,

He gratefully acknowledges the Bible, where this kind of thing was first published

I Corinthians 13

10 suggestions

B7

Unless you plan to live on an island or take a vow of silence,
you're going to have to learn how to get along with people Right !

Here are 10 suggestions that will help

- 1 Guard your tongue. Always say less than you think !
- 2 Make promises sparingly keep them absolutely !
- 3 Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind word.
- 4 Be genuinely interested in others.
Show it by listening and expressing your appreciation.
If you do, you will never be without friends !
- 5 Be Cheerful don't dwell on your aches & pains.
There are many in the nearest cemetery who would gladly change
places with you
- 6 Keep an open mind; discuss, don't argue.
Learn to disagree without being disagreeable.
Give other people the benefit of the doubt,
- 7 Discourage Gossip it's destructive !
- 8 Be sensitive to the feelings of others.
If you do, people will consider you to be wise.
- 9 Pay no attention to ill - natured remarks about you.
Live so that nobody will believe them.
- 10 Don't worry about getting the Credit for anything.
Just keep giving your best and be Patient !

God keeps the score !

Live in Peace, and the God of Love and Peace will be with you
2 Corinthians 13 : 11

the Word of GOD

B8

Smith Wigglesworth (often called the Apostle of Faith) said

"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing the Word of God" Romans 10:17
not by reading commentaries !

Faith is the principle of the Word of God

The Holy Spirit, who inspired the Word, is called the Spirit of Truth,
and as we receive with meekness the engrafted Word,
 faith springs up in our hearts,
 faith in the sacrifice of Calvary;
 faith in the shed blood of Jesus;
 faith in the FACT that He took our weaknesses upon Himself,
that He has borne our sicknesses and carried our pains, and that He is
our life today.

The Word of God is living and powerful, and in its treasures you will
find eternal life.
If you will dare to trust this wonderful Lord of Life, you will find in Him
everything you need.

His constant advice to young people was

Fill your head and your heart with the Scriptures.
Memorise passages from the Word, with name of book, chapter and
verse, so that you can quote the Scriptures correctly.
As you do this, you are sowing in your heart seeds that the Spirit of God
can germinate.
He can bring to your remembrance from time to time that which you have
once memorised.

You must be so soaked with the Word of God, you must be so filled with
it, that you yourself are a living epistle, known and read of all men.
Believers are strong ONLY as the Word of God abides in them.
The Word of God is Spirit and Life to those who receive it in simple
faith.

Know your Book, live it, believe it and obey it.

Hide God's Word in your heart.

It will save your soul, quicken your body, and illumine your mind.

The Word of God is full, final, infallible, reliable and up-to-date,
and our attitude towards it must be one of unquestioned obedience.

If a thing is in the Bible it is so; it is not even to be prayed about;
it is to be received and acted upon.

Inactivity of Faith is a robber which steals blessing.

Increase comes by action, by using what we have and what we know.

Your life must be one of going on from faith to faith.

The Word of God changes a person until they become an epistle of God
It changes their mind, changes their character, moves them on from
grace to grace, makes them an inheritor of the divine nature of God.

Derek Prince said	T H I N K	God's Word
	S P E A K	God's Word
then you will	A C T	God's Word

Let go your own thoughts, and take the thoughts of God
the Word of God

This Book doesn't just contain the Word of God,
it **IS** the WORD of GOD

It is	Supernatural	in	Origin
	Eternal	in	Duration
	Inexpressible	in	Value
	Infinite	in	Scope
	Regenerative	in	Power
	Infallible	in	Authority
	Universal	in	Appeal
	Personal	in	Application
	Inspired	in	Totality

READ it through

WRITE it down

PRAY it in

WORK it out

and then

PASS it ON

God COMES in

DWELLS in

WALKS with

TALKS through

and **SUPS** with the person who opens their being to the
 Word of God
 and receives the Spirit who inspired it.

section C

Christianity

What is CHRISTIANITY ? **C1**

<i>In the home</i>	<i>it is kindness and love</i>
<i>In business</i>	<i>it is honesty and integrity</i>
<i>In work</i>	<i>it is fairness</i>
<i>Towards the unfortunate</i>	<i>it is sympathy</i>
<i>Towards the weak</i>	<i>it is help</i>
<i>Towards the wicked</i>	<i>it is resistance</i>
<i>Towards the penitent</i>	<i>it is forgiveness</i>
<i>Towards the successful</i>	<i>it is congratulations</i>
<i>Towards your brethren</i>	<i>it is understanding</i>
<i>Towards God</i>	<i>it is reverence</i>

grace

C2

The scene

Skull Hill outside Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago

Another multiple execution by the Roman invaders favourite method public Crucifixion !

On a hill top, for everyone to see

Three men have been nailed to rough wooden crosses.

The one in the middle is quiet

The other 2 are criminals who according to local law were found worthy of capital punishment.

Their unrecorded crimes could be murder, larceny or just opposition to the Roman occupation.

They both curse their taunting guards, damning their lot in life, never admitting their guilt, while blaming others for their crimes.

They are both pleading for sweet death, which was agonisingly slow in coming.

The 2 criminals read the words written on the board nailed over the head of the middle man, and listen to his accusers challenging him to repeat a further miracle to those that he had already performed, they turn to him and beg him to free them of their ordeal - He is their last faint hope. When there is no response, one criminal empties his volatile hatred on him.

To this man all is lost and hopeless, his time has run out, he gives full vent to his anger and frustration.

But the other man has a strange change in attitude.

He is alert enough to realise that the middle man shows no hatred for his tormentors. Instead he seems to be a just man who even prays for his executioners.

Either he really is the Son of God, or he must be delirious, for who otherwise would pray for such tormentors ?

Like a drowning man, he clutches at a straw, and makes a pathetic last request.

There is no time to discuss deism, agnosticism, atheism, eternal security, predestination, or pre and post-millennialism.

There is only time for one short and simple request - to implore
" Lord, remember me, when You come into Your Kingdom !"

Listen he is asking for mercy in the next world, not this one !
Somehow, he has sensed who this middle man really is and his power even at such an hour.

The middle man rallies.

With blood oozing from the sides of his mouth, with vision dimmed by the blood dripping from a mock crown of thorns, his back raw from the flogging, He raises His face and replies " Today you shall be with me in Paradise !"

We shall never know what passed through the mind of that convict when he heard those words, but his soul must have leapt within his tortured body.

Perhaps they were the first positive words that he had heard in his entire life !!

As he died in terrible agony, his spirit was instantly transported into the presence of an all-loving Father God, ushered in by the middle man whose name was Jesus.

The pardoned criminal would never take communion, or be confirmed, or be baptised.

He would never fast, attend a church, or sing a hymn.

He would never kiss an icon, take a pilgrimage, sing in a choir, practice Lent, or have oil on his forehead.

He would never light a candle, learn a Scripture verse, attend a prayer meeting, or sit in a Bible Class.

He never had an opportunity to discover his talents, gifts or potential, nor to quote the Lord's prayer or the Apostles Creed.

He never tithed or witnessed to a person, never once heard a sermon, and never even got a Christian funeral.

By many folks standards, the man should never have entered Paradise because he had no right to it, he had no opportunity to perform any good works at all, not even one.

But, regardless of what any person may think, that criminal went straight to Paradise because he simply asked for mercy, of the right person.

And from Jesus, the matchless Son of God, he received
unimagined, unearned, undeserved, unexpected, bounteous and eternal mercy.

G R A C E

The undeserved favour of Almighty God

Freely bestowed on the undeserving, on the simple condition of Faith and asking

*For by Grace are you saved through Faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of GOD, not of works, lest any man should boast
Ephesians 2 : 8, 9*

Taste and see likewise !!

(With apologies to Paul C Andreas in Alliance Witness)

the 2 seas

C3

a parable of giving and keeping

There are 2 Seas in Palestine

One is called the Sea of Galilee

It is a Sea of sparkling water. Trees line its banks

Children play in its waters, and fish abound.

It provides water for irrigation and for farmland, and drinking water for the villages.

It receives its water from the River Jordan in the north, and the same river flows from the south of the lake

The other Sea is dark and murky.

No trees nor birds are to be found along its banks.

No farms nor towns exist along its desert shores.

It too receives water from the same river Jordan.

But it does not discharge any water it receives.

All is lost through evaporation, and so it has collected the heavy deposits of salts and minerals over the centuries.

It is called the DEAD SEA.

The difference between the 2 Seas is simply this

The Sea of Galilee receives and gives its water.

The Dead Sea receives and keeps its water.

The Sea of Galilee is **ALIVE**.

The other Sea is **DEAD**

There are two kinds of people in the world

Those who receive and give, and those who receive and keep.

The one kind are **ALIVE**, but the Other Kind ??

identify with Christ

C4

I'm a part of the Fellowship of the Unashamed

I have Holy Spirit Power

The die has been cast, I've stepped over the line.

The love of God persuades and guides me.

The decision has been made, I'm a disciple of His.

I won't look back, let up, slow down, or back away.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, my future is secure.

I'm finished and done with low-living, sight-walking, small planning,
smooth knees, colourless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking,
cheap giving and dwarf goals.

I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions,
plaudits or popularity.

I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, regarded or rewarded.

I now live by Faith, lean on His presence, walk in patience, live by prayer
and labour with power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is the Kingdom of God.

My road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my guide
reliable, my mission clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back,
deluded or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of
adversaries, negotiate at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze
of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, until I've stayed up, stored up, prayed up,
paid up, spoken up for the cause of Christ.

I am a Disciple of Jesus Christ and I must go till He comes,
give till I drop, preach till all know and work till He calls me Home

Others ever noticed ? C5

Have you ever noticed that

When OTHERS are set in their ways but when You are,	they're OBSTINATE You're just being Firm
When they don't like someone when You don't	they're PREJUDICED its just good judgement
When they treat someone real well when You do	they're buttering them up You're just being thoughtful
When they take time to do things well but when You do	they're SLOW or LAZY You're meticulous
When they find Fault and pick flaws in things but when You do	they're CRITICAL You're Perceptive
When they're gentle or mild-mannered but when You are	they're WEAK You're Gracious
When they dress well when You do	they're EXTRAVAGANT You're Tasteful
When they say what they think when You do	they're SPITEFUL or CATTY You're just being Honest
When they take risks but when You do	they're RECKLESS You're just being Brave

*"Above all, Love each Other deeply, because Love covers over
a multitude of sins "* *1 Peter 4 : 8*

Thank you

C6

Lord, thank you for this sink of dirty dishes

- we have plenty of food to eat

Thank you for the pile of dirty smelly laundry

- we have plenty of clothes to wear

And thank you, Lord, for those unmade beds

- I know that many have no bed at all, (some even sleep 'rough')

Thanks, Lord, for this bathroom, complete with water marks, soggy, grubby towels, and the stained toilet

- they are so handy and convenient to use.

