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NEVER SAY WE DON'T HAVE IT

A store manager overheard a clerk saying to a customer, "No, ma'am, we haven't had any for some weeks now, and it doesn't look as if we'll be getting any soon."

Alarmed by what was being said, the manager rushed over to the customer who was walking out the door and said, "That isn't true, ma'am. Of course, we'll have some soon. In fact, we placed an order for it a couple of weeks ago." Then the manager drew the clerk aside and growled, "Never, never, never, never say we don't have something. If we don't have it, say we ordered it and it's on its way. Now, what was it she wanted?"

The clerk smiled and said ... "Rain."

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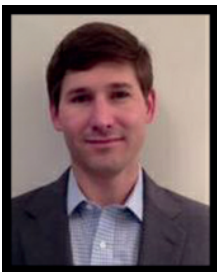
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3 WISE WOMEN?

You do know what would have happened if it had been three wise WOMEN instead of men, don't you?

They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought disposable diapers as gifts!

PERSISTENCE

"Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not. Nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not. Unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not. The world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan 'press on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."

- Calvin Coolidge -

Irony is the opposite of wrinkly.

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Editorial Offices:

Roger Parrish, Editor & Publisher
322 Andrews Ave. Suite 3 • Ozark, AL 36360
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GAME SHOW

A man was on a game show. He was on his final question; all he had to do was answer that question right, and he would win 1 million dollars!

The game show host said, "All right, for your final question: 'What are the names of three of Santa's reindeer?'"

The man grinned and said, "Dasher!"

The game show host said, "Correct!"

"Comet!"

"Correct! What is the last name?"

The man yelled, "Olive!"

The game show host was confused and said, "Why Olive?"

The contestant looked at him strangely and said, "Oh, don't you know? 'Olive, the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names...'"

Here to help life go right.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

May the joy of the season bring you love and peace. Merry Christmas to a wonderful community!



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We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them. Albert Einstein.

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If 4 out of 5 people SUFFERS from diarrhea, does that mean that one enjoys it?

Someone posted they had just baked some synonym buns. I replied, "You mean just like the ones grammar use to make?"

"A writer who says that there are no truths, or that all truth is 'merely relative,' is asking you not to believe him. So don't."
- Roger Scruton

Mo attends a revival and listens to the sermon. After a while, the pastor asks anyone with needs to come forward and be prayed over. Mo gets in line and when it's his turn, the pastor asks, "Mo, what do you want me to pray about?" Mo says, "Pastor, I need you to pray for my hearing."
So the pastor puts one finger in Mo's ear and the other hand on top of his head and prays for a while. He removes his hands and says, "Mo how's your hearing now?"
Mo says, "I don't know pastor, it's not until next Monday."

Illuminating Consequence

A six-year-old boy called his mother from his friend Charlie's house and confessed he had broken a lamp when he threw a football in their living room.
"But, Mom," he said, brightening, "you don't have to worry about buying another one. Charlie's mother said it was irreplaceable."



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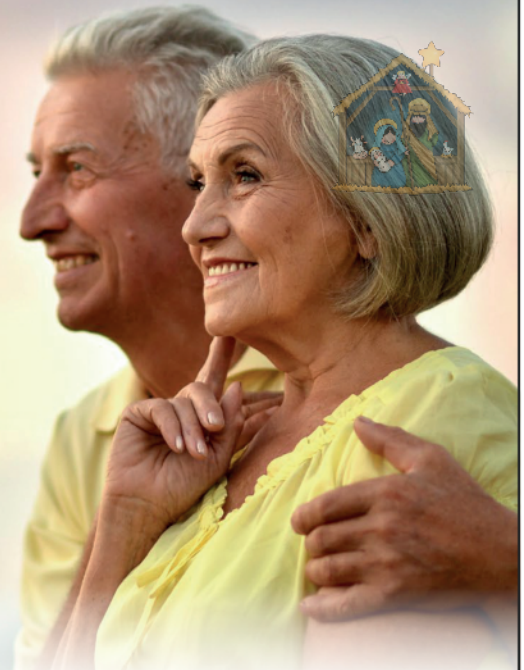
Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy, its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery.
~Winston Churchill

I hate when people refer to faith in Jesus as a crutch. Nope! A crutch is for a limp. I was dead and needed a resurrection."
~Louie Giglio



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An old man and his wife lived deep in the hills and seldom saw many people. One day a peddler came by to sell his goods and asked the man if he or his wife wanted to buy anything. "Well, my wife ain't home, she's gone down to the crick to wash clothes, but lemme see what you got," said the man. The peddler showed him pots and pans, tools and gadgets, but the old man wasn't interested. Then the man spotted a mirror and said, "What's that?" Before the peddler could tell him it was a mirror, the old man picked it up and said, "My gosh! How'd you get a picture of my Pappy?" The old man was so happy he traded his wife's best pitcher for it. The peddler left before the wife came back and spoiled his sale. The old man was worried that the wife would be mad at him for trading her best pitcher, so he hid it in the barn behind some boxes of junk. He would go out to the barn 2 or 3 times a day to look at the "picture" and eventually the wife got suspicious. One day she got fed up and after he retired for the night, she went out to the barn. She saw the mirror behind the boxes, picked it up and said, "So this is the hussy he's been foolin' around with!"

