

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

LIBERTY

A Ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Pittsfield, Illinois - 217-285-5230

Pastor Randy Love

Leonard Dice, Editor

December 11, 2022

Vol. XIX, No. 50

If you can't

If you can't be a pine on the
top of the hill

Be a scrub in the valley—
but be

The best little scrub by the
side of the rill.

Be a bush if you can't be a
tree.

If you can't be a highway then
just be a trail;

If you can't be the sun be a
star.

It isn't by size that you win or
you fail—

Be the best of whatever you
are!

I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HER!

I can see the twinkle in her eye
And know just what it means:
I can read her laugh or gentle sigh,
Anticipate her "scenes";
I know she'll like my compliments
And take the gift I hand her.
We've been married these many years,
But I still don't understand her.

She'll get in a certain mood at times
And I can tell them well.
She may be blue or just plain down
And stay there for a spell.
And I know she'll come out of it
if I will not command her.
Oh, yes, I know her every mood,
But I still don't understand her.

Now back when I was courting her
She was something to behold.
She cast her eyes of brown on me
And, brother, I was sold!
I promised her the moon and stars
And other things to land her.
I've learned to love that dear old girl
But I still don't understand her.

By Bill Harvey

In Days Gone By

On Dec. 11, 1816,

the State of Indiana
was admitted to the
Union.

GUESS MY NAME:

1. I am a cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. (Luke 1:36)
2. I am the wife of a priest named Zacharias. (Luke 1:5)
3. My husband and I were righteous before God. (Luke 1:6)
4. The angel of the Lord told my husband that I should bear him a son called John. (Luke 1:13)

Gospel Arithmetic

1. ADDITION.

"And beside this, giving all diligence, ADD to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness," II Peter 1:5-8.

2. MULTIPLICATION.

"Grace and peace be MULTIPLIED unto you, through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord," II Peter 1:2.

3. SUBTRACTION.

"Wherefore LAYING ASIDE all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, sad envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby," I Peter 2:1-2.

4. DIVISION.

"Wherefore COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty," II Corinthians 6:17-18.

5. THE RESULT.

"For if THESE THINGS be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins," II Peter 1:8-9.

THE THREE R's used to be readin',
'ritin' and 'rithmetic. Today they
are rioting, rebellion and restlessness.
If this continues, we'll have regret,
rot and ruin. What we need is respect,
religion and responsibility.

AVAILABILITY

It is amazing what God could do with any of us if we were totally yielded to Him. The best ability is availability and we are valuable to God only as we are available to God. God does not always use the most educated man; but He always, without exception, uses the available man.

He used a stammering, stuttering Moses because he was available. He used a Gideon, the least in his father's household, because he was available. He used a David, overlooked by his own father as a prospect for king, because he was available. He used a little boy with five loaves and two fishes because he was available.

It will amaze you what He will and can do with you if you will make yourself totally available to Him.



THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

I took a piece of plastic clay
And I idly fashioned it one day.
And as my fingers bent it still,
It bent and yielded to my will.

I came again as days went past.
That lump of clay was hard at last.
Even though that image it bore,
I could change it never more.

I took a child, God's living clay,
And I gently shaped it day by day.
I molded with my Saviour's art,
A young child's soft and yielding heart.

I came again when years were gone,
Here was a man I looked upon,
He still that early image bore,
But I could change him never more.

Can You Say ?

Can you say that you are ready,
if the Lord should call today ?
Can you say that you have tried,
to walk the straight and narrow way ?

Can you say that you have tried to be,
faithful, true, and kind ?
Can you say that you'll be happy,
to leave this world behind ?

Can you run to heavens gate,
without regret or stall ?
Can you truly say to Jesus,
I at last surrender all ?

Can you say that you'll rejoice,
when we no longer have to stay ?
Can you say that you'll be ready,
if the Lord should call today ?

Darlene Gay

Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

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*EVENTS
*VIEWS
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WE NEED OUR DAILY DOSE OF VITAMIN "L"

In an earlier column I discussed humor and laughter and how important it is to everyone. It helps us remember the good things and not the bad things that happen to us. It is essential to our well-being. I came across some more information in the Indianapolis Star recently that I would like to share with you. From a MEDICAL STANDPOINT, laughter does FOUR THINGS:

1. Laughter reduces stress - it reduces serum cortisol (a hormone released during the stress response.)
2. Laughter fights disease - it increases immunoglobulin (an antibody that helps fight upper respiratory disease.)
3. Laughter helps manage pain - Laughter increases tolerance to pain.
4. Laughter improves mental health - the psychological benefits offers perspective, calms nerves and breaks tension.

Of course the Bible told us all of these things a long time ago in Proverbs 17:22 - "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."

Nurse Carol O'Flaherty said this, "Laughter is all about preventing disease and illness and restoring people to a better state of health. It improves the immune system, lowers blood pressure and reverses the chemistry of stress." A social worker, Margot Ascot, teaches workshops about the health benefits of humor and laughter and says, "It helps bring a sense of joy and peace to people. Everybody needs a good laugh, especially people who are feeling blue, feeling sick and not up to snuff. When you least feel like laughing is when you most need to laugh."

So, be sure to get your daily does of Vitamin "L". Here is a cute little song we used to sing:

"Cheer up ye saints of God, there's nothing to worry about,
Nothing to make you feel afraid, nothing to make you doubt;
Remember, Jesus never fails, so why not trust Him and shout?
You'll be sorry you worried at all tomorrow morning!"

What About Grammar?

A teacher in a seventh-grade class in Kings Mountain, North Carolina, asked her pupils to write a short statement on what each wished to become in life. One pupil submitted this:

"Be what you is and not what you ain't. Cause if you ain't what you is, you is what you ain't.

Joan N. Harris, Siler City, NC

Rose are red, Violets are blue, somebody loves you, here's a clue. John 3:16