

Laughs & Lifts

**Funny, Inspiring
and Entertaining**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13.

*“AND NOW THESE THREE REMAIN:
FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE. BUT THE
GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE”*




There is nothing to be learned from the second kick of a mule.-- Mark Twain .

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I was just doing some deep thinking. I figure that if you don't like grits that you probably get your salsa from New York City! ~ Powell Adams

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Sometimes, not saying anything is the best answer. You see, silence can never be misquoted.

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A social worker from Ohio, who was recently transferred to the mountains of North Georgia, was on the first tour of his new territory when he came upon the tiniest cabin he had ever seen in his life. Intrigued, he went up and knocked on the door.

"Anybody home?" he asked. "Yep," came a kid's voice through the door.

"Is your father there?" asked the social worker.

"Pa? Nope, he left before Ma came in," said the kid.

"Well, is your mother there?" persisted the social worker.

"Ma? Nope, she left just before I got here," said the kid.

"But what," protested the social worker, "are you never together as a family?"

"Sure, but not here," said the kid through the door. "This is the outhouse."

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The Black Telephone Author Unknown

Those of us old enough to remember when the phone was wired to the wall, usually in the kitchen, can relate to this story. I loved this read.

When I was a young boy, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall. The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box.. I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it.

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was "Information Please" and there was nothing she did not know. Information Please could supply anyone's number and the correct time.

My personal experience with the genie-in-a-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer, the pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy. I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger, finally arriving at the stairway.

The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up, I unhooked the receiver in the parlor and held it to my ear. "Information, please," I said into the mouthpiece just above my head. A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear. "Information."

"I hurt my finger..." I wailed into the phone, the tears came readily enough now that I had an audience..

"Isn't your mother home?" came the question

"Nobody's home but me," I blubbered.

"Are you bleeding?" the voice asked

"No," I replied. "I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts."

"Can you open the icebox?" she asked.

I said I could.

"Then chip off a little bit of ice and hold it to your finger," said the voice.

After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked her for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math. She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before, would eat fruit and nuts.

Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary, died. I called, "Information Please," and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was not consoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?"

She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, "Wayne, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in." Somehow I felt better.

Another day I was on the telephone, "Information Please." "Information," said in the now familiar voice.

"How do I spell fix?" I asked

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest. When I was nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much.

"Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home and I somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me. Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about a half-hour or so between planes. I spent 15 minutes or so on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking what I was doing, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information Please."

Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well. "Information."

I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying, "Could you please tell me how to spell fix?"

There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, "I guess your finger must have healed by now." I laughed, "So it's really you," I said. "I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?" "I wonder," she said, "if you know how much your calls meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls."

I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and I asked if I could call her again when I came back to visit my sister.

"Please do," she said. "Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle.

A different voice answered, "Information."

I asked for Sally.

"Are you a friend?" she said.

"Yes, a very old friend," I answered.

"I'm sorry to have to tell you this," She said. "Sally had been working part time the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago."

Before I could hang up, she said, "Wait a minute, did you say your name was Wayne?"

"Yes," I answered.

Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called. Let me read it to you. The note said, "Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean."

I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant. Never underestimate the impression you may make on others.

Whose life have you touched today?

What is the NSA?
A government organization that actually listens to you.

When You Fly Other Airlines

A flight attendant for a major airline, watched one day as a passenger overloaded with bags tried to stuff his belongings in the overhead bin of the plane.

Finally, she informed him that he would have to check the over-sized luggage. "When I fly other airlines," he said irritably, "I don't have this problem."

The flight attendant smiled, "When you fly other airlines, I don't have this problem either."

SAFETY FIRST

A teenage boy and his grandfather go fishing one day. While fishing, the old man starts talking about how times have changed. The young man picks up on this and starts talking about the various problems and diseases going around. The teen says, "Grandpa, they didn't have a whole lot of problems with all these diseases when you were young did they?"

Grandpa replies, "Nope."

"Well, what did you guys use for safe sex?"

"A wedding ring."

THE SECRET OF LIFE IS:

A father used to say to his children when they were young: —When you all reach the age of 12 I will tell you the secret of life. One day when the oldest turned 12, he anxiously asked his father what was the secret of life. The father replied that he was going to tell him, but that he should not reveal it to his brothers.

—The secret of life is this: The cow does not give milk. "What are you saying?" Asked the boy incredulously. —As you hear it, son: The cow does not give milk, you have to milk it. You have to get up at 4 in the morning, go to the field, walk through the corral full of manure, tie the tail, hobble the legs of the cow, sit on the stool, place the bucket and do the work yourself.