The bride, upon her engagement, goes to her mother and says, "I've found a man just like Father!" Her mother replies, "So what do you want from me, sympathy?"

"Daddy, did you know that girls are smarter than boys?"
"No, I didn't know that."
"See, there you go."

YOUR TURN

A woman stood inside the front door, her arms full of coats. Four small children scurried around her. Her husband, coming down the stairs, asked why she was standing there. "Here," she said, handing him the coats, "This time you put the children into their coats, and I'll go honk the horn."

"Fear less, hope more... Whine less, breathe more... Talk less, say more... Hate less, love more... And all good things are yours."

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CIRCLE FLIES

An old farmer got pulled over by a young state trooper for speeding. The trooper, fresh on the job, decided to throw his weight around and started lecturing the farmer about his speed. He did his best to make the farmer feel uncomfortable but

eventually got around to writing the ticket. As he wrote, he had to swat at several flies

that were buzzing around his head. "Having some problems with circle flies there, are ya?" asked the farmer. The trooper stopped writing the ticket and



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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I just had a
physical.

The doctor said,
"Don't eat anything
fatty"

I said,
"Like bacon and
burgers?"

He said,
"No fatty, don't eat
anything!"



I know, when people see a cat's litter box, they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I want to say, "No, it's for company!"

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looked up. "Well yeah, if that's what they are," he said. "I never heard of circle flies, though." "Oh, they're pretty common on farms," said the farmer. "We call 'em circle flies because they're always circling around the back end of a horse." "I see," said the trooper as he continued writing the ticket. All of a sudden, he stopped and looked up at the farmer. "Hey...wait a minute, are you trying to call me a horse's rear end?" "Oh no, officer," replied the farmer. "I have far too much respect for law enforcement and police officers to even think about calling you a horse's rear end." "Well, that's a good thing," said the trooper as he resumed writing the ticket. After a long pause, the farmer continued. "Hard to fool them flies, though."

I have
gotten that
dreaded
furniture
disease.
That's when
your chest
is falling
into
your
drawers!



I don't want much for
Christmas. I just want
the person who is
reading this to be
healthy, happy
and loved.



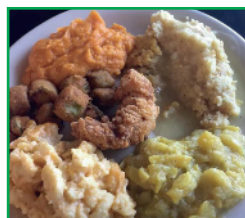
My stomach is FLAT. The L is just silent.

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**If someone treats you
bad, just remember that
there is something
wrong with them, not you.
Normal people don't go
around destroying
other people.**



Have you ever wondered what this part of Psalm 23 meant.

"He anoints my head with oil"

"Sheep can get their head caught in briars and die trying to get

untangled. There are horrid little flies that like to torment sheep by laying eggs in their nostrils which turn into worms and drive the sheep to beat their head against a rock, sometimes to death. Their ears and eyes are also susceptible to tormenting insects. So

the shepherd anoints their whole head with oil. Then there is peace. That oil forms a barrier of protection against the evil that tries to destroy the sheep. Do you have times of mental torment? Do the worrisome thoughts invade your mind over and over? Do you beat your head against a wall trying to stop them? Have you ever asked God to anoint your head with oil? He has an endless supply! His oil protects and makes it possible for you to fix your heart, mind, and eyes on Him today and always! There is peace in the valley! May our good good Father anoint your head with oil today so that your cup overflows with blessings! God is good and He is faithful!!"

Unwrap the Gift of Life

By; Wallace Kennedy, Jr.



I love watching small children unwrapping their gifts, with the smiles on their faces, the sparkles in their eyes and that surprised look which is filled with so much joy. I am sure there are some other adults that feel the same way.

If the gifts remain wrapped, we will never discover the wonders of what is inside.

Luke 2:10-12 says: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

God gave us the greatest gift anyone could ever receive, and He did it all because He loves each of us so much. He sent His only begotten Son, wrapped in human flesh, dressed in swaddling clothes.

Jesus is: A Gift worth giving, a Gift worth waiting for, and a Gift worth receiving.

God extends His Gift of love to all of us! No works are required, no money due, you don't have to stop doing this or that, (God loves us too much to leave us in the state we are in when we first believe on the Lord Jesus to save us) but come to Him as you are, with an open heart to receive Him into your life.

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the GIFT of God, not by works, so that no one can boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

God wrapped His gift in love, mercy and grace; they are extended to all people. Neither salvation nor forgiveness can be earned; both are freely given to anyone who wants to receive them.