Thank you for the finger smudged refrigerator that needs defrosting - It has served us faithfully for many years and is full of cold drinks and enough left overs for 2 or 3 meals.

Thank you, Lord, for this oven that must be cleaned today

- it has baked so many things over the years.

The whole family is grateful for that long grass that needs mowing, and the leaves that need sweeping up

- we all enjoy the garden and the yard.

-

Thank you, Lord, even for that slamming screen door

- our kids are healthy and able to run and play.

Though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm goes off, thank you Lord, that I can hear when there are so many who are deaf.

Though I shut my eyes against the morning light for as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise when there are many who are bed-ridden.

Though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, tempers are short and children are noisy

- thank you, Lord, for my family; there are many who are lonely.

Though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in magazines and on TV, and the menu isn't always balanced, thank you, Lord, for the food we have

- there are many who are hungry.

Though the routine of my job is often monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work

- there are many who have no job at all.

Though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so modest, thank you, Lord, for LIFE

NZ Herald 3.11.99 Garth George

how the Lord leads

C7

This article from one of my most respected authors A W TOZER, is one that I have turned to repeatedly at times of decision !

May it help you likewise ...

One of the problems most frequently encountered by serious-minded Christians is how to discover the will of God in a given situation. This is not a small matter. To countless thousands of Christians it is vitally important. Their peace of heart depends upon knowing that God is actually guiding them, and their failure to be sure that He is destroys their inward tranquillity and fills them with uncertainty and fear. They must get help if they are to regain their confidence. Here is a modest effort to provide some help.

First, it is absolutely essential that we be completely dedicated to God's high honor and surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. God will not lead us except for His own glory and He cannot lead us if we resist His will. The shepherd cannot lead a stubborn sheep. The evil practice of using God must be abandoned. Instead of trying to employ God to achieve our ends we must submit ourselves joyously to God and let Him work through us to achieve His own ends.

Now, granted that we are wholly committed to God with every full intent to obey Him, we may expect actually to be led by Him. The Scriptures that teach this are so many that one scarcely knows where to begin quoting. It only remains for us to believe they mean what they say.

The many choices that we Christians must make from day to day involve only four kinds of things :

Those concerning which God has said an emphatic NO

those about which He has said an equally emphatic YES

those concerning which He wants us to consult our own sanctified preferences,

and those few and rare matters about which we cannot acquire enough information to permit us to make intelligent decisions and which for that reason require some special guidance from the Lord to prevent us from making serious mistakes.

Regardless of what our "positive thinkers" have said, the Scriptures have much to say about things Christians are NOT to do.

Every call to repentance is a call to negative as well as to positive moral action.

"Cease to do evil; learn to do well" is a fair epitome of the moral teaching of the Bible.

Put this down as an unfailing rule: Never seek the leading of the Lord concerning an act that is forbidden in the Word of God.

To do so is to convict ourselves of insincerity.

Again, prophet, psalmist, apostle and our blessed Lord Himself join to point out the way of positive obedience, His yoke is easy, His burden is light and He gives more grace, so let this be the second rule:

Never seek the leading of the Lord concerning an act that has been commanded in the Scriptures.

Now, a happy truth too often overlooked in our anxious search for the will of God is that in the majority of decisions touching our earthly lives God expresses no choice, but leaves everything to our own preference. Some Christians walk under a cloud of uncertainty, worrying about which profession they should enter, which car they should drive, which school they should attend, where they should live, and a dozen or score of other such matters, when their Lord has set them free to follow their own personal bent, guided only by their love for Him and for their fellow men.

On the surface it appears more spiritual to seek God's leading than just to go ahead and do the obvious thing. But it is not. If God gave you a watch would you honor Him more by asking Him for the time of day or by consulting the watch? If God gave a sailor a compass, would the sailor please God more by kneeling in a frenzy of prayer to persuade God to show him which way to go or by steering according to the compass? Except for those things that are specifically commanded or forbidden, it is God's will that we be free to exercise our own intelligent choice, The shepherd will lead the sheep but he does not wish to decide which tuft of grass the sheep shall nibble each moment of the day. In almost everything touching our common life on earth God is pleased when we are pleased. He wills that we be as free as birds to soar and sing our Maker's praise without anxiety. God's choice for us may not be one but any one of a score of possible choices. The man or woman who is wholly and joyously surrendered to Christ cannot make a wrong choice. Any choice will be the right one.

But what about those rare times when a great deal is at stake, we can discover no clear scriptural instruction and yet are forced to choose between two possible courses?

In such a situation we have Cod's faithfull promise - to guide us aright

Here, for instance, are two passages from the Word of the Lord :

"If any of you lack wisdom. let him ask of God, who gives to all men liberally, and upbraids not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering"
James 1:5,6.

"Thus says the Lord, thy Redeemer. the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy Cod which teaches you to profit, which leads you by the way that you should go"
Isa. 48:17.

Take your problem to the Lord. Remind Him of these promises.

Then get up and do what looks best to you.

Either choice will be right. God will not permit you to make a mistake,

a prophet's prayer

C8

being the prayer of AW TOZER, called a TWENTIETH CENTURY PROPHET

Oh Lord, I have heard your voice and was afraid. You have called me to an awesome task in a grave and perilous hour. You are about to shake all nations and the earth and also heaven, that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. O Lord, our Lord, you have stooped to honor me to be your servant. No man takes this honor upon himself save he that is called of God as was Aaron. You have ordained me as your messenger to them that are stubborn of heart, and hard of hearing. They have rejected you, the Master, and it is not to be expected that they will receive me, the servant.

My God. I shall not waste time deploring my weakness nor my unfitness for the work. The responsibility is not mine, but yours. You have said, "I knew you - I ordained you - I sanctified you," and you have also said, "you shall go to all that I shall send you, and whatsoever I command you, you shall speak." Who am I to argue with you or to call into question your sovereign choice? The decision is not mine, but yours. So be it, Lord. Your will, not mine, be done.

Well do I know, O God of the prophets and the apostles, that as long as I honour you, you will honour me. Help me therefore to take this solemn vow to honor you in all my future life and labors, whether by gain or by loss, by life or by death, and then to keep that vow unbroken while I live.

It is time, O God, for you to work, for the enemy has entered into your pastures and the sheep are torn and scattered. And false shepherds abound who deny the danger and laugh at the perils which surround your flock. The sheep are deceived by these hirelings and follow them with touching loyalty while the wolf closes in to kill and destroy. I beseech you, give me sharp eyes to detect the presence of the enemy; give me understanding to distinguish the false friend from the true. Give me vision to see and courage to report what I see faithfully. Make my voice so like your own that even the sick sheep will recognize it and follow you.

Lord Jesus, I come to you for spiritual preparation. Lay your hand upon me. Anoint me with the oil of the New Testament prophet. Forbid that I should become a religious scribe and thus lose my prophetic calling.

Save me from the curse that lies dark across the face of the modern clergy, the curse of compromise, of imitation, of professionalism. Save me from the error of judging a church by its size, its popularity or the amount of its yearly offering. Help me to remember that I am a prophet; not a promoter, not a religious manager - but a prophet. Let me never become a slave to crowds. Heal my soul of carnal ambitions and deliver me from the itch for publicity. Save me from bondage to things. Let me not waste my days puttering around the house. Lay Thy terror upon me, O God, and drive me to the place of prayer where I may wrestle with principalities and powers and the rulers of the darkness of this world. Deliver me from overeating and late sleeping. Teach me self-discipline that I may be a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

I accept hard work and small rewards in this life. I ask for no easy place. I shall try to be blind to the little ways that could make my life easier. If others seek the smoother path I shall try to take the hard way without judging them too harshly. I shall expect opposition and try to take it quietly when it comes. Or if, as sometimes it falls out to your servants, I should have grateful gifts pressed upon me by your kindly people, stand by me then and save me from the blight that often follows.

Teach me to use whatever I receive in such manner that will not injure my soul nor diminish my spiritual power. And if in your permissive providence honor should come to me from your church, let me not forget in that hour that I am unworthy of the least of your mercies, and that if men knew me as intimately as I know myself they would withhold their honors or bestow them upon others more worthy to receive them.

And now, O Lord of heaven and earth, I consecrate my remaining days to you; let them be many or few, as you will. Let me stand before the great or minister to the poor and lowly; that choice is not mine, and I would not influence it if I could. I am Thy servant to do your will, and that will is sweeter to me than position or riches or fame, and I choose it above all things on earth or in heaven.

Though I am chosen of you and honored by a high and holy calling, let me never forget that I am but a man of dust and ashes, a man with all the natural faults and passions that plague the race of men. I pray you, therefore, my Lord and Redeemer, save me from myself and from all the injuries I may do myself while trying to be a blessing to others. Fill me with your power by the Holy Spirit, and I will go in your strength and tell of your righteousness, even yours only.

I will spread abroad the message of redeeming love while my normal powers endure.

Then, dear Lord, when I am old and weary and too tired to go on, have a place ready for me above, and make me to be numbered with your saints in glory everlasting.

Amen. AMEN.

the discipline of difficulty C9

a daily reading from *My Utmost for His highest*, by Oswald Chambers

August 2 that has brought much encouragement

In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer I have overcome the world." John 16 : 33.

An average view of the Christian life is that it means deliverance **from** trouble. But it is deliverance **in** trouble, which is very different.

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High there shall no evil befall you - no plague can come nigh the place where you are at one with God.