That is the secret of life, the cow does not give milk. You milk her or you don't get milk. There is this generation that thinks that cows GIVE milk. That things are automatic and free: their mentality is that if "I wish, I ask..... I obtain."



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"They have been accustomed to get whatever they want the easy way...But no, life is not a matter of wishing, asking and obtaining. The things that one receives are the effort of what one does. Happiness is the result of effort. Lack of effort creates frustration."

So, share with your children from a young age the secret of life, so they don't grow up with the mentality that the government, their parents, or their cute little faces is going to give them everything they need in life.

Remember

"Cows don't give milk; you have to work for it."



"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
--- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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I was born a male and identify as a male, but according to Stouffer's Lasagna, I'm a family of 4.

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Drawing will be held on the 20th of month and the winner's name will be published in the next month's edition of Laughs & Lifts.

AGAIN NO PHONE CALLS!!

If your name is published as the winner, you must claim your prize in person with photo ID at 322 Andrews Ave, Ozark, AL. no later than the 15th of the month. Have fun & thank you for supporting the advertisers in Laughs & Lifts

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JUST THE PAST

Wife goes to an astrologer to learn more about her husband. The astrologer asks her, "Do you want to know about your husband's future?" Without hesitation, the wife responds. "I will decide his future, you just tell me about his past."

SHE CALLS ME HANDSOME

My wife calls me handsome... Every payday she says to me, "Hand some over!"

"What would you like for your birthday?"

"Nothing would make me happier than a guitar!"

"Great, I'll get you nothing then."

CAT AND LIES

One of the most striking differences between a cat & a lie is that a cat has only nine lives.
~MARK TWAIN -

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If two men agree on everything, then only one is doing the thinking!

BOTTOM OF THE CLASS

"I'm worried about you always being at the bottom of your class," said the father to his son.

"Don't worry Dad," he replied. "They still teach the same thing at both ends."

THE EARLY DAYS

My wife and I were talking the other day about how far we have come. We started off with nothing and we still have most of it left! When we got married she drove a Vette but it was a Chevette. She had worn so many flour sack dresses that when I kissed her she tasted like a buttermilk biscuit.

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BE MY VALENTINE

A guy walks into a post office one day to see a middle-aged, balding man standing at the counter methodically placing "Love" stamps on bright pink envelopes with hearts all over them. He then takes out a perfume bottle and starts spraying

scent all over them. His curiosity getting the better of him, he goes up to the balding man and asks him what he is doing. The man says, "I'm sending out 1,000 Valentine cards signed, 'Guess who?'"

"But why?" asks the man.
"I'm a divorce lawyer," the man replies.

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Aunt T's Kitchen

Vidalia Onion Pie

Serves 8

INGREDIENTS

Pie Crust

- 2 1/2 cups crumbled Ritz crackers
- 1/3 cup melted butter

Pie Filling

- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 1/2 cups thinly sliced vidalia onions
- 3/4 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- dash hot sauce
- 3/4 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1/2 tsp dry parsley , optional



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven for 350F.
2. Mix the melted butter into the crumbled crackers until the butter is absorbed all the crackers are wet with the butter. Evenly spread into a 9 inch pie pan and press on the bottom and along the sides to make a pie shell.
3. Heat the 2 tbsp butter in a skillet over medium low heat. Add the sliced onions and saute until they are tender. This should take about 10 minutes.
4. While the onions are sauteeing, whisk together the milk, eggs, salt, pepper and hot sauce in a bowl until well mixed.

ONIONS

5. Once the onions are tender, evenly spread on the cracker pie crust. Pour egg mixture over the onions in the pie crust. Top with grated cheese and parsley.
6. Bake in 350F oven for 40 minutes.
7. Let cool for 5 minutes. Slice and serve.

Southern Onion Rings

INGREDIENTS

- 1 quart oil for frying, or as needed
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons salt, divided
- 2 teaspoons ground black pepper, divided
- 3 egg whites
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 3 large sweet onions, peeled and sliced into thick rings



DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oil in a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat, or deep-fryer to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
2. Place flour in a shallow baking pan and stir in 1 teaspoon of salt and 1 teaspoon of pepper. In a medium bowl, whisk together egg whites, milk, vinegar, and remaining salt and pepper until frothy.
3. Dip onion rings in wet ingredients then into flour mixture until coated. Then dip in egg white mixture again, and then into flour again.
4. Fry onion rings in hot oil a few at a time so they are not crowded, until golden brown. Drain on paper towels, and serve immediately.