These are gifts that are never exhausted, depleted or used up; they will last throughout all eternity. The greatest gift we can share with others is the gift that provides eternal life. We can then enjoy life and have it in abundance, to the fullest, till it overflows.

So don't leave the gift unwrapped today. Make the conscious decision to unwrap Jesus and enjoy: peace, joy and righteousness in the Holy Spirit. Unwrapping Him will be the best Christmas gift you will ever receive.

Teach this to your children and let them know the truth of why we celebrate and acknowledge, "The Reason for the Season" Merry Christmas!



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TIE CONSPIRACY

At a clearance sale, the wife of a federal district court judge found a green tie that was a perfect match for one of her husband's sports jackets.



Soon after, while the couple was vacationing at a resort complex to get his mind off a rather complicated cocaine conspiracy case, he noticed a small, round disc sewn into the design of the tie.

The judge showed it to a local FBI agent, who was equally suspicious that it might be a 'bug' planted by the conspiracy defendants. The agent sent the device to FBI headquarters in Washington, DC for analysis.

Two weeks later, the judge phoned the Washington office to learn the results of their tests.

"We're not sure where the disc came from," the FBI told him, "but we discovered that when you press it, it plays 'Jingle Bells.'"

The less a man knows the easier it is to
convince him he knows nothing.

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Aunt T's Kitchen

ORANGE CREAM FUDGE

Ingredients

3 cups white sugar
2/3 cup heavy cream
3/4 cup butter
1 (7 ounce) jar marshmallow
creme
1 (11 ounce) package white
chocolate chips
3 teaspoons orange extract
12 drops yellow food coloring
9 drops red food coloring



Directions

Grease a 9 x 13 inch pan.
In a medium saucepan over medium heat,
combine sugar, cream and butter. Heat to soft
ball stage, 234 degrees F (112 degrees C).
Remove from heat and stir in marshmallow
creme and white chocolate chips; mix well until
the chips melt. Reserve 1 cup of mixture and set
aside.
To the remaining mixture add orange flavoring,
yellow and red food coloring. Stir well and pour
into prepared pan. Pour reserved cream mixture
on top. Using a knife, swirl layers for decorative
effect.
Chill for 2 hours, or until firm, and cut into
squares.

CHRISTMAS CRACK

Ingredients

1 (13-ounce) box Rice Chex cereal
1 (12-ounce) box Golden Grahams
cereal
1 large can cashew halves and
pieces
1 1/2 cup butter
2 cups sugar
2 cups corn syrup



Directions

Combine Rice Chex, Golden Grahams, and
cashews in a large mixing bowl.
In a large sauce pan, cook butter, sugar, and
corn syrup to the "soft ball" stage. About 234°F
on a candy thermometer. Pour over cereal
mixture and stir until all is well coated.
Pour mixture out onto 2 large cookie sheets to
cool. Stir it around occasionally to prevent
clumping.
Store in an airtight container.

Christmas Candy

EGGNOG FUDGE

Ingredients

1/2 Cup Butter
3/4 Cup Egnog
2 Cups White Sugar
2 Cups White Chocolate Chips
(1) 7 Ounce Jar Marshmallow
Crème
2 Teaspoons Vanilla Extract
1/2 Teaspoon Nutmeg, Grated



Instructions

Line a 9x9 pan with foil. Spray with non stick
cooking spray.
In a medium sauce pan, combine butter, sugar,
and eggnog. Bring to a boil.
Cook until the temperature reaches 234 degrees
on a candy thermometer.
Remove from heat. Stir in white chocolate until
melted.
Stir in marshmallow creme, vanilla, and nutmeg.
Evenly spread into prepared pan.
Garnish with more grated nutmeg if desired.

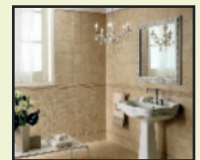
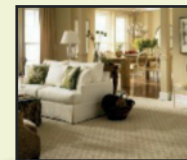
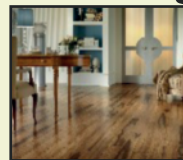
CHOCOLATE BILLIONAIRES

Ingredients

1 package (14 ounces) caramels
3 tablespoons water
1-1/2 cups chopped pecans
1 cup crisp rice cereal
3 cups milk chocolate chips
1-1/2 teaspoons shortening



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Directions

Line two baking sheets with waxed paper; grease the paper and set aside. In a large heavy saucepan, combine the caramels and water; cook and stir over low heat until smooth. Stir in pecans and cereal until coated. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto prepared pans. Refrigerate for 10 minutes or until firm. Meanwhile, in a microwave, melt chocolate chips and shortening; stir until smooth. Dip candy into chocolate, coating all sides; allow excess to drip off. Place on prepared pans. Refrigerate until set. Store in an airtight container.