If you are a child of God, there certainly will be troubles to meet, but Jesus says do not be surprised when they come. *In the world ye shall have tribulation ~ but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world, there is nothing for you to fear.* People who before they were saved would scorn to talk about troubles, often become 'fashionless' after being born again because they have a wrong idea of a saint.

God does not give us overcoming life: He gives us life as we overcome. The strain is the strength. If there is no strain, there is no strength. Are you asking God to give you life and liberty and joy? He cannot, unless you will accept the strain. Immediately you face the strain, you will get the strength.

Overcome your own timidity and take the step, and God will give you to eat of the tree of life and you will get nourishment.

If you spend yourself out physically, you become exhausted; but spend yourself spiritually, and you get more strength.

God never gives strength for tomorrow, or for the next hour, but only for the strain of the minute. The temptation is to face difficulties from a commonsense standpoint. The saint is hilarious when he is crushed with difficulties because the thing is so ludicrously impossible to any one but God

My Creator God

C10

He is the first, the last, the beginning and the end
Keeper of Creation
Creator of the Universe
Manager of all time
He always was, always is, always will be

The world can't understand him
It's armies can't defeat Him
It's schools can't explain Him
It's leaders can't ignore Him
He is the power of the powerful
The Ancient of days
The Ruler of Rulers
The Leader of Leaders
He is Holy, Mighty and true
His ways are right
His world is eternal
His will unchanging
He is Redeemer, Saviour, Lord and Guide

When I fail,	He forgives
When I am weak,	He is strong
When I am lost	He's the way
When I'm afraid	He is my courage
When I stumble	He steadies me
When I am broken	He mends me
When I face persecution	He shields me
When I face Loss,	He provides for me
When I face death	He carries me home

He said it, that settles it He is on my side

God is in control - it is well with my soul

benediction

C11

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

MAY THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU

MAY THE LORD BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU

AND GIVE YOU PEACE

IN YOUR GOING OUT, AND IN YOUR COMING IN

IN YOUR LYING DOWN AND IN YOUR RISING UP

IN YOUR LABOUR AND IN YOUR LEISURE

IN YOUR LAUGHTER AND IN YOUR TEARS

UNTIL YOU COME AND STAND BEFORE THE LORD

IN THAT DAY THAT HAS NO DAWNING AND NO SUNSET

ONLY ETERNAL LIGHT AND LIFE

NOW UNTO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM FALLING

AND PRESENT YOU FAULTLESS BEFORE HIM IN THAT DAY

THE ONLY WISE GOD

OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST

AMEN

section J

Jesus Himself

this man of galilee

J1

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman.
He grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter's shop
until he was thirty.

Then for three years he was an travelling preacher.
He never wrote a book.
He never held an office.
He never had a family or owned a house.
He did not go to college.
He never visited a big city.
He never travelled more than two hundred miles from the place where he
was born.
He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness.
He had no credentials but himself.
He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against him.
His friends ran away.
He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a
trial.
He was cruelly executed with two thieves.
While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only
property he had on earth.

When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a
friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today he remains the central
figure of the human race, and the leader of mankind's progress.

All the armies that ever marched,
All the navies that ever sailed,
All the parliaments that ever sat,
All the kings that ever reigned,
Put together,
Have not affected the life of man on this planet
So much as that one solitary life.

What a Man, this Son of God, this JESUS the CHRIST

Our risen Lord and Master

m y K I N G ...

J2

MY KING was born KING

The Bible says He's the Seven - Way King

He's the KING of the Jews - that's a racial KING

He's the KING of Israel - that's a National KING

He's the KING of Righteousness,

He's the KING of Ages,

He's the KING of Heaven, He's the KING of Glory,

He's the KING of KINGS, and He's The LORD OF LORDS,

Now, that's MY KING !

Well, I wonder if you know Him ?

Do you really know Him ??

Don't try to mislead me -

Do you know MY KING ??

David said " The Heavens declare the Glory of GOD and the firmament shows His handiwork "

MY KING is the only one whom there is no means of measure that can define His limitless Love.

No far-seeing telescope can bring into visibility the coastline of His shoreless supplies.

No barriers can hinder Him from pouring out His blessing.

He's enduringly strong,

He's entirely sincere,

He's eternally steadfast,
powerful,

He's immortally graceful, imperially

He's impartially merciful,

That's MY KING,

He's God's Son,

He's the Sinner's Saviour,

He's the centrepiece of civilisation,

He stands alone in Himself,

He's awesome, unique, unparalleled,

He's unprecedented,

He's the miracle of the age, of all ages.

He's the superlative of everything good that you choose to call Him.

He is the only one to supply all of our needs simultaneously.

He supplies strength for the weak,

He's available for the tempted and the tried.

He sympathises and He saves.

He foreguards and He guides,	He heals the sick,
He cleanses lepers,	He forgives sinners,
He discharges debtors,	He delivers the captives,
He defends the feeble,	He blesses the young,
He serves the unfortunate,	He regards the aged,
He rewards the diligent, and	He beautifies the meek.

Do you know HIM ??

Well, MY KING is the King of knowledge,
 He's the wellspring of wisdom,
 He's the doorway of deliverance,
 He's the pathway of peace,
 He's the roadway of righteousness,
 He's the highway of holiness,

He's the gateway of glory,
 He's the Master of the mighty,
 He's the Captain of the conquerors,
 He's the Head of the heroes, and
 He's the Leader of the legislators!
 He's the Overseer of the overcomers,
 He's the Governor of the Governors,
 He's the Prince of Princes, He's the King of Kings,
 and He's the Lord of Lords,
 That's MY KING.

His office is manifold, and	His promise is sure,
His light is matchless,	His goodness is limitless,
His mercy is everlasting, and	His love never changes.
His Word is enough,	His grace is sufficient,
His reign is righteous,	
His yoke is easy and	His burden is light.

Well, I wish I could describe Him to you, but He's indescribable
 He's incomprehensible, invincible, irresistible.
 I'm trying to tell you that the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain Him,
 let alone a man explain Him!
 You can't get Him out of your mind,
 You can't get Him of your hands,
 You can't outlive Him, and You can't live without Him!

Well, the Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found they couldn't stop Him.

Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him, Herod couldn't kill Him,
Death couldn't handle Him, and the grave couldn't hold Him,
That's MY KING !

He always has been, and He always will be
He had no predecessor, and he'll have no successor,
There was nobody before Him, and there will be no-one after Him.
You can't impeach Him, and He's not going to resign.
That's MY KING !

His is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory
Well, all power belongs to MY KING.
We can talk about black-power, and white-power, and yellow -power,
 but it's God's power alone.
His only is the power and the glory !
We are trying to get prestige and honour and glory for ourselves,
 but the glory is all His alone.
Yes, His is the power and the glory for ever, and ever, and ever,
 and ever
How long is that and ever and ever and ever and ever.

And when you get through with all of the for - ever's,
 then A M E N and A M E N !!

That's MY KING !

the touch of the Master's hand

J3

T'was battered and scarred and the Auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin
But he held it up with a smile

" What am I bidden good folks ?" he cried
" Who'll start the bidding for me ?"
" A dollar, a dollar, " then " Two ! Only Two ?"
" Two dollars, and who'll make it Three ?

Three dollars once, Three dollars twice
Going for Three " But No
From the room far back a grey - haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow,

Then wiping the dust from the old violin
And tightening the loose strings
He played a melody pure and sweet
As a carolling angel sings

The music ceased and the Auctioneer
With a voice that was quiet and low
Said " What am I bid for the old violin ?"
And he held it up with the bow

" A thousand dollars, and who'll make it Two ?
Two Thousand, and who'll make it Three ?
Three thousand once, Three thousand twice
And going and gone " said he

The people cheered but some of them cried
" We do not understand
What changes its worth ?" Swift came the reply

THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND

And many a man with life out of tune
And battered and scarred with sin
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd
Much like the old violin

A 'mess of pottage' a glass of wine
A game - and he travels on
He is "going" once and "going" twice
He's "going" and almost "gone"

But the Master comes and the foolish crowd
Never can quite understand
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought

By THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND

Myaree Welch

this little child

J4

Who would have thought that long ago so very far away
A little child would be born and in a manger lay
And who would have thought that this little child
 was born the **KING OF KINGS**
The son of just a carpenter but for whom the angels sing

And who would have thought that as he grew
 and with other children played
This child with whom they laughed and sang would die for them some day
And who would have thought this little child
 could make the blind man see
Feed the hungry make rich the poor and set the sinner free

Oh who would have thought this little child was who the prophets said
Would take away the sins of man and rise up from the dead
Oh I believe and I will always sing this little child is **THE KING**
Oh I believe and I will always sing
This little child He is **THE KING OF KINGS**

Many years have come and gone yet this world remains the same
Empires have been built and fallen only time has made a change
Nation against nation brother against brother
Men so filled with hatred killing one another

And over half the world is starving while the banner of decency is torn
Debating over disarmament killing children before they're born
And fools who march to win the right to justify their sin
Oh every nation that has fallen has fallen from within

Yet in the midst of this darkness there is a hope a light that burns
This little child the **KING OF KINGS** some-day will return
And I believe and I will always sing this little child is the **KING**
And I believe and I will always sing
This little child He is **THE KING OF KINGS**

And who would have thought this little child is who the prophets said
Will return to judge this world the living and the dead
Oh can't you see that long ago so very far away
This little child our **ONLY HOPE** **was born a KING that day**

section **M**

from the
Collectors
pen & PC

the 2 trees of the garden M1

THE TREE OF L I F E

At the CENTRE of the Garden

It was God's plan for Mankind to eat of The Tree of Life FIRST
Eternal Life was to be tasted BEFORE gaining Knowledge
But Man reversed God's order, and sought a Flesh EXPERIENCE First

PERMANENT

A TRUE Relationship Experience
with GOD Himself

True & REAL

Of the Innermost SPIRIT

Constant, LASTING

Not violent highs & lows

Blessed to Bless OTHERS

Helps others

Free

Liberating

Brings Freedom Totally

T R U T H

L I F E ABUNDANT

Both here and in Eternity

THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE

Forbidden to be touched

Some have thought that this
Tree of KNOWLEDGE
was in fact a DRUG Plant !
If so, it was
EATEN IN DISOBEDIENCE

A Temporary Experience Only

A "Buzz" Experience
A One-off Uplift

Hallucinations, Mental Experience

Of the Flesh, Carnal, Natural

A temporary Up-Lift only

Then despondency

Totally Selfish

Spreads trouble to others

Expensive, costly

Habit Forming, Bondage

Mind Altering

D E C E P T I O N

Eventually DEATH

Giving some thoughts

M2

There seems no greater contradiction can be found, than a mean or niggardly Christian - such a person is a "foreigner living inside a native's body"

For God so loved the world that He gave John 3 : 16
so says probably the Bible's greatest and most well known verse

Everywhere around us is the evidence of God's boundless gifts - creation in all its aspects shows the bountiful hand of a loving and thoughtful Creator God.