Onion Jam

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- ½ cup white sugar
- 4 cups onion, coarsely chopped
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ground black pepper to taste
- ½ cup red wine vinegar



DIRECTIONS

1. Heat vegetable oil in a heavy skillet over medium heat. Stir sugar into oil with a wooden spoon, stirring constantly, until mixture is a light caramel color, about 10 minutes. Mixture will be very hot.
2. Stir onion, salt, and black pepper into sugar mixture. Onions will immediately start to caramelize. Stir frequently over medium heat until sugar has dissolved

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So many people these days are too judgmental.
I can tell just by looking at them. ~ Powell Adams

and onions are browned, about 15 minutes.

3. Pour red wine vinegar into onion mixture; simmer until mixture reaches a jam consistency, about 30 minutes. Let cool to serve.

NOTE: Serve a cup of jam over a bar of creme cheese with crackers or as a spread for meat sandwiches. Store covered in refrigerator for up to two weeks.

French Onion Soup

INGREDIENTS

- 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) butter
- 4 large onions, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 32 ounces beef broth
- 3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- salt to taste
- 4 slices thick crusty bread, toasted
- 4 slices provolone or gruyere cheese



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat a dutch oven or stock pot over medium heat. Add butter; melt. Add sliced onions, pepper and garlic powder; sauté for 7-8 minutes until tender.
2. Add beef broth, Worcestershire sauce and salt to taste. Bring to a simmer, cover and simmer for at least 10 minutes. Keep warm until ready to serve.
3. Just before serving, preheat broiler. Arrange oven-proof individual crocks, bowls or soup mugs with a wide mouth on a baking sheet.
4. Ladle soup into bowls. Top each with a slice of toasted bread and a slice of cheese. Place under broiler until cheese melts and is slightly golden. Serve warm.

Notes

For make-ahead prep, prepare the soup through the simmering stage, then cover and refrigerate up to two days. When ready to serve, rewarm soup stove top, then proceed with the recipe.

Stuffed Onions

INGREDIENTS

- 6 medium yellow onions (about 2 pounds)
- 2 bacon strips, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup dry bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley or 2 teaspoons dried parsley flakes
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1-1/2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Dash each pepper and ground nutmeg
- 1/2 cup beef broth



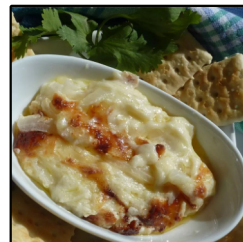
DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375°. In a Dutch oven, bring a small amount of water to a boil. Peel onions; using a slotted spoon, place onions in boiling water. Cook for 4-6 minutes more until softened; remove and let stand until cool enough to handle. Cut a 1/4-in. slice off the top of each onion. Remove center, leaving a 1/2-in shell. Chop centers and tops of onions; set aside. In a skillet, cook bacon until crisp; remove to paper towel to drain. In the drippings, saute chopped onion until tender. Stir in bread crumbs and parsley. Add the butter and mushrooms; cook until mushrooms are tender. Add bacon, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Stuff onion shells; place in an ungreased shallow 1-qt. baking dish. Pour broth around onions. Bake, uncovered, until tender, 45 minutes, basting frequently during the first 15 minutes.

Vidalia Sweet Onion dip

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 cups shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cups thinly sliced Vidalia sweet onion
- hot sauce, or to taste



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Stir the mayonnaise, Swiss cheese, Parmesan cheese, Vidalia onion, and hot sauce together in a casserole dish.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until the edges are golden brown, 30 to 35 minutes. Allow to cool 10 minutes before serving.

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"Football is a great game but makes a terrible god."

Big Congratulations to Dale Medical Center's Firestarter's for the quarter-December 2023!

(L-R): Katie Mixon Mathis, Ben McCain, Jason Jones, Debra King, Becky Mixon
and front row, Sparkie, Dale Medical Center's Firestarter Mascot.