POTATO CHIP CLUSTERS

Ingredients

9 ounces white baking chocolate, chopped
2 cups coarsely crushed ridged potato chips
1/2 cup chopped pecans

Directions

In a large microwave-safe bowl, melt white chocolate. Stir in potato chips and pecans. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto waxed paper-lined baking sheets. Refrigerate until set.



EASY HOMEMADE TOFFEE

Ingredients:

1 cup raw almonds
1 cup unsalted butter, cubed
1 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
1/3 cup pecans, chopped



Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat. Spread almonds in an even layer onto the prepared baking sheet. Place into oven and bake until toasted, about 10 minutes; set aside. In a medium saucepan, combine butter, sugar, vanilla and salt over medium heat. Cook, whisking constantly, until butter has melted and mixture is almond brown in color, about 10-15 minutes.

Immediately spread the hot caramel mixture evenly over the almonds. Sprinkle with chocolate chips. After 1-2 minutes, spread the chocolate chips in an even layer until smooth. Sprinkle with pecans. Let cool completely, about 2 hours. Break into pieces.

PERFECT SOUTHERN PECAN PRALINES

Ingredients

1 1/2 cups pecan halves or chopped pecans
1 1/2 cups granulated white sugar
3/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup + 2 Tbsp unsalted butter, cubed
1/2 cup evaporated milk (NOT sweetened condensed milk)
1 tsp vanilla extract
1/2 tsp kosher salt



Instructions

Line 2 cupcake tins with about 16-20 paper liners. Set aside briefly. In a large, heavy bottomed saucepan, combine the pecan halves, sugars, butter, evaporated milk, vanilla extract, and salt and bring to a boil over medium heat. Stick in a candy thermometer and stir constantly while boiling until temperature reaches 235° to 240° degrees F, about 10 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat and working quickly and CAREFULLY, beat the mixture vigorously with a wooden spoon until mixture thickens and almost turns cloudy and opaque in color, about 2-5 minutes. Working fast, use a spoon or cookie dough scoop to portion the hot candy into each muffin tin, covering the bottom of the muffin cup. You should get about 16-20 candies, depending on how much you fill each cupcake tin. Cool the candy COMPLETELY. Candy is ready once it's reached room temperature and is firm and solid. Peel away cupcake liners before serving.

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The new prisoner is confused and asks his cell mate what this is all about. The cell mate replies that they have been in prison so long that rather than tell the same jokes over and over, they have assigned numbers to them as a

more efficient way to tell jokes. The new prisoner asks if he could give it a try. His cell mate says "Sure, why not tell number eighteen!" No response whatsoever.....not even a snicker! The new prisoner is confused and asks his cell mate what went wrong. The cell mate replies, "Some people just don't know how to tell a joke!"

"Peter!" his mother scolded, "There were two cookies in the pantry this morning but now there's only one! Do you have an explanation?"



Peter replied, "It must have been too dark and I didn't see the other one."

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If the woman is always right, and the man is always wrong. Then, if a man tells a woman she's right, Is he right or wrong?

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i before e

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WISDOM

When Gandhi was studying law at the University College of London, a white professor, whose last name was Peters, disliked him intensely and always displayed prejudice and animosity towards him. Also, because Gandhi never lowered his head when addressing him, as he expected.... there were always "arguments" and confrontations.

One day, Mr Peters was having lunch at the dining room of the University, and Gandhi came along with his tray and sat next to the professor. The professor said, "Mr Gandhi, you do not understand. A pig and a bird do not sit together to eat."

Gandhi looked at him as a parent would a rude child and calmly replied, "You do not worry professor. I'll fly away," and he went and sat at another table.

Mr Peters, reddened with rage, decided to take revenge on the next test paper, but Gandhi responded brilliantly to all questions. Mr Peters, unhappy and frustrated, asked him the following question. "Mr Gandhi, if you were walking down the street and found a package, and within was a bag of wisdom and another bag with a lot of money, which one would you take?"

Without hesitating, Gandhi responded, "The one with the money, of course."

Mr Peters, smiling sarcastically said, "I, in your place, would have taken the wisdom, don't you think?"

Gandhi shrugged indifferently and responded, "Each one takes what he doesn't have."



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Solution on Page 30

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Jury Duty

To the irritation of the judge, a man was trying to be excused from jury duty. "Tell me," began the judge, "is there any good reason why you cannot serve as a juror in the trial?"

The man replied, "I don't want to be away from my job that long."

"Can't they do without you at work?" demanded the judge.

"Yes," admitted the juror. "But I don't want them to realize it."

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Did you know that according to the song, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", Santa has twelve reindeer? Sure, in the introduction it goes "There's Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen..." That makes eight reindeer. Then there's Rudolph, of course, so

that makes nine. Then there's Olive. You know, "Olive the other reindeer used to laugh..." That makes ten. The eleventh is Howe. You know, "Then Howe the reindeer loved him..." Eleven reindeer. Oh, and number 12? That's Andy! "Andy shouted out with glee." The proof is in the song!