The Ocean teems with marine life.

The insect world - swarms of countless varieties; bird life and its flocks that can even darken the sky.

And the earth itself - mountains ablaze with endless carpets of flowers, plant-life, forests, fruit trees, vegetables - a myriad of provision surrounds us.

Plants and fruit for food, herbs for health, all needs anticipated and provided for by our Creator / God

And under the microscope, an ordinary drop of water reveals a miniature Universe of microbes and organisms essential for our existence.

Someone has estimated that there are 3 million types of living creatures on this planet, such variety, abundance, fullness, bounty

It has been said that there is no problem with the food supply on this wonderful planet - only in its distribution to hungry mouths
(Man's management is the problem here !)

Every good and perfect Gift has come down from the Father of Lights
James 1 : 17

And the Universe - as many planets and stars as there are grains of sands on all the beaches of all the world - limitless, infinite - the latest estimate of known space is 100 Billion Galaxies each with 100 Billion stars

Our God is revealed throughout all creation as a bountiful loving God of supply and provision.

And personally - ask any mature Christian about his provision and sustaining power.

But back to Christians and Giving

One Man of God said that he would never baptize anyone except their wallet went in with them !

A Christian's attitude towards Money reveals and displays their inward motivation.

GIVING is a grace that every Born-again Christian should display, constantly, (but within their means of course)

But wisdom is needed, and there are pitfalls - otherwise man's need is a morass that will drain all you have and are, plus your very self also !

From experience some TIPS

Give according to Need - not deserts

If God didn't deal with us like this, where would each one of us be !!

All of us are basically undeserving, but with needs.

The well-known Parable of the Good Samaritan *Luke 10 : 34*

He poured in the oil and left sufficient for his needs and also promised to meet any extra costs !

Give SIMPLY - *Give with simplicity* the Word says *Romans 12 : 8*

This basically means - without strings attached, without obligation

The 'world' when it gives, usually does so for recognition, or to incur an obligation that one day will be remembered and require some repayment

But God's giving is never like that.

We should never give to cause an obligation to the receiver.

If we do that, God invariably will not add His blessing to it.

Our MOTIVE for the act of giving is Vital and the Key.

We should give without expectation of response or reward.

GIVE and it shall be given unto You, good measure, pressed down and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom

Luke 6 : 38

But this cannot become our motive either
God doesn't function on the barter system !
We can't manoeuvre Him into our obligation, or get Him obliged or indebted to us.

To give in order to receive in return later, or as an investment into some sort of "spiritual bank account" is not valid with God.
He gives from Love only, and requires the same from us.
We receive everything from God by Faith we can't earn anything.

But there is a Spiritual Law that comes into operation when we give

The Law of Sowing and Reaping as real as the Law of Gravity

It is more Blessed to Give than to receive *Acts 20 : 35*

Countless Christian folk through History will testify to this.
Giving not only produces a good feeling within us, but God repays us in His own way and time it attracts Blessing in our lives.

But again, our motives must be right.
Gods measure of Giving is different from ours
He judges it from what we have left after we have given, not by the size of the gift !

The widow's mite was judged greater than the gifts of the rich
Luke 21 : 1 -4

She gave all her Living and God saw it, and approved.

And this covers the interminable question - how can I give when I haven't much to start with when I have big problems of my own, and such limited resources ?

Well, I have found that it is in these very times that God seems to test us. He is the God of endless provision, and these are just times of testing to strike at our materialistic natures, and to wean us from covetousness and greed.

If we can give at such times, our giving is a sacrifice, and He delights in it.

Remember the widow's cruse of oil and barrel of meal
1 Kings 17 : 8 - 16

Giving to God's Man first unlocked God's bottomless provision for her. Sacrificial Giving is special to God and He responds in His own miraculous way - just ask any of God's choicest servants, the Missionaries who give and pass on, the beneficiaries who are still able to give of their means, etc

Giving from little, honours God above our circumstances.

*Let us give not grudgingly, nor of necessity, for God loves a
CHEERFUL giver* *2 Corinthians 9 : 6 - 11*
Cheerfully ... has also been translated hilariously

If we have trouble getting our wallets out of our pockets forget it !
God will meet his people's needs elsewhere, and we will miss the Blessing !

So give freely, willingly, joyously, blessedly

Remember

The Water of Life is Free but the pipe-work costs Money !

An observation

There are basically only 2 types of People in this old World

GIVERS and TAKERS

The Generous in Spirit and deed and the others !

This in no way is against those deservedly on benefits, but those whose attitude in life is to grab and with-hold where it is due, who only know how to Take and Receive.

This is the broad but basic distinction between true Born-Again Christians and the world, they are (or should be) the Givers, the others the Takers that's how it always has been and always will be I would guess !

Concerning WILLS and ESTATES :

Someone has said :

Do your Giving while you're Living
Then You'll be Knowing where its Going !!

There's probably no greater occasion for disputes and bitterness amongst families than squabbles over wills and estates - some that go on for lifetimes and cause great rifts and divisions in families.

So - I would suggest ...

to make your Will CLEAR and FAIR, and EQUAL if at all possible.

Or - it could be the cause of much trouble for the family and relatives later on

Luke 12 : 13, 14

Jesus refused to be drawn into such squabbles over Estates

Covetousness and greed are the underlying motives in such disputes

Some one has calculated that

One sixth of Jesus words were about Money

One fourth of Jesus parables were concerning Money

Our attitude to God and His people can basically be judged from our attitude towards MONEY and how we spend our discretionary funds our Giving !

And God is Watching !

Finally

" What, Giving again," I asked in dismay,

" And must I keep Giving and Giving away ?"

" Oh No !" said the angel, looking me through,

" Just Give, till the Master stops Giving to you !"

of books

M3

From quite an early age, I developed a love for Books

Well, there was not much else to do on a farm in the country, sent to bed quite early, long winter nights, before the advent of Television and not much of interest on the radio. They filled a gap, and passed the time, and became an escape from the farms chores and monotonous routines and the school library was well stocked.

My imagination was aroused, and a fascination for places, and nature, and people and what made people "tick"

Fiction, novels, thrillers, mysteries, true stories, war stories, love stories, the classics, they were all devoured, some many many times, their characters known and loved, their plots admired.

Especially sagas chronicles of generations - to find a new one was a choice event to be savoured.

When I was sent to bed of a night, and the lights turned out, then a torch under the blankets sufficed ~ until mother heard a noise and the bed clothes were pulled back.

To read One book a day became the norm, light novels were read at up to a page a minute, 1000 words a minute was the calculation, speed reading was practised.

Then one day, I discovered that I couldn't find a fresh book on the shelves of the School library - I had read through the entire library !!!

Books, BOOKS, B O O K S they were a large part of my life

I started collecting them, and even became quite expert at pinching them from shops and libraries (to my later shame and recompense)

Then at 21 a surprising occurrence

After having had several close calls with death through my teenage years, twice from drowning, and several very near things on motorbikes, I resolved to find out once and for all if there really was a God, and made the immense discovery that He was for real, and did exist, and wonder of all wonders, that He had even written a book !!

Before this, while growing up, I had sometimes turned to a copy of the Bible, but found it dry, and hard work, which was odd for such an avid reader as myself.

Several times I had tried to read it through, but always it just petered out and I gave up.

But after this event at 21, of committing my life to Him, of being "Born again", I turned once again to a Bible.

Surprise, surprise, it was no longer boring and dull, hard-work.

Instead it was alive, its characters were real and became like friends

The words were not to be speed-read, but slowly thought upon, word by word.

They brought something never found in a book before - Conviction

It was like looking in a mirror that showed me myself and a true focus on this world.

My faith was increased by the reading of it, and a new field of interest was discovered ~ that of memorising favourite passages.

And with Scripture memory came, at last, the power to break old bad habits and patterns, mental and physical, hereditary and personal

Wow

Not just ink on paper, the words of this old book were alive, active and powerful.

It truly was the BOOK of BOOKS

The key, the difference, was that with other books, one could never get to talk to the Author, but with the Bible, the Author, the very Spirit of God, was present with me as I read, explaining its meaning, guiding me through it, speaking to my innermost part through its words.

Repeatedly, I turned to it when problems and crises arose and found exactly the passage that fitted and gave assurance, absolutely countless times after times through the decades.

It has become my greatest treasure my constant companion and guide.

Perhaps the greatest surprise was the realisation that as I read events and writings that had been penned thousands of years previously, that I

could easily identify with them - their thoughts and problems were identical to my own - mankind had not evolved at all, time is irrelevant. This had to be the greatest collection of stories, characters, plots, prophecies, some told in absolute detail and intimate truth. It was indeed a Library in itself, 66 books in fact, written over 1,500 years, penned by a large array of folk, from shepherds to doctors, fishermen to Kings, the poor and the rich, the richest and wisest man who ever lived (Solomon), the worlds greatest leader (Moses), and above all recording God's dealing with people down through the ages. All linked, a common thread, each united and building on the others

The WHY and the reason for Creation, that fills the gaps in Science

The worlds best seller of all time, translated into over 1,000 languages and dialects, one printed every second, every tick of the clock, a transformer of lives, nations and history

And then I met a old Man of about 90 odd years, who asked me "how many books has God written ?" I was puzzled, "well there's the Bible of course, but another book ?? "

" The Book of Nature." He exclaimed, " God's second Book !"

Of course !!