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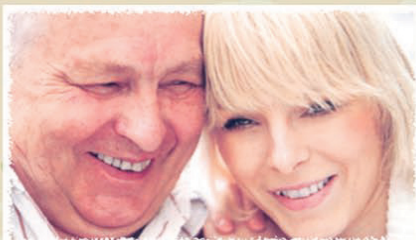
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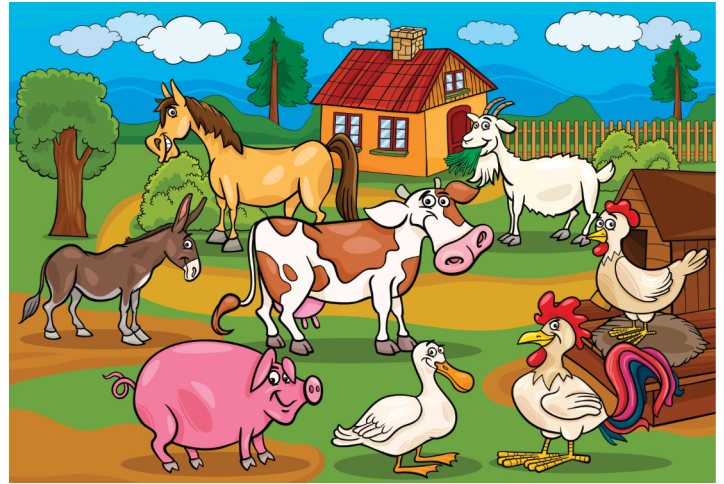
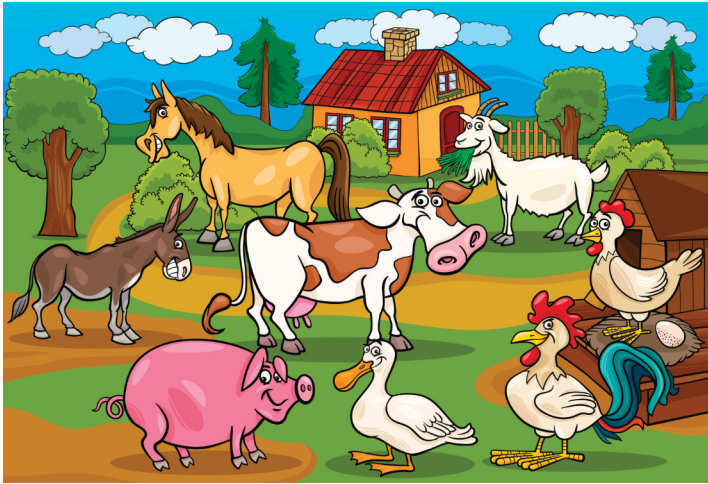
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Went to an antique auction yesterday and 3 people bid on me!

FIND 10 DIFFERENCES

IN THESE PHOTOS ... Solution on Page 30



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In The Gutter

"Do you remember first meeting your wife?"

"Sure, I found Jill lying face down in the gutter. I lifted her to her feet and promised her that if she agreed to marry me, she would begin a new life and I'd never allow her near the gutter again."

"Wow, I hope she appreciates what you did for her."

"Not really. Jill hated to give up bowling."

What's A Finger Fumbler

Ever heard of a Finger Fumbler? If you know ASL (American Sign Language), then you have a better chance of knowing. A Finger Fumbler is the sign language equivalent of a Tongue Twister.

The parents were very disappointed in the grades that their son brought home.

"The only consolation I can find in these awful grades," lamented the father, "is that I know he's not cheating on his exams."

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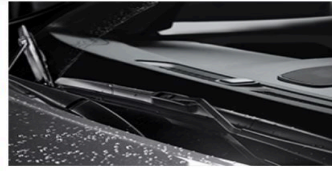


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Some people should carry a plant around to replace the oxygen they waste.
This doesn't apply to any of the Laughs & Lifts readers. Ya'll smart.

DAD: You should become a cop.

DAUGHTER: I don't want to.

DAD: You chase the same men they do, might as well get paid for it.



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I'm not sure if the doctor said I was obese or I was a beast!

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Contributors:

Wallace Kennedy, Jr.
Hayes Wise, Wise Words
Tric Glenn, Aunt T's Kitchen
Dee Gilbert, Claybank Master Gardeners



@ Laughs and Lifts Magazine

THE BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND!

By Wallace Kennedy, Jr.

The Battlefield Of The Mind

As Christians living in a fallen world, Jesus says to us: *John 16:33 I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.* (NLT)



So then, we are not exempt from daily struggles, often in our minds, the battlefield of the mind. Everything we do, every word we say, and every decision we make naturally begin in our minds.

The symptoms of losing the battle are usually manifested in mental or emotional issues, such as anxiety, disbelief, depression, anger, bitterness, condemnation, etc. All of these hinder our communication and, ultimately, our relationship with God.