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we wish you a very

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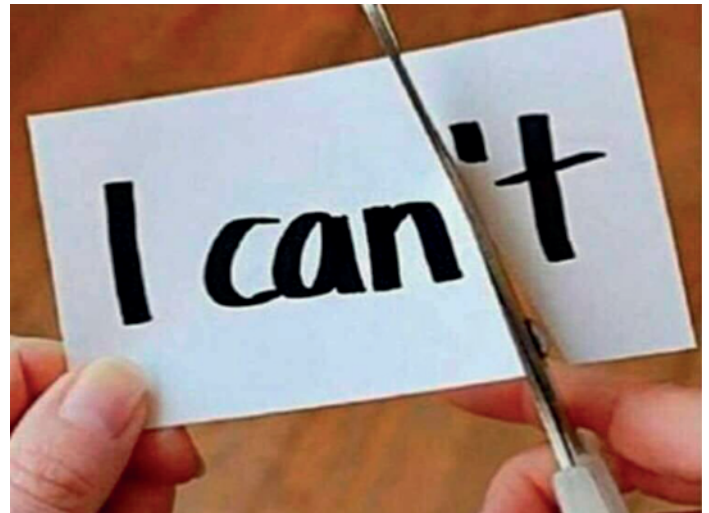
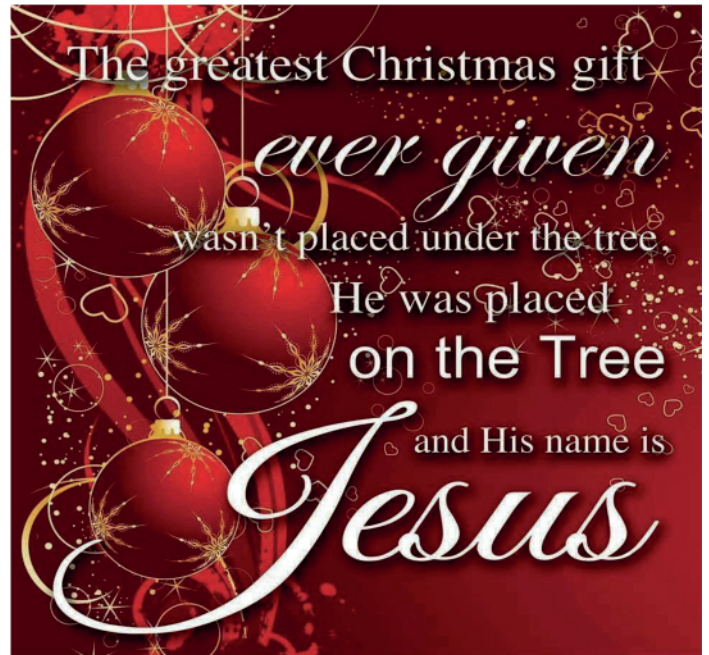
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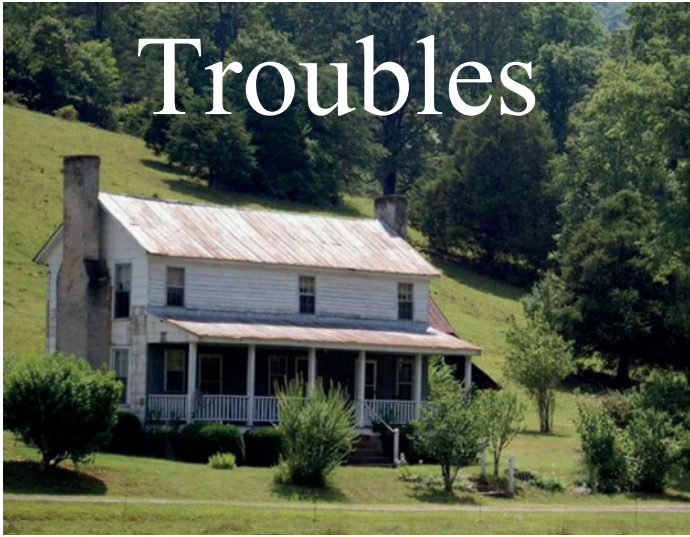


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- Henry Ford (1863-1947)

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Troubles

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one ton truck refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation.. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

'Oh, that's my trouble tree,' he replied 'I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children.. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again.' 'Funny thing is,' he smiled,' when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before.

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Drawings are held on the 20th of the month, and winners name will be published in the next month's edition. Winner must call and come by 322 Andrews Ave. to claim their prize before the 20th of the month of the edition in which their name appeared.

Have Fun. Enjoy the Contest!

If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.