And I turned to Job, the oldest book in the whole Bible, and read the only portion where God actually had a long and direct conversation with a human being - and found that all Gods questions and references were to Nature and His Creation

Wow, WOW, Another book had been opened to me that fitted in precisely with the written pages of Scripture the infinite Book of Nature

I discovered that everything spiritual has a counterpart and an illustration in God's Creation

Little wonder that after this my accent shifted to "spiritual" accent books, and to appreciating this marvellous world of creation around us.

As the years have passed, my reading of other books has dwindled, and my reading of the Bible increased not that the others were bad, but just that they seem trivial by comparison.

Not many days in the last 45 years have passed without my reading from its pages, I must have worn out heaps of copies, and read dozens of versions, and bought literally thousands of copies to give away and pass on.

The BOOK Of BOOKS it is called

Or, as its name really means "THE B O O K " The BIBLE

Finally a tip If you're going to taste of its pages

Don't start at *Genesis*

Start instead at the New Testament book of *St John's Gospel* -

then *Matthew*, *Mark*, *Luke*, then *Psalms & Proverbs*,

then the rest of the New Testament,

and only then to *Genesis* etc

(The New Testament is the 'key' to opening the Old Testament)

A Treasure store awaits including the key to Eternal Life !

who are these people ? M4

Who exactly are these People ?

Who quietly go about their business in society.

Who seem serene in themselves, with some inner source of Peace

Who don't need to prove themselves, or require vindication, or take revenge or complain.

Somehow untroubled by life's turmoil, contented, unfettered, sustained, free.

Drawing on some unseen source, always with a smile and helping hand

With a cheerful word of wisdom and hope, appropriate for what ever occasion.

An act of love, consideration, kindness to any they meet.

Generous, dependable, loyal, faithful.

Always with sufficient time to listen or assist, sensitive, flexible.

Unreliant on the praise or favour of men, on whom flattery is wasted.

Who partake almost disinterestedly in the world's attractions, content within and somehow beyond themselves.

At peace with themselves and their fellowmen, hospitable, thankful, patient.

Marching to the beat of a unseen drummer, motivated for good.

Who after the briefest of introductions, immediately relate to others of a similar calling, across all barriers of race and culture, age, occupation, background and even language, far beyond natural bonds.

Members of a brotherhood, or indeed a family, that transcends all else.

Largely Un-noticed, mostly Un-heralded, often dis-regarded and ignored, even persecuted, yet somehow unshakeable in their basic convictions

Un-heard but by their singing.

And yet of humble but powerful influence in any situation.

Who folk unerringly know to turn to when perplexity or trouble occurs.

Just who are these people ? ?

These Salt of the Earth
 Followers of the Lamb

These **true BORN - AGAIN BELIEVERS**

freedom ...

M5

total & absolute freedom

GOD's ULTIMATE AIM FOR US

In the beginning when God created Adam & Eve He created them with complete and total freedom.

They were complete and perfect personalities, without hang-ups of any sort. completely F R E E with uninterrupted friendship and intimacy with God Himself

But they blew the simple test of obedience, and lost their freedom and their intimate relationship with their Creator

Jesus' mission to this earth was to recover for Mankind what Adam had lost. To restore our friendship relationship with God, and to recover total Freedom not just spiritually, but in every area of our life

After the re-birth experience, this is God's aim and endeavour in our Life. Continually He is seeking to release us from controls, bondages, hang-ups for us to become the full personality as Adam had been created

and the Truth shall make you Free

John 8 : 32

if the Son therefore shall make you Free, you shall be FREE indeed

John 8 : 36

where the Spirit of the Lord is there is LIBERTY

2 Corinthians 3 :17

*Jesus the Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to preach DELIVERANCE to the Captives
to set at LIBERTY them that are bruised*

Luke 4 : 18

FREEDOM & WHOLENESS IN EVERY AREA OF LIFE :
Spiritually, Emotionally, Mentally, Physically

PERSONAL -

Freedom from sin in all shapes, forms, and disguises

Freedom from Pride, Envy, Jealousy, Hate, Sloth, sins of the Heart

Freedom from drug dependency, nicotine addiction, artificial
stimulation,

alcohol dependency, swearing & profanity etc

Freedom from personal bad habits, from selfishness
Freedom from bad friendships, any controlling influences
Freedom from peer pressure, from pressure to conform
Freedom from what others think of us, of having to please others
Freedom from fears and neurosis, hang-ups
Freedom even from sickness
Financial freedom !!
Freedom from Materialism & possessions
Freedom from all spiritual bondages

RELIGIOUS -

FREEDOM from Religious Forms, Traditions & Rituals,
FREEDOM from "Church-ianity"
FREEDOM from following human leaders, however Charismatic
Freedom from Legalism, Formalism, from any & all "ism's"
Freedom from any of the Cults and doctrinal errors
From any beliefs and practices not Bible based, that do not bring
personal and spiritual freedom and benefit

ANCESTRAL -

Freedom from hereditary bad habits and generational traditions,
Freedom from attitudes handed down
Freedom from controlling relatives, the Matriarchal spirit
Freedom from Family spiritual influences - the Occult, Witchcraft

CULTURAL -

Freedom from the bad aspects of our own particular Culture
National and Racial Pride, Origins of Witchcraft, Occult
influences, Demonic influence

Most Wars are usually fought to gain Freedom
Freedom from Tyranny and Oppression
Mandela's best-selling Book is titled "Long walk to Freedom"
The Beatles last album was titled "Free As a Bird"

The Human Spirit craves and earnestly desires Freedom
As does the Animal and creature Kingdoms Visit a Zoo and observe
Why is Prison used as a punishment ?
And yet within it personal inner Freedom can still be experienced
(iron bars and fences do not a prison make, but our personal habits)

Freedom in Every Area and department of Life
is still God's primary aim for Us
To be Set FREE absolutely Totally
To Experience God's Love, Forgiveness, Mercy Personally
To SERVE, FOLLOW, and to WORSHIP GOD HIMSELF Alone
To be a Love-Servant of Jesus Christ
To be Led by the Spirit of God directly, individually, personally
Not Freedom from God, nor to please ourselves
Not Freedom to Sin, but Freedom from Sin
To serve God and Others acceptably,

This is what God seeks to achieve in us - Total Personal freedom
through our continuing long-term Christian experience
Through every hill and valley experience

To Give and to share this FREEDOM with others Freely

D A R E T o B e F R E E

Freely You have Received, Freely Give Matthew 10 : 8

P A S S I T O N

my Special PRAYER for you, my Brother

M6

Dear G O D, Father, Dad

How I thank you for my special Friend and fellow Pilgrim
Thankyou for his Faith and Trust in You, his Relationship with You

Touch his Spirit, His Soul, and his Body, His Family and His Friends,
His every problem and circumstance

Forgive his Past, Heal his memories, Reveal his future in You,
Anoint him, Bless him, Cleanse his mind, Forgive him totally,
Heal him, Deliver him, Keep him, Preserve Him,
Bring liberty to every area of his life and being

Show him that he is accepted in the Beloved, that he is complete in You,
That his Past, his present, and his future are held by you alone

Be unto him, His Alpha and Omega, Adviser, Advocate, Comforter,
Counsellor, Constant Companion, Defender, Deliverer, Fortress,
Guide unto death, Goodness, Healer, Helper, Hiding Place, High Priest,
High Tower, Intercessor, Keeper, Lamp and Light, LORD and Master,
Paraclete, Praise, Protector, Redeemer, Rock, Sanctifier, Saviour,
Shepherd, Song, Strengtheners, Stand-by, Source, Sun & Shield,
Supporter, Sustainer, His ALL In ALL

Even as David the Psalmist and countless others through the ages have
found You so

Be to him, whatever he needs You to be, whenever he needs You to be it

Thankyou for Jesus, Your only Son His Saviour and Redeemer

Now unto You who can do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that any can
ask or think

Because you are GOD of Very Gods, Creator of the Universe
In whom we all live, and move and have our being

I trust him to your eternal and beneficial care
Bless him Now and Always

Amen and Amen

My Confession

M7

I am a child of God by faith in Jesus Christ

My sins are forgiven, my past forgotten, I have been born-again by the Spirit of God, redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb

I possess Eternal Life through the knowledge of God, Christ now lives in me, which is my hope of Glory

I am accepted in the Beloved, God is my Father, Jesus is my Saviour, the Holy Spirit is my Guide and Comforter

My old nature is dead, my mind is renewed, I am led by the Spirit of God, serving Him in perfect liberty

I am drinking at the fountain of Living Water daily, feeding on the Bread of Life and His living written Word

My affections are now set on things above

I am free from condemnation, guilt, fear, and ancestral bondages,

I am a Love-slave of my God

I have a constant companion, one who will never leave nor forsake me, my ever-present Friend and Shield in any circumstance I may meet

The Living God is my Rock and my Fortress, my Deliverer and my strength my Helper and my High tower in whom I continually find refuge in time of need over our common enemy, the prince of this world, over his accusations and am more than a conqueror

I have the wisdom from above, the mind of Christ, sufficient courage and joy to meet every situation that may arise, my strength shall be as my days

I have the message of Salvation and hope within my heart, to share with all I meet on this pilgrim journey

I am blessed with the blessings of Abraham, in the store-house and all that I set my hand to

My hope and trust is in God alone, my goal is the eternal city

I have decided to follow Jesus until I see Him face to face

I am a follower and a disciple of Jesus Christ My Lord and Master

my story - typical of many.

M8

Some years ago now, the Convenor of a Bible in Schools programme at a local school visited our church to appeal for more volunteer teachers.

I was amazed to hear that every year the shortage of volunteers in this city, ran as high as 500 !

Her appeal was well heard, but like many others I had never considered this area of ministry. I had never even taken a Sunday School class !

Yet the need was urgent, especially for male volunteers as many of the children came from solo Mum homes and have largely female teachers at school thus missing out on a male role model.

But what could I do ?

I was running my own busy professional office.

I was very involved in my local church and public speaking wasn't my strong suit. On top of that I had a teenage family and had opened our home to other teenagers in need of help I had heaps of reasons to side step this one !

And yet I couldn't put aside the real and urgent need.

As I mulled it over I realised that maybe I could fit in an hour off work a week and maybe I would give it a try just for a while just to see what happens ..

That was 20 years ago and it was a significant turning point in my life.