Ephesians 6:12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. (NLT)

Satan cannot read our minds. He is not omniscient. The scriptures teach that only Jesus knows the thoughts of all people (*Matthew 9:1-4; John 2:24*) This truth demonstrates the divinity of Christ. Besides, no one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit (*1 Corinthians 2:11*).

It is imperative that a believer develop the mind of Christ, and it starts with: *Romans 12:2 Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God, what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.*

We must intentionally manage the things we allow ourselves to give much thought to. And cast down every imagination that comes against the knowledge of God's Word. (*2 Corinthians 10:5*)

Paul gives us a wonderful list of things we can think about. It is only when we abide in God's Word that we can think of whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, excellent, or praiseworthy (*Philippians 4:8*).

As we enter into the month of February when many celebrate Valentine's Day. Some maybe "battling with feelings of not being loved". Please know, that you are God's beloved children, you are special and wonderfully created in His image and likeness. Love is a choice God has made towards us before we were born; we must also choose to love others as we love ourselves. As we celebrate Valentine's Day, let this be a reminder of how much you are loved.

If I could have dinner with anyone, alive or dead, there is no question.
I would want them to be alive.

“Wise Words”

By: Hayes Wise

“SURPRISE! SURPRISE! SURPRISE!”

Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!

The first thought most will have when reading those three words is of Gomer Pyle’s famous words. I want to tell you about someone else that voiced those same words. In the 16th century, John Newton started out as a captain of slave ships and an investor in the slave trade. Some years later during his return voyage to England, the ship was caught in a severe storm and about to sink. In response, Newton began praying for God’s mercy, after which the storm began to die down. This experience marked the beginning of his conversion to Christianity.

John would go on to become an evangelical Anglican minister and a slavery abolitionist. One time he was talking to a man about heaven. His listener was an unbeliever and asked John to describe something that he thought would surprise him when he got to heaven. He replied that he could think of three surprises. First, to see many people there whom he didn’t expect to see. Second will be, not to find many church-goers he expected to see. And the third, and greatest of surprises will be to find himself there, knowing how wicked he had been.

John Newton is best known as the author of the song “Amazing Grace”. I think he would be equally surprised at just how popular that song became. The song’s lyrics are based on his experience of receiving God’s grace and mercy, despite the terrible things he had done. Conviction, confession, and conversion, the very same thing can happen to you. (Rom 10:9). No one is so wicked that God can’t save them, not even you. (Rom 10:13-15). Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!

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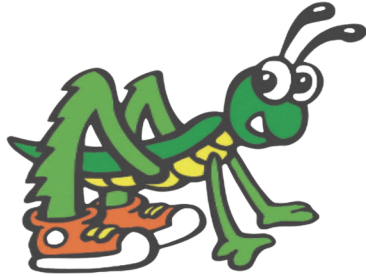
**Well, yes.
They call it “Wok
like and
Egyptian.”**



I need to get in shape. If I was murdered right now my chalk outline would be a circle.

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CLAYBANK MASTER GARDENERS

Many people ask us “When is the best time to trim the bushes and shrubs in our yard?” Good question. **Now is the time.** Traditionally the rose gardeners trim on or by **February 14th**. If you have azaleas, trim after their blooms are done.



This is also a good time to start seeds indoors too. **Beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, Black-seeded Simpson lettuce** (it is more heat tolerant), **onions, sugar snap peas, & spinach** can be started indoors and planted outside in late March or early April in SE Alabama zone 8.

Use a moist seed mix or peat pellets, but not garden soil. Water seeds from below the pots or pellets, but don't let them stand in water too long. A hardware store clamp-light kept about 2" above the seedlings will provide warmth and light and keep them from getting too leggy.

If you have not yet discovered the wonderful **Dothan Area Botanical Gardens** or **Landmark Park**, you are missing two local treasures of inspiration and delight. *Every season* they offer educational and interesting programs the whole family will enjoy. **The Dothan Eagle** posts their upcoming events, as well as **Facebook** and their own home websites, **dabg.com** and **landmarkparkdothan.com**. Also check out **Vivian B. Adams School** in Ozark. They have beautiful tunnel houses providing fresh vegetables and volunteer opportunities. Look up **Vivian's Garden** on **YouTube** and **Facebook**. ***

Coming up:

*Seed Swap at **Landmark Park Saturday, January 27th**, from 10 AM to 2PM at Stokes Activity Barn. See their website or call (334) 794-3452 for more information. *On

Wednesday February 7th at the **Dale County Library** from 12 noon to 2 PM in the **Bay room** there will be a **Lunch and Learn workshop** on **hummingbirds**, by experienced bird bander **Sarah Driver**. Bring your own bag lunch, water will be provided.