Laughs and Lifts
Online @ LaughsandLifts.com

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The Christmas Season is Here

Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims, Faith Christian Center

I hope and trust your Thanksgiving was blessed. As we transition into Christmas with all of our lights and decorations and wishful thinking of actually having cold weather let's take time to reflect on why we are celebrating. In John chapter 1 verse 14 the Bible says, **"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."** This season we join together in celebration the Birth of Jesus Christ. I am so thankful that



our Father in Heaven looked down on us and sent His Son to give us eternal life. The last part in verse 14 says that Jesus is full of grace and truth. The gift of eternal life is for anyone who would confess and believe that Jesus is who He says He is. Jesus came to reveal Truth and He shows us undeserved Grace. I invite you as a reader to search your heart. Is Jesus your Lord and Savior? This Christmas Season is the perfect opportunity to get your house in order and except Jesus and His Grace and Truth. Jesus says in John 14:6, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."** Merry Christmas to you and yours and I pray that you will choose Jesus this Christmas.

 **Faith Christian Center**
Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims
853 Lakeview Road in Ozark
(Behind Gilland Ford).
<https://faithozark.church>

Idiot Sighting: I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, "Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?" To which I replied, "If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?" He smiled knowingly and nodded, "That's why we ask." Happened in Birmingham , Alabama.

Idiot Sighting: The spotlight on the corner buzzes when its safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an intellectually challenged co-worker. She asked if I knew what the buzzer was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?!" She was a probation officer in Wichita, Kansas.



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Claybank Master Gardeners



Do you have youngsters interested in gardening and horticulture? The Dale County Extension Service will be starting a weekly after-school one-hour **Junior**

Master Gardener Class for 4th through 6th graders at the **Ozark Dale County Library**, beginning on **Thursday, January 10th**, for 12 weeks ending on March 28th. Please sign up your children at the Library as soon as possible as space will be limited.

December is the time in our planting zone (zones 8a and b) to sow seeds for hardy spring blooming plants, plant fruit trees and bore-root roses, trees and shrubs. Be sure to protect your tender plants from frost with row covers or mulch such as pine straw. Plant winter and spring blooming bulbs now. Did you know there is a **free Alabama Gardening Calendar** online at **www.aces.edu**?

The **Claybank Master Gardeners** meetings will resume on January 17th at **Hoppergrass Restaurant in Ozark, 129 East Ave.**, across from Milky Moos. **Brenda Evans, from Coffee County Master Gardeners**, will share her fascinating secrets about **"Butterflies in the Garden"**.



Visitor are always welcome. Come buy your lunch if you wish, and enjoy learning from other gardeners. Questions? Call the **Dale County Extension Office** at **(334) 774-2329**



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You Don't Have To Own A Cat To Appreciate This One! You don't even have to like 'em!

We were dressed and ready to go out for the New Years Eve Party. We turned on a night light, turned the answering machine on, covered our pet parakeet and put the cat in the backyard.

We phoned the local cab company and requested a taxi. The taxi arrived and we opened the front door to leave the house. The cat we put out in the yard, scoots back into the house. We didn't want the cat shut in the house because she always tries to eat the bird.

My wife goes out to the taxi, while I went inside to get the cat.. The cat runs upstairs, with me in hot pursuit. Waiting in the cab, my wife doesn't want the driver to know that the house will be empty for the night. So, she explains to the taxi driver that I will be out soon, "He's just going upstairs to say Goodbye to my mother."

A few minutes later, I get into the cab. "Sorry I took so long," I said, as we drove away. "That stupid thing was hiding under the bed. I had to poke her with a coat hanger to get her to come out! She tried to take off, so I grabbed her by the neck. Then, I had to wrap her in a blanket to keep her from scratching me. But it worked! I hauled her fat butt downstairs and threw her out into the back yard!"

The cab driver hit a parked car.

CONGRATULATIONS
Daniel Woodham
of Ozark

Daniel Has Won \$100

Daniel found the hidden items in the November edition of Laughs and Lifts and has until December 15th to claim the prize by calling and coming by with photo ID.

Laughs and Lifts
322 Andrews Ave
Ozark, AL

Thanks to everyone who entered,

The workers in a large office were making secret plans to stage a big office party for the 70-year old cleaning woman who had spent the better part of her life with the company.

Somehow the secret leaked out and the woman got wind of it.

Much perturbed, she rushed to the office manager. "Please sir," she cried, "Do not let them do it! Do not let them do it!"

"Oh, come now, Mrs. Smith, you must not be so modest. After all, they simply want to show how much you are appreciated."

"Appreciated, my foot," exclaimed the woman. "I am not going to clean up after a mess like that!"



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The Baptist White Lie Cake

Have you ever told a white lie? You are going to love this, especially if you are one of the ladies who bake for church events...



Alice Grayson was to bake a cake for the Baptist Church Ladies' Group in Tuscaloosa, but she forgot to do it until the last minute. She remembered it the morning of the bake sale and after running through cabinets, she found an angel food cake mix and quickly made it while drying her hair and dressing and helping her son pack up for Scout camp.