As I look back over the years I have to admit that sometimes the discipline isn't that easy to maintain and the preparation doesn't just happen.

BUT the rewards are mighty !

Every week there is 30 or so kids who are really pleased to see me and we've got to know each other well.

I reckon I've learnt as much from them as they have from me.

Just for me to be there, an ordinary everyday guy declaring his belief in God is a statement in itself.

And the heart warming stories I could tell of over the years, the questions I've had to answer, the chats we've had.,

At the end of one class soon after I had begun, a little girl put up her hand and asked "Who is God" ?

Phew ! How do you answer THAT simply, in one minute, to a 10 year old ?

Well, I guess I've been trying to answer her and her classmates ever since.

It's like being a missionary in your own backyard !!

N A M E S ! M9

So, what's in a N A M E anyway ????

But N A M E S REALLY ARE IMPORTANT

Each of us has a unique relationship with those around us

To each person we relate slightly differently - we are just one person, and yet

We are someone's Son or Daughter, to another their Mother or Father, Sister or Brother, Aunt or Uncle, Cousin, Nephew or Niece, Neighbour, Associate, Work-mate, Boss or Employee, Co-Worker, Mate, Companion, Friend, or just a simple acquaintance.

Each name reveals our own special and unique relationship with that person alone.

Just so with Jesus the Son of GOD Himself

He has a long list of his Functions & relationships with us

Just look at some of His Names and Titles that the New Testament declares and gives to HIM

100 Names in all

An Awesome incredible list

Each one reveals another facet of His Special relationship with us

We can trust Him in whatever circumstance we find ourselves in !!

Jesus has a Function, Title appropriate for our every situation & need

He is our ALL IN ALL Totally

P T L

J E S U S Name above all Names

The Second Adam	Lord of Glory
Advocate	Lord of Lords
Alpha & Omega	Lord our Righteousness
Amen	Maker & Preserver of all things
Author & Finisher of our Faith	The Man
Author of Eternal Salvation	The Second Man
Beginning of the Creation of God	Mediator
Blessed & only Potentate	The MESSIAH
Branch	Mighty God
Bread of God	Morning Star
Bread of Life	Nazarene
Captain of our Salvation	Our Passover
The Holy Child	Priest for ever
The CHRIST	Prince
Corner-stone	Prince of Life
Counsellor	Prince of Peace
Son of David	Prince of the Kings of the Earth
Day - Spring	Prophet
Day - Star	Propitiation
Deliverer	Redeemer
Desire of all Nations	Righteous
Emmanuel	Root & Off-spring of David
Everlasting Father	Ruler of Israel
Faithful Witness	Same yesterday, today, and For-ever
First & Last	Saviour
GOD	Shepherd & Bishop of Souls
God blessed for ever	Shepherd in the Land
Governor	Shepherd of the Sheep
Head over all things	The Chief Shepherd
High Priest	The Good Shepherd
The most Holy	Shiloh
Holy One	Son
Horn of Salvation	My beloved Son (chosen)
Image of GOD	Only begotten Son
JESUS	Son of David
Just One (Righteous)	Son of GOD
King of Israel	Son of Man
King of The Jews	Son of the Highest (Most High)

King of Kings
Lamb of GOD
The Life
Bread of Life
Light of the World
True light
Lion of the Tribe of Judah
Living Stone
LORD
LORD GOD ALMIGHTY
Lord of All

Star
The Bright & Morning Star
Sun of Righteousness
The Truth
The Vine
The Vine
The Way
The Faithful & True Witness
Wonderful
The Word
The Word of God

J E S U S - The Name at which every knee will bow, one day

G O D

Our Creator, Heavenly Father

He has revealed Himself to us by several names

Each one with significance

Each one portraying another facet of His character, person

Each one revealing another facet of His relationship with us

Another facet of His All - sufficiency to us and our every circumstance

David, the Psalmist throughout the Psalms

Reveals his own list of names for God

Each one showed how He had met his need in all his many and varied different circumstances and adventures, trials and testings

The list is awesome

And shows just how close David was to his God

And how God said that David was indeed " a man after His own heart "

He describes God as :

Good, ready to forgive, plenteous in Mercy to all those who call on Him

Full of compassion, gracious, longsuffering, merciful, slow to anger

Some of the names that David referred to his God by
in the 150 Psalms

My Buckler (Small personal shield with handle)

Confidence of all the ends of the Earth

My Deliverer My Defence

My Exceeding Joy My Expectation

My Fortress My Glory

My God My Goodness

God of Jacob, of Abraham, of Israel

God of Glory God of My Mercy

God of My Salvation God of My Strength

God that Performs all things for me

My strong Habitation, where I continually resort

The Health of My Countenance

My Help, My Helper

My Hiding Place My High Tower

My Hope The Horn of my Salvation

My House of Defence to Save me

My King The King of Glory

O King for ever The King of all the earth

The Lifter of my Head

My Light

O Lord God of Hosts

O Lord God of Truth

O Lord My God O Lord, our Lord

O Most High Maintainer of my lot

My Portion for ever My Redeemer

My Refuge, My Strong Refuge

My Rock, My Strong Rock

My Salvation My Shelter

My Shepherd My Shield

My Song

My Strength The Strength of my Life, of My Heart

My Strong Tower from the enemy

My Trust from my Youth

My Very Present Help in Trouble

50 Names in all

G O D was revealed through his Names

English Form	Hebrew	Meaning
-----	-----	-----
GOD	El, Elah, Elohim	The Strong One To swear, to bind = Faithful
LORD	Jehovah	The Self - Existent One who reveals Himself
Lord	Adon or Adonai	Master (Husband)
Almighty God	El Shaddai	The All-Sufficient one Nourisher, Strength-giver
Most High God	El Elyon	Highest
Everlasting God	El Olam	From Everlasting to Everlasting
LORD God	Jehovah Elohim	The Eternal "I AM"
Lord GOD	Adonai Jehovah	Possessor of Heaven & Earth
LORD of Hosts	Jehovah Sabaoth	The King of Glory All divine & Heavenly Power

This 3 x 3 grouping is not coincidental but basic
It reflects the Trinity of the Godhead

Each name answers to some need of His people
Showing that our true resource is in God Himself

Compound Names

Jehovah - Jireh	The Lord will	Provide
Jehovah - Rapha	The Lord who	Heals
Jehovah - Nissi	The Lord our	Banner
Jehovah - Shalom	The Lord our	Peace
Jehovah - Ra.ah	The Lord my	Shepherd
Jehovah - Tsidkenu	The Lord my	Righteousness
Jehovah - Shammah	The Lord is	Present

The HOLY SPIRIT

or THE HOLY GHOST

The Third PERSON of the Godhead

He also is revealed through His various Names :

Comforter	Counsellor,	Energiser
	Helper	Intercessor
	Strengtheners	Stand-by

Parakletos One called alongside to Help

Advocate Legal Representative

The Spirit of Truth, Wisdom & Revelation, Knowledge, Counsel & Might, Judgement, Burning, Grace & Supplication, Prophecy, Anointing, Power, Glory

The Spirit of God, the Father,	The Spirit of Jesus
Breath of God Life-giving,	
The Still Small Voice within	God's personal voice to us

Symbols of The Holy Spirit are :

Oil,	Anointing,	Consecration,	Healing,	balm
Water,	Life-giving,	Washing,	Cleanliness,	Fruitfulness
Wind,	Breath	Invisible,	Life-giving	
Fire,	Holiness,	Purifying,	Judgement	
A Dove,	Purity,	Gentleness,	Beauty,	Peace
A Seal,	Ownership,	Genuineness,	Security	
A Pledge	A deposit,	a down-payment		
Enduement	Baptism,	Clothing		

HIS work To convince, convict, convert

Our NAMES

M10

GREETINGS..... to all those fellow believers who are

Brothers (and sisters) In Christ, Brethren,
Fellow Pilgrims,
Salt of the Earth,
Lights of the World,
Redeemed, Purchased, Bought with a price, Forgiven, Cleansed,
Called with a Holy calling, Chosen, Sanctified,
Overcomers, Conquerors,
Kings & Priests to our God,
Followers of the Way, The Lamb
Children of the Most High GOD,
Children of FAITH, Born from above,
Possessors of a Blessed Hope, & Eternal Life,
Witnesses to those around,
Ambassadors for Christ,
Sometimes despised & scorned, disregarded, ignored, rejected
..... (so what !)
Fellow sufferers with Him, following in His steps
Spirit filled & Endowed, Fruit bearing, Anointed,
Forward looking, Past forgetting,

HIS & only HIS till Eternity comes

Get the message, about exactly WHO / WHAT we are ... in Him

WOW, WOW, WHEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

That's YOU and ME EEEEEEE !

section **P**

POEMS

from the past

CAT'S IN THE CRADLE P1

My child arrived the other day,
He came to the world in the usual way,
But there were planes to catch, and bills to pay
He learned to walk while I was away,
And he was talking before I knew it
And as he grew he'd say, "I'm going to be like you Dad,
You know, I'm going to be like You "

Chorus

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
The Little Boy Blue and the man in the moon
"When're You coming home Dad ?" " Well, I don't know when,
But we'll get together then, son, You know we'll have a good time - then"

Well, my son turned ten just the other day,
He said, " Thanks for the ball, Dad, come on, let's play,
Can You teach me to throw ?" I said " Not today,
I've got a lot to do. " He said " That's O K. "
And he walked away, but his smile never dimmed.
It said, " I'm going to be like him, Yeah,
You know, I'm going to be like him. "

Well, he came home from college just the other day
So much like a man that I just had to say,
" Son, I'm proud of you, can you sit for a while ?"
He shook his head and said with a smile,
" What I'd really like Dad, is to borrow the keys,
See You later, can I have them please ?"
" When're you coming home, son ?"
" I don't know when, but we'll get together then Dad,
You know we'll have a good time then. "

Well, I've long since retired and my son's moved away,
And I called him up just the other day.
I said, " I'd sure like to see you, if you don't mind "
He said, " I'd love to Dad, if I can find the time,
But you see my new jobs a hassle and the kids have the flu
But its sure been nice talking to you Dad, Its been nice talking to you."