* Do you hate to throw away your beautiful cut flowers? At our next meeting on **February 14th**, **Janet Shinaberry** will be demonstrating how to preserve cut flowers.

*The Claybank Master Gardeners meet on the **2nd Wednesday of the month, February 14th**, at **11 AM** at **Hoppergrass Restaurant** in **Ozark, 129 East Ave**. If you choose to buy lunch the line is shorter at 10:30. Come join us, we love new faces and exchange gardening ideas. You can buy lunch if you wish, or just visit to see what Master Gardeners are about. Call the **Dale County Extension office** to verify the time and date of the meeting at **(334) 774-2329**.

Dee Gilbert,

Claybank Master Gardener



When I die I want my last words to be, "I left a Million dollars under the"

Wacky Wordies

Each of the puzzles below provides a visual representation of a common word or phrase. Can you decipher the clues in each puzzle?

Solution on page 28

animation	sugar <i>Please</i>	hair —	L V O R E E A T
T U > L O I P < S	m ce m ce m ce	eyebrows	ri poorch
socket	TORTILLA	12safety345	s d r k i n house

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I am the beginning of everything, the end of everywhere. I'm the beginning of eternity, the end of time and space. WHAT AM I?

A duck is standing next to a busy road, cars zooming past while he waits for a break in traffic.

A chicken walks up to him and says, "Don't do it, man. You'll never hear the end of it."

Submitted by V.J. Cordovano

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere. Why did you spill the coffee?



"Well because someone bumped into me, of course!"

Wrong answer. You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup. Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea. Whatever is inside the cup, is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So, we must ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over? Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility? Or anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions?

GIVING UP EVERYTHING

Eleven people were hanging on a rope under a helicopter, ten men and one woman. The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one has to drop off, otherwise they are all going to fall.

They were not able to choose that person, but then the woman made a very touching speech. She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because as a woman she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids, and for men in general, without ever getting anything in return. As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping their hands.

IT'S ALL IN THE MARKETING...

An inter-office softball game was held every year between the marketing and support staff of one company. The support staff whipped the marketing department soundly.

To show just how the marketing department earns their keep, they posted this memo on the bulletin board after the game:

"The Marketing Department is pleased to announce that for the 2000 Softball Season, we came in 2nd place, having lost but one game all year. The Support Department, however, had a rather dismal season, winning only one game."

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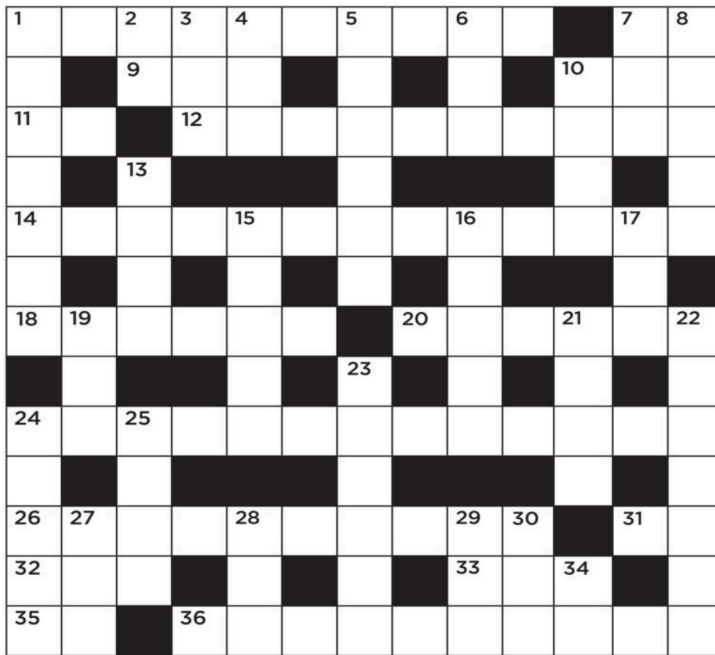
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"You will never reach your destination if you stop and throw stones at every dog that barks." — Winston S. Churchill

Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured. ~ Mark Twain



ACROSS

- 1. Beloved TV star
- 7. Give approval
- 9. Tic-tac-toe victory
- 10. "See ya!"
- 11. Fee, fi, ___, fum
- 12. Part 1 of an observation by 1 Across (three words)
- 14. Part 2 (three words)
- 18. Baltimore's favorite bird
- 20. Right away
- 24. Part 3 (four words)
- 26. Part 4 (two words)
- 31. You and I
- 32. Layer
- 33. Presidential nickname
- 35. Bygone love
- 36. Part 5 (three words)