When Alice took the cake from the oven, the center had dropped flat and the cake was horribly disfigured. She thought to herself, "Oh dear. There is no time to bake another cake."

This cake was very important to Alice because she did so want to fit in at her new church and in her new community of friends. So, being inventive, she looked around the house for something to build up the center of the cake.

Alice found it in the bathroom-- a roll of toilet paper. She plunked it in and then covered it with icing. Not only did the finished product look beautiful, it looked perfect.

Before she left the house to drop the cake by the church and head for work, Alice woke her daughter Amanda and gave her some money and specific instructions to be at the bake sale the moment it opened at 9:30, and to buy the cake and bring it home.

When her daughter arrived at the sale, she found the attractive, perfect cake had already been sold. Amanda grabbed her cell phone and called her mom. Alice was horrified. She was beside herself. Everyone would know! What would they think? She would be ostracized, talked about, ridiculed. All night Alice lay awake in bed thinking about people pointing their fingers at her and talking about her behind her back.

The next day, Alice promised herself that she would try not to think about the cake and she would attend the fancy luncheon/bridal shower at the home of a new acquaintance, and try to have a good time. Alice did not really want to attend because the hostess was a snob who more than once had looked down her nose at the fact that Alice was a single parent and not from one of the founding families of Tuscaloosa. But having already RSVP'd, she could not think of a believable excuse to stay home.

The meal was elegant, the company was definitely upper crust old South...and to Alice's horror, the CAKE in question was presented for dessert. Alice felt the blood drain from her body when she saw the cake, she started out of her chair to tell the hostess all about it, but before she could get to her feet, the Mayor's wife said, "What a beautiful cake!" Alice, still stunned, sat back in her chair when she heard the hostess (who was a prominent church member) say, "Thank you. I baked it myself.

Alice smiled and thought to herself, "GOD is good."

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**What nationality is Santa Claus?
North Polish.**

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BIBLICAL SPOKESPERSONS

What if Biblical characters could be recruited as high-tech promoters? Consider the following tech advocates and their ad slogans:

Noah for Match.com:

We can find a mate for anything. Why not you?

Moses for Bayer Aspirin:

Take two tablets and call me in the morning.

The dove for UPS:

Guaranteed delivery in 40 days and 40 nights.

Adam and Eve for Dell:

No Apples for us. We've learned the hard way.

Joseph for Nikon Coolpix:

Only Nikon can capture the 36-bit color of my megapixel dream coat.

Methuselah for AARP:

Life begins at 960..

THE BATTLE OF ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS!

QUESTION:

1 rabbit saw 6 elephants while going to the river. Every elephant saw 2 monkeys going towards the river. Every monkey holds 1 parrot in their hands.

How many Animals are going towards the river???

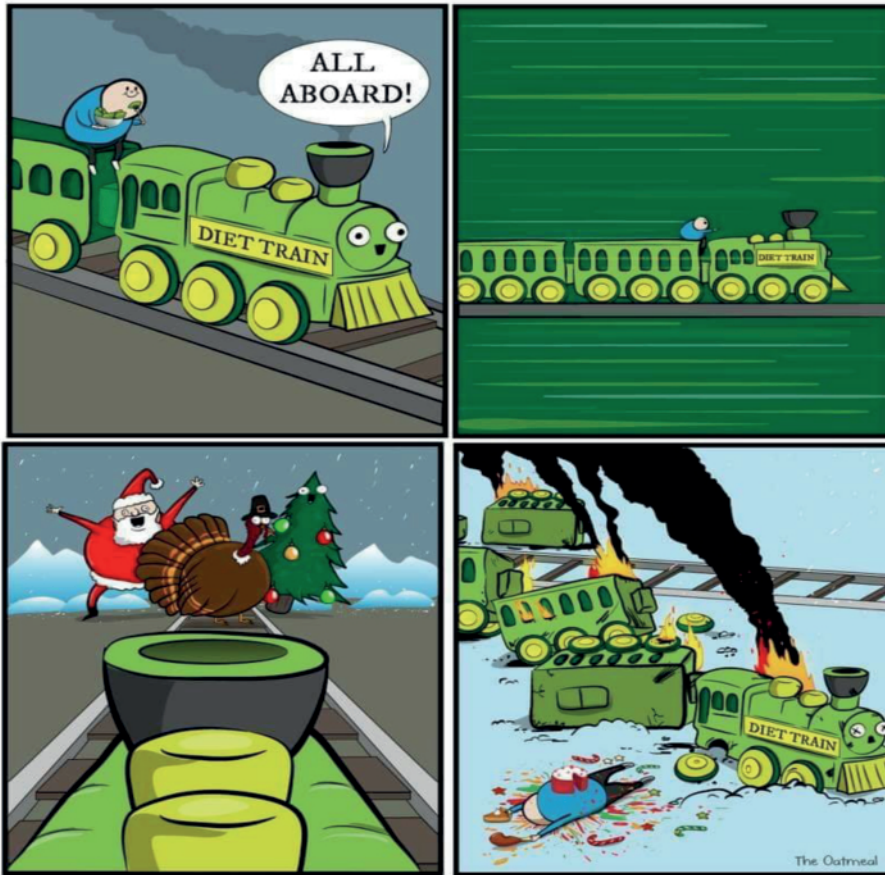
Email Answer to roger@laughsandlifts.com I will draw a name from the correct answers and that person will receive a FREE 1 year online subscription To Laughs and Lifts

Spot the Difference

There are 10 differences between the two snowman pictures. Can you find them all?