And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me
He'd grown up like me, my boy was just like me.
And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
The Little Boy Blue and the man in the moon
" When're you coming home son ?" " Well I don't know when
But we'll get together then Dad You know we'll have a good time then."

Sandy and the late Harry Chaplin

punchy poems !

P2

If on the sculptured marble you rely
Pity that worth like his should ever die.
If credit to the real life you give,
Pity a wretch like him should ever live

Dare to be a Daniel
Dare to stand alone
Dare to have a purpose firm and
Dare to make it known

Oh Evolution !!
Once I was a tadpole, with a tail long and thin,
Then I was a bull frog, with my tail tucked in,
Then I was a monkey, hanging from a tree,
Now I am a Professor, with a P.H.D

When we all get to Heaven
That will indeed be Glory
But to get along with the Saints on Earth
Ahhhhh , that's another Story !!

Sometimes exhausted with toil and endeavour
I wish I could sleep, for ever and ever
But then this reflection my longing allays
I shall be doing that one of these days !!!!

Put up in a place where its easy to see
The cryptic admonishment T T T
When you feel depressingly slowly you climb
It's well to remember **THINGS TAKE TIME !!**

Problems worthy of attack
prove their worth by hitting back

The road to Wisdom ? Well its plain
And simple to express

Err
and Err
and Err again,
But Less
and Less
and Less

He worked by day and toiled by night
he gave up play and much delight,
Dry books he read, new things to learn,
he forged ahead, success to earn,
He plodded on, with faith and pluck,
and when he won ~~ they called it ... LUCK!

One ship drives East, and another drives West,
with the selfsame winds that blow
'Tis the set of the sails, and not the gales,
that decides the way to go
Like the winds of the sea, are the ways of fate,
as we voyage along through life
'Tis the set of the soul, that decides its goal,
and not the calm nor strife

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win but you think you can't,
it's almost certain you won't.
Life's battles don't always go
to the stronger or faster man,
but sooner or later the man who wins,
is the man who believes he can

ANYWAY

People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.

Love them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies.

Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

Be good anyway.

Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable.

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

Build anyway.

People need help but will attack you if you help them.

Help them anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Kent Keith, made famous by Mother Teresa

Kent Keith originated this poem in 1968, and

Mother Teresa placed it on her children's home in Calcutta in a slightly different version.

As a result, many have attributed it to Mother Teresa.

I'm on a COMMITTEE

P3

Oh, give me your pity, I'm on a Committee
Which means that from morning to night,
We attend and amend, and contend and defend
Without a conclusion in sight.

We confer and concur, we defer and demur
and reiterate all of our thoughts.
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda
And consider a load of reports.

We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose,
and the points of procedure are fun ;
But though various notions are brought up as motions,
There's terribly little gets done.

We resolve and absolve, but we never dissolve,
Since its out of the question for us.
What a shattering pity to end our committee
Where else could we make such a fuss !!

COMMITTEES

Where Minutes are kept and Hours are lost !!

the twins !

P4

In form and feature, face and limb,
I grew so like my Brother,
That folks got taking me for him,
And each for one another.

When quite a little infant child,
Our troubles did begin,
For when I called for nourishment,
Was given to the other Twin.

One day to make the matters worse
Before our names were fixed,
As we were getting bathed by Nurse
We got completely mixed,

And thus you see, by fates decree,
or rather Nurse's whim,
My brother John got christened "Me"
And I got Christened "Him"

They gave me Johnny's medicine
When he came down in spots,
And when they called the Doctor
T'was me who got the Pox

This fatal likeness even dogged,
Our footsteps when at School,
For I was always being flogged,
'Cos he turned out a fool

Our resemblance even turned the tide
of my domestic life,
For somehow, my intended bride
Became my brother's wife.

Year after Year, and still the same,
Absurd mistakes went on,
And when I died, the neighbours came
And buried brother John.

I WANT TO GO TO MORROW

P5

a small town just North East of Cincinnati, USA, called Morrow
named for its founder Cal Morrow, State Senator
and the supposed problem someone had trying to get there

As I journeyed through the States, about a Year ago
I spied a little town called MORROW, in the State of OHIO
A pleasant little town, a chance not to be missed,
I'd like to go to Morrow, no need much to be pressed

So, I went down to the Station, and applied,
For the tips concerning MORROW, not expecting to be guyed
Said I "I want to go to Morrow, can I go today,
and get to MORROW by tonight, if there is no delay?"

Says He to me, "Now let me see, if I have heard you right,
You want to go to MORROW, and come back to-morrow night.
You should have started yesterday, to get to MORROW by tonight,
And then return to-morrow," Now wasn't that a fright!

"The train today to MORROW left at morning light,
And then returns to-morrow, now have you got that right,
You should have gone to MORROW yesterday, and back today,
For the train today to MORROW, is a mile upon its way!"

I was so disappointed, I just sat me down in tears,
The train had gone to MORROW, and had left me standing there
I had missed the train to MORROW, there was no other way,
I didn't go to MORROW, so I guess I'll go today!

Lew Sully 1902

Upon Westminster bridge P6

COMPOSED UPON WESTMINSTER BRIDGE

SEPTEMBER 3, 1802

[Composed July 31, 1802.- Published 1807.]

EARTH has not anything to show more fair
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty

This City now doth, like a garment, wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,

Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air,

Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep !

The river glides at his own sweet will
Dear God - the very houses seem asleep
And all that mighty heart is lying still !

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

You'll Be a Man, My Son P7

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breath a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings - nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run -
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - which is more - **you'll be a Man my son!**

Rudyard Kipling

quotable QUOTES

P8

1

Good men must do their good deeds in the minute particular
Any who talk of the general welfare ... are scoundrels, flatterers and
rogues
William Blake

2

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people
can change the World
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has
Margaret Mead - Sociologist

3

Seven deadly Sins

POLITICS	without	PRINCIPLE
WEALTH	without	WORK
PLEASURE	without	CONSCIENCE
KNOWLEDGE	without	CHARACTER
COMMERCE	without	MORALITY
SCIENCE	without	HUMANITY
WORSHIP	without	SACRIFICE

From a wall in Ghandi's Memorial - New Delhi

4 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS

1	ZEAL	without	KNOWLEDGE
2	KNOWLEDGE	without	WISDOM
3	ABILITY	without	CHARACTER
4	RESPONSIBILITY	without	FAITHFULNESS
5	GIFTS	without	LOVE
6	FELLOWSHIP	without	LOYALTY
7	TALENT	without	CONSECRATION
8	AUTHORITY	without	COMPASSION
9	RICHES	without	SHARING
10	LIFE	without	JESUS

5

If there are other planets inhabited

Then they've made this one the Lunatic Asylum !!"

George Bernard Shaw

6 **John Wesley's RULE OF LIFE**

Do all the Good You can

By all the Means You can

In all the Ways You can

In all the Places You can

At all the Times You can

As Long as ever You can

7 **M A R R I A G E :**

6 Words that will save a Marriage any & every Marriage :

I Was Wrong, I am Sorry

Another 6 words that will heal any and every Marriage :

I Need You, I Love You

Billy Graham

8 **TROUBLE**

After 50 years in ministry, I've concluded that all Church trouble comes down to one question - Who's in charge ?

A Friend of Bob Gass

9

Disturb us Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,
when our dreams have all come true, because we have dreamed too little
when we arrive safely, because we have sailed too close to the shore

Disturb us Lord, when with the abundance of things that we possess,
we have lost our thirst for the waters of life
having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity
and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the
New Heaven to dim

Disturb us Lord, to dare more boldly to venture on wider seas
where storms will show your mastery
where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars

We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes,
and to push into the future in strength, courage, hope and Love

Sir Francis Drake

10

The whole history of the Church is one long story of this tendency to
settle down on this earth and to become conformed to this world, to find
acceptance and popularity here and to eliminate the element of conflict
and of pilgrimage. That is the trend and the tendency of everything.
Therefore outwardly, as well as inwardly, pioneering is a costly thing.

It is a costly and a suffering thing to come up against the religious
system that has "settled down" here.

It is far more costly than coming up against the naked world itself.

The religious system can be more ruthless and cruel and bitter; it can be
actuated by all those mean things, contemptible things, prejudices and
suspicious things that you will not even find in decent people in the world.
It is costly to go on to the heavenlies, it is painful; but it is the way of
the pioneer, and it has to be settled that that is how it is!

The Christian way is not by effort, and not by struggle; not merely by
trying to put into practice certain maxims, or by trying to attain to a
certain measure; but from beginning to end, and all together, it is
matter of knowing the Lord Jesus within.

T Austin Sparks

section **S**

SONGS

The NATIONAL ANTHEM of NEW ZEALAND S1

God of Nations at Thy feet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
Guard Pacific's triple star
Make her praises heard afar,

In the bonds of love we meet,
God defend our free land.
From the shafts of strife and war,
God defend New Zealand.

Men of every creed and race,
Asking Thee to bless this place,
From dissension, envy, hate,
Make our country good and great,

Gather here before Thy face,
God defend our free land.
And corruption guard our state,
God defend New Zealand.

Peace, not war, shall be our boast,
Make us then a mighty host,
Lord of battles in Thy might,
Let our cause be just and right,

But, should foes assail our coast,
God defend our free land.
Put our enemies to flight,
God defend New Zealand.

Let our love for Thee increase,
Give us plenty, give us peace,
From dishonour and from shame,
Crown her with immortal fame,

May Thy blessings never cease,
God defend our free land.
Guard our country's spotless name,
God defend New Zealand.

May our mountains ever be
Make us faithful unto Thee,
Guide her in the nations' van,
Working out Thy glorious plan,

Freedom's ramparts on the sea,
God defend our free land.
Preaching love and truth to man,
God defend New Zealand.

The National Anthem ...

but more like ... a PRAYER

I dreamed of S2

the Great Judgement morning

I dreamed that the great judgement morning,
Had dawned, and the trumpet had blown,
I dreamed that all nations had gathered,
To judgement before the white throne.

From the throne came a bright shining angel,
And he stood on the land and the sea,
And swore with his hand raised to heaven,
That time was no longer to be.

Chorus And oh what weeping and wailing,
 As the lost were told of their fate,
 They cried for the rocks and the mountains,
 They prayed but their prayers were too late.

