

II Cor. 3:17 -- "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is..."

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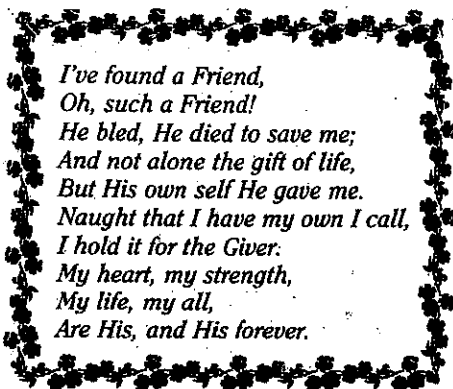
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**IF WE PUT THE WORD "BUT"  
AFTER GOD, THERE IS PARAL-  
YSIS. WHEN IT IS PUT BEFORE  
GOD, IT IS POWER.**

## **In Days Gone By**

On June 7, 1769, Daniel Boone set out to explore Kentucky.  
On June 6, 1944, the D-Day invasion took place during World War II.  
On June 7, 1891, Spurgeon preached his last sermon in London, England.

## **FAMILY VACATIONS**

Christ said to his disciples after their hard journey... "come ye yourselves apart in to a desert place, and rest a while." (Mark 6:31) I believe this Scripture can be applied to the modern-day family. If more families would "come apart", fewer would "fall apart" in family breakups and divorces.

A well-planned vacation can be a special event that helps hold the family together for years to come. The planning, the actual experience, and then the reminiscing of the good times allows for family interaction and creates an interdependence, which is often missing in our busy and self-centered society.

## **HEADING HOME**

It's nice to take vacations,  
Across the land to roam,  
But there's such a special feeling  
When you're finally heading home.

No matter where all you have been,  
Or how much fun you've had,  
The thought that it's all over  
May make you kind of sad.

But still, a little part of you  
Is kind of glad to know  
That home is always waiting,  
Any time you want to go.

*Jeanne Losey*

## **YOU MUST DIE TO LIVE!**

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." - John 12:24

A seed in your hand is round and complete, hard and self-contained. It seems to be dead, but there lies within it the possibility of a wonderful fruitful life. It is dead because it has not died. IT MUST DIE IN ORDER TO BECOME ALIVE. And so it is placed into the ground in order that the dormant life within may be awakened into life. Unless it goes through this process it remains a lonely and unproductive seed.

When it falls into the ground it becomes totally involved in a total environment. Now, in that environment there are certain elements that have the purpose and the power to attack the outward hull of that seed and break it down. These elements literally destroy the outward part of the seed. If this is not accomplished, the life that is in the seed will never come forth.

THIS WILL ALSO HAPPEN TO YOU. Spiritually a person must pass through death before he can truly live and be a source of life to others. Thus you will be placed in an environment where you will have to die and submit your feelings to others and do that which rubs you the wrong way. This is a painful process. We tend to say "Lord, make me like yourself but do it in a nice way." But God says the seed must fall into the ground, that hard and dark place, alone.

O.H. Hirt

## **GOD CHANGED THE WIND**

In the prematurely cold weather of November 1857, the boiler that heated one of George Mueller's orphanage buildings in Bristol, England, developed a serious leak. Because the boiler was encased in brick, repairing or replacing it would be time-consuming. How could Mueller keep 300 children warm during repairs? To make matters worse, bleak north wind started blowing, further chilling the air.

Muller wasted no time in appealing to the living God. "Lord," he prayed, "these are orphans: be pleased to change this north wind into a south wind, and give the workmen a mind to work that the job may be speedily done."

The evening before the repairs began, the cold blast was still blowing. But when daylight arrived, a south wind made the temperatures so mild no heat was even needed. When Mueller went down to the cellar to see if the work could be expedited, the foreman told him the men would work late and return early in the morning. The men overheard; and one replied, "We would rather, sir, work all night."

For 30 hours the soft south wind blew until the boiler was up and running and the heat was back on.

by Bonnie Pearson



## **A PIECE OF CLAY**



I took a piece of plastic clay  
And idly fashioned it one day,  
And as my fingers pressed it still,  
It moved and yielded to my will.  
I came again when days were past—  
The bit of clay was hard at last;  
The form I gave it, it still bore,  
But I could change that form no more.  
I took a piece of living clay  
And gently formed it day by day,  
And moulded with my power and art  
A young child's soft and yielding heart.  
I came again when years were gone—  
It was a man I looked upon;  
He still that early impress wore,  
And I could change him nevermore.

## **Do It Anyway**

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;  
Forgive 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 some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;  
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;  
It is never between you and them anyway.

A couple stood before the preacher to be married. The boy's hair was as long as the girl's. It was difficult to tell the two apart. So the minister said, "Whichever one you are, take whichever one this is, to be whatever you are going to be."

Will Rogers said, "What this country needs is dirtier fingernails and cleaner minds."

## GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL BECAUSE...

- The BEST BOOK is studied and I want to know and follow it.
- The BEST DAY of the week is utilized and observed and I want to honor that day.
- The BEST PEOPLE in the world are assembled and enlisted and I desire their fellowship and friendship.
- The BEST INSTITUTION on earth is awake and at work for our Master and I wish to do my utmost for Christ and His Church.
- The BEST DEVELOPMENT for my spiritual life is taking place in Sunday School and I want to grow more for Him, mentally, morally and spiritually.

### THE WONDERS OF HIS GRACE

*His joy—how unspeakable!  
His mercies—how sure!  
His peace—holy, pure;  
His guidance—how perfect!  
His will—only sweet;  
His assurance—so precious,  
His atonement—complete;  
His compassion—so tender,  
His faithfulness—great;  
His comfort—sustaining,  
His help—never late;  
His power—omnipotent,  
His truth—giving light;  
His presence—transforming,  
His way—ever right!*

By Edith Selindh Bergman

*It is God's will that I should  
cast*

*My care on Him each day.  
He also asks me not to cast  
My confidence away.*

*But, oh, how foolishly I act  
When taken unaware;  
I cast away my confidence  
And carry all my care.*

### HIS WORD



His Word was given to us  
To guide us through our life  
To comfort and sustain us  
When we meet times of strife.

He knew we'd all have trials  
We couldn't face alone  
So His Word helps ease the burden  
Of some weight 'neath which we groan.

There may be many books around  
That men have thought to pen  
But time has made them obsolete  
Their theories wrong again.

Only God's Word has proven true  
Down through the years of time  
And truths revealed to us each day  
Are etched in every line.

God's thoughts revealed to ancient man  
Still hold true in this day  
Inspired words that tell of Christ  
The only Truth and Way.

So, friend, if trials come your way  
And you don't know where to turn  
Just turn your eyes unto His Word  
And the answers you will learn.

—Jerry R. Hoffman