Solution on page 30





A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS STORY

A Jewish father was concerned about his son who was about a year away from his Bar Mitzvah but was sorely lacking in his knowledge of the Jewish faith. To remedy this he sent his son to Israel to experience his heritage.

A year later the young man returned home. "Father, thank you for sending me to the land of our Fathers," the son said. "It was wonderful and enlightening, however, I must confess that while in Israel I converted to Christianity."

"Oy vey," replied the father, "what have I done." So in the tradition of the patriarchs, he went to his best friend and sought his advice and solace. "It is amazing that you should come to me," stated his friend. "I too sent my son to Israel and he returned a Christian."

So in the tradition of the patriarchs, they went to the Rabbi. "It is amazing that you should come to me," stated the Rabbi, "I too sent my son to Israel and he returned a Christian. What is happening to our sons? Brothers, we must take this to the Lord," said the Rabbi. They fell to their knees and began to wail and pour out their hearts to the Almighty.

As they prayed the clouds above opened and a Mighty Voice stated "Amazing that you should come to Me. I, too, sent My Son to Israel....."

"The only person who dares wake up a king at 3:00am for a glass of water is a child. We have that kind of access to Jesus." Timothy Keller



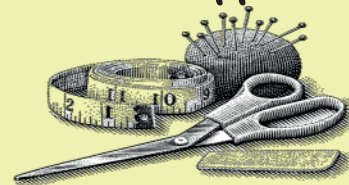
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"The beginning of wisdom is silence. The second step is listening."

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES SOLUTION



Grace for Grandpa

Our son had only heard his grandfather pray at Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter, and other special occasions; when he typically said a long prayer over the food. One night, after a fun camp-out and fishing trip, grandfather (to our son's surprise) asked a very brief blessing on the food. With a gleam in his eye, our son grinned at his Grandfather and said, "You don't pray so long when you're hungry, do you, Grandpa?"

Bamboozable Answers

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Little fish in a big sea | 1. Bunk Beds |
| 2. So long for now | 2. Tricycle |
| 3. Foreigner | 3. Stay overnight |
| 4. Round of Golf | 4. One on One |
| 5. Holy Cow | 5. I overslept |
| 6. Picket line | 6. A close race |



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THE BAR VS. THE BAPTISTS

In a small Midwestern conservative town, a business owner began to construct a building for a new bar. The local Baptist church started a campaign to block the bar from opening with petitions and prayers. Work progressed, however, right up until the week before opening, when a lightning strike hit the bar and it burned to the ground. The church folks were rather smug in their outlook after that, until the bar owner sued the church on the grounds that the church was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building, either through direct or indirect actions or means. In its reply to the court, the church vehemently denied all responsibility or any connection to the building's demise. As the case made its way into court, the judge looked over the paperwork at the hearing and commented, "I don't know how I'm going to decide this, but as it appears from the paperwork, we have a bar owner who believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that doesn't!"

May the Peace and Love of
our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you and your family
this Christmas!



Roger and Tric
Laughs and Lifts Magazine

CHRISTMAS WORD FIND

G C P M E H E F F N Y Y A S E
V F I O G K N O C Y R R I L B
Z H S J Z X U H E G A B Z N B
H A T I D U R X S Z M E I P E
R P L R S I L E N T N I G H T
R K O Q S N E M E S I W A J H
Y L X T Y Z S W C Z S P E P L
M I M F H F N P N S J V E K E
J A B T T B A R I O R S X Z H
S A I Y L Y T E K V O F L W E
H A Y E Y T I G N J I O E E M
F A M K R H V N A E V U G P E
M A A N W A I A R S A S N O E
C I H O T C T M F U S O A H F
D J E D K Q Y S V S W T E K Q

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| JESUS | HAY |
| MARY | ANGEL |
| JOSEPH | FAITH |
| WISEMEN | HOPE |
| MANGER | FRANKINCENSE |
| NATIVITY | MYRRH |
| BETHLEHEM | SILENTNIGHT |
| CAMEL | LORD |
| DONKEY | SAVIOR |
| STAR | CHRISTMAS |



Crushing pop cans is soda pressing.

A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

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*Thank you for a great year!
We look forward to seeing you in 2019.
May God bless you and your family this holiday season.*

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