The rich man was there but his money,
Had melted and vanished away,
A pauper stood there in the judgement,
His debts were too many to pay.

The great man was there, but his greatness,
When death came, was left far behind,
The angel that opened the records,
No trace of his greatness could find.

Chorus

The widow was there and the orphan,
God heard and remembered their cries,
No sorrow in heaven forever,
God wiped all the tears from their eyes.

The gambler was there and the drunkard,
And they who had sold them the drink,

With people who gave them the license,
Together in hell they did sink.

chorus

The mortal man came to the judgement,
But self righteousness would not do,
For the men who had crucified Jesus,
Had passed off as mortal men too.

And the souls that had put off salvation,
Not tonight I'll get saved by and by,
No time now to think of religion,
At last they had found time to die !

what God HAS promised S3

God has not promised skies always blue
Flower - strewn path ways all our lives through.
God has not promised - sun without rain
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
God has not promised we shall not know
Toil and temptation, trouble and woe

He has not told us we shall not bear
Many a burden, many a care
But God has promised strength for the day
Rest for the labourer, light for the day
Grace for the trials. help from above
Unfailing sympathy, undying love

Where by are given to us - exceeding great and precious promises
2 Peter 1 ; 4

J O K E S

Z1

some of my favourites

Tried and tested repeatedly ... as relatives, friends and acquaintances will tell you !!! Heard this one ????

A

A wife was fed up with her husband's heavy drinking problem
She decided to give him the fright of his life in an effort to shock him off it

She hired a costume, horns and cape, and waited for him as he staggered homeward along the road after a binge

Out from the darkness she leapt

" I am the devil, and I have come to claim my own" she loudly announced

" Glad to meet you" He replied " I'm married to your sister" !!!!!

B

Two men were looking at a grave, the headstone inscription of which read

HERE LIES JOHN SMITH, A LAWYER AND AN HONEST MAN

" Must be three people buried there - not just the chap I knew " said one

C

It was a glorious day, and a very, very keen golfer was in the middle of a round on the local course, when a funeral hearse and procession went by. The very, very keen golfer stopped, bowed his head, and closed his eyes respectfully as the cortege passed by

"Why, that's a mighty fine thing to do " exclaimed his partner

" Well, Yes, I guess it was " the very keen Golfer replied, " but it was the least I could do, after all, we had been married for 30 years " !!

D

President Bush was travelling through Texas with his entourage when he spied a jet boat on a lake with 2 white men towing a coloured youth water skier.

He stopped, waited until the boat came to shore and shook the men's hands, praised them profusely "Why, that's the finest thing for race relations that I've seen around here in a long time," he bumbled

After he had gone, the two men looked at each other, one said
"What was all that about doesn't he know anything at all about
crocodile hunting ?? "

E

A really tough Regimental Sergeant Major, not known for his tact or
kindness, was taken to task by his superiors, to soften up !

The next time in an effort to show it, he assembled the entire
Regiment

" At..ten..shun " he roared

" All those with mothers living, take one step forward NOT YOU
SMITH !! "

F

If you want to spread news, there are 3 ways

Tel e phone

Tel e graph

Tell a Woman !!!!!

G

A scene in a local Old Folks Home

2 old jokers were sitting in the lounge when an old girl stalker flashed
past the doorway

"Did you see that" exclaimed one "what do you reckon ?"

"Well" replied the other "what ever it was, it could do with a good
ironing "

H

Two old men talking about dying and getting into Heaven

One said

"I'm told that when you get to the Pearly Gates and meet St Peter,
you'll be asked 2 questions - Who is Jesus Christ and what has he done "
The correct answer is - He was the Saviour, and he died for our sins -
OK ?"

Well the other chap didn't quite have it all together, and said "How am
I supposed to remember all that ? "

"I know" said the first man "write it on the inside of the top of your
trousers, and you can peek inside and read it out when you get there "

"O K" so that's what he did

Eventually the chap died and sure enough at the Pearly Gates, St Peter stopped him and asked him the 2 questions - Who was Jesus Christ and what had he done ?

The chap peeked inside the top of his trousers and replied
"He was a JOCKEY, and he rode for CANTERBURY !!!!! "

I

A burglar was raiding a house

He had his hand on the Video when a voice came from the dining room

"Jesus is watching"

He hastily let go, and was about to grab the TV instead, when the voice spoke again - "Jesus is watching ! "

He went into the Dining room to investigate, and spied a parrot in a cage

"I get it, that was you " he said "Your name is Jesus "

"Oh No " the parrot replied .."I'm John the Baptist, Jesus is the Rotweiler right behind you !!

J

Why use a BIG word when a diminutive one will
do ??????????????????

K

Like the chap who was selling an old horse

The buyer asked "Tell me true, is there anything wrong with the animal ?"

"Well, he don't look too good actually," said the seller

"Oh, his appearance doesn't really bother me," says the buyer,

And the deal was done, off he goes with his new horse

Next day he arrives back with the nag "The horse is jolly well BLIND " he exclaims

"Well, I told you he don't look too good! "

L

Then there was the horse offered for sale by a Preacher

"There's only one thing with this nag, having had a preacher rider all these years, he's got used to different commands, instead of Giddy-Up you've got to say Praise the Lord, and instead of Whoa / Stop you've got to say Amen"

"Oh that shouldn't be too difficult I reckon,"
The deal was done, and off the new owner went

He was trotting along, and there was a cliff coming up rapidly
"Whoa" he cried, but the horse kept on going, "Whoa, Stop,"
Then he remembered, not Stop or Whoa, but AMEN
"AMEN, AMEN " he cried, the Horse stopped right on the edge of
the Cliff
"Well, PRAISE THE LORD " He shouted*****####

And one for the Children....

M
The scene - deep in an African jungle

The old Lion walked majestically through the jungle

He came by a Leopard
"Hey Spots - who's the King of the Jungle ??" he asked
"Why, you is, Big Daddy, You is the King of the Jungle " he
replied
"Very Good " said the Lion and on he walked

He came by a Zebra
"Hey Stripes - who's the King of the Jungle ??" he asked
"Why, you is, Big Daddy, You is the King of the Jungle " he
replied
"Very Good " said the Lion and on he walked

He came by an Elephant
"Hey Trunks - Who's the King of the Jungle ??" he asked
The Elephant looked down at the Lion, then reached down and picked up
the lion with his trunk, threw him up in the air, caught him, dashed him
on the ground, picked him up again and thrashed him against a tree,
stomped on him, jumped on him, and generally knocked the living
daylights out of him !!

"Why, " gasped the Lion
"There's no need to get mad, just because you don't know the answer !!"

N

Mary Clancy goes up to Father O'Grady after his Sunday morning service, and she's in tears.

He says, "So what's bothering you, Mary my dear?"

She says, "Oh, Father, I've got terrible news. My husband passed away last night."

The priest says, "Oh, Mary, that's terrible. Tell me, Mary, did he have any last requests?"

She says, "That he did, Father, that he did "

The priest says, "Well, what did he ask, Mary?"

She says, "He said, 'Please Mary, put down that damn gun.'"

O

A drunk staggers into a Catholic Church, enters a confessional booth, sits down, but says nothing. The Priest coughs a few times to get his attention but the drunk just sits there.

Finally, the Priest pounds three times on the wall.

The drunk mumbles, "Ain't no use knocking, there's no paper on this side either."

P

It was speech time at the wedding

The Father of the bride was speaking, and went on, and on, and on, and on, and on

Finally the best man, in desperation, gestured to get his attention, but to no avail

So, he reached for the gavel, and tried to give him a nudge with it

Unfortunately, he missed, but struck the man next to him square on the side of his head

As the man slowly dropped to the floor, he was heard to say -

"Hit me again, I can still hear him"

Q

Paddy had been aware that he wasn't the best husband in the world, so when a friend advised him that he needed to be more assertive in his marriage, he went straight home and told Maggie that he was "the head of the house"

Well, he didn't see her for some time

After 3 days, he could see her just a little out of his left eye !!

R

A visitor to New York enquired of a local, how to get to Carnegie Hall
The reply came "You practise, Man ... you practise "

S

The phone rang at the pub one evening
A slurred voice asked "What time do you open ?"
"10 O'Clock" was the answer "OK"
The phone went again next morning
The slurred voice asked again "What time do you open ?"
"10 O'Clock" was the answer " why cant you wait to get in ?"
"Who wants to get in ?" came the slurred voice " I want to get out"

T

I was barely sitting down when I heard a voice from the other stall saying:

'Hi, how are you ?"

Now, I'm not the type to start a conversation in the men's restroom but I don't know what got into me, so I answered, somewhat embarrassed,

"Doing just fine!"

And the other guy says ... "So what are you up to?"
What kind of question is that?

At that point, I'm thinking this is too bizarre so I say: 'Uhhh, I'm like you, just traveling!"

At this point I am just trying to get out as fast as I can when I hear another question. "Can I come over?"

OK, this question is just too weird for me but I figured I could just be polite and end the conversation. I tell him "No I'm a little busy right now"

Then I hear the guy say nervously .

" Listen, I'll have to call you back. There's an idiot in the other stall who keeps answering all my questions !"

OLD AGE :

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.

Will Rogers

Don't worry about avoiding temptation as you grow older, it will avoid you

Winston Churchill

Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty, but everything else starts to wear out,

fall out or spread out.

Phyllis Diller

By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere.

Billy Crystal

An old proverb

"Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves, for they shall never cease to be amused."

Not a joke but a True story about Winston Churchill ??

He was the Prime Minister of England, in the 1940's, whose deeds and inspiration epitomised the English bull-dog attitude that got England through the Second World War and the fearful days of the German Blitz.

He was supposed to speak at one of the top English Universities

But, with the pupils all assembled and waiting, he didn't arrive on time
A quarter of an hour went past, then half an hour, then three quarters of an hour, one hour, and the time dragged on, the boys impatiently waiting, waiting, waiting

Then he appeared, and the boys arose and clapped in relief

He began to speak in his unique deep rasping tones

Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
Never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never,
never, never, NEVER, **N E V E R**, **G I V E U P** "

And he sat down

To a totally stunned audience, that would NEVER forget that occasion

His most memorable Speech ever ?? !!