DOWN

- 1. Bills home
- 2. In the direction of
- 3. Child's delight
- 4. ___-hoo!
- 5. Lady Byng Memorial Trophy sport
- 6. Catch some rays
- 7. Olive ___
- 8. Shade of green
- 10. Neuwirth of *Cheers*
- 13. Hagar the Horrible's daughter
- 15. Oklahoma's second-largest city
- 16. Prize money
- 17. Fragment
- 19. "Go, team!"

- 21. Slangy denial
- 22. Healthy breakfast
- 23. Overexert oneself
- 24. Traditional church donation
- 25. Paradise
- 27. Bad spell
- 28. Seek political office
- 29. Clamor
- 30. Hit the slopes
- 34. *The Wizard of Oz* aunt

WISE UNCLE RUSTY

Uncle Rusty is a wise man. A while back he retired and purchased a modest home near a junior high school. He spent the first few weeks of his retirement in peace and quiet, puttering around his work shop. That is of course until the school year began. On the first day of school three young boys, full of pent up energy from a full day of school, came down his street. As they walked down the street they beat rhythmically on every trash can they past. Day after day, it was the same thing. Beating, clanging and pounding out a rhythm on the cans as they walked down the street.

Poor Uncle Rusty just couldn't take it any more. The next afternoon, he walked out to meet the young musicians. As they worked their way down the street, pounding out a tune on the cans, Rusty stopped them and said, "You kids sure are having a lot of fun. I like seeing young people like you, express themselves. In fact, I used to do the same thing when I was your age. Will you do me a favor? I'll give you each a dollar if you'll promise to come around every day and do your thing." The kids were elated and continued to do a bang up job on the trash cans. After two days, Uncle Rusty greeted the kids again, but this time he had a sad expression on his face. "This recession's really putting a big dent in my income," he told them. "From now on, I'll only be able to pay you 50 cents to beat on the cans." The boys were not pleased, but they did accept his offer and continued their afternoon concert.

A couple of days later, Sly Uncle Rusty approached them again as they drummed their way down the street. With words that would ensure he would have peace and quiet from that day forward he said "Look, my Social Security check just isn't stretching as far with the expenses. So I'm not going to be able to give you more than 25 cents a day. Will that be okay?" "What?! Just a crummy quarter?" the boys exclaimed. "If you think we're going to waste our time, beating these cans around for a quarter, you're nuts! No way, mister. We quit!"

HOMESICK SNOWBIRD

submitted by Larry Nowell

At The Villages in Florida last week, there was a bumper sticker on a parked car that read:

"I miss Chicago."

So someone broke the windows, stole the radio, shot out all four of the tires, added a Biden Bumper Sticker, and left a note that read:

"Hope this helps!!!"

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I found stir fry all over my bed this morning when I awoke?

You must have been sleep wokking again.



SUDOKU

★★

	6	5			7		3	
2				8		6		5
		1	6		2		7	
4		8		9			2	
		9		7		5		
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呪文数独

★★★

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		4	3	8		1		
5			7					9
	7	1	2				9	
	3			7				1
		5			9		3	

"The only things worth learning are the things you learn after you know it all."- Harry S. Truman

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH

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

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ARROW
CANDY
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CONVERSATION
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VALENTINE

Wackie Words answers

Suspended animation

"Pretty please with sugar on top"

Receding hair line

Elevator out of order

"Tiptoe through the tulips"

Three blind mice

Raised eyebrows

Steal from the rich and give to the poor

Top of the morning

Light Socket

Tortilla Flat

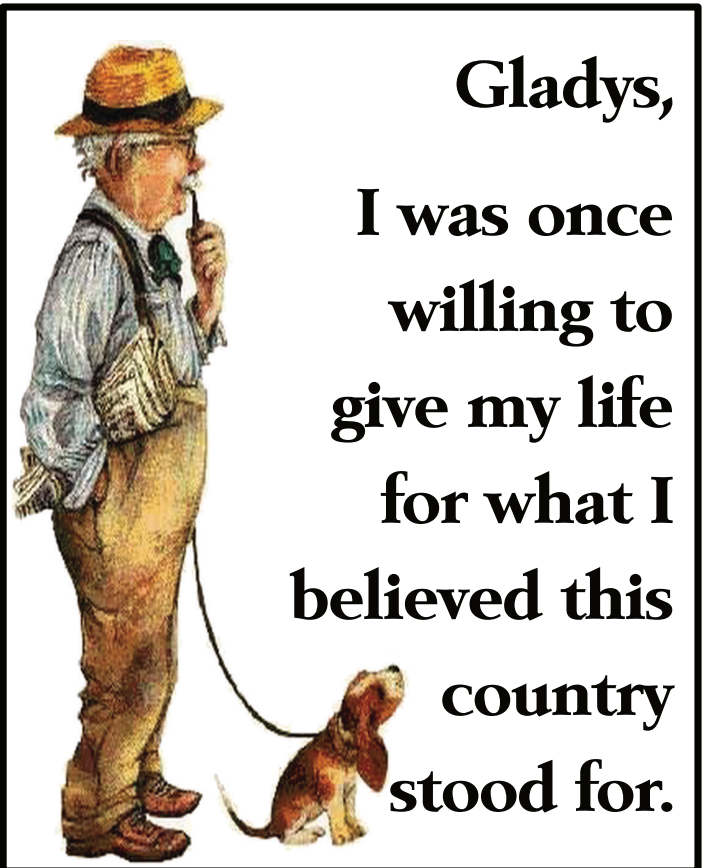
Safety in numbers

Round of drinks on the house.

Number Puzzle 3

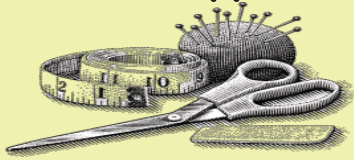
0	2	1	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	8
6	0	2	9	2	2	3	2	7	6	5
8	4	5	7	0	8	0	7	0	9	8
8	4	6	8	8	4	5	5	4	2	7
6	3	9	6	8	0	3	3	1	5	3
6	6	8	2	2	8	0	6	9	2	6
4	2	9	3	6	9	9	4	6	5	9
4	3	1	5	2	1	4	3	5	0	2
2	8	3	9	4	2	4	3	5	1	6
2	5	7	0	8	7	5	6	0	2	0
9	5	3	5	1	0	6	1	9	0	9

- Independence day, 1965
- 20 x 10 x 12 divided by 3
- Valentine's Day, 2001
- 84 + 26 x 7
- 88664422
- 52387 + 1256
- 184 x 13
- square root of 7225



You Work for the Government if...You work for an acronym, on an acronym, and your job title is an acronym.

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As long as we have memories, yesterday remains. As long as we have hope, tomorrow waits. As long as we have love, today is beautiful. As long as we have faith, anything is possible.

I know JC,
Now today,
you may have
to give your
life to protect
your family
from what
this country
has become.



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Crossword Solution

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

I had an uncle who was allergic to cotton...He got some pills for the condition but couldn't get them out of the bottle.

Valentine

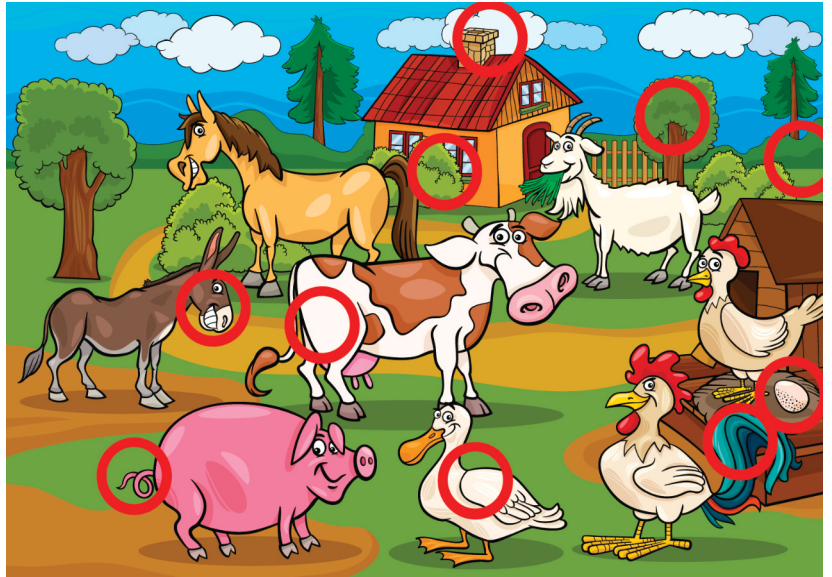
WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

WORD SEARCH ANSWER KEY

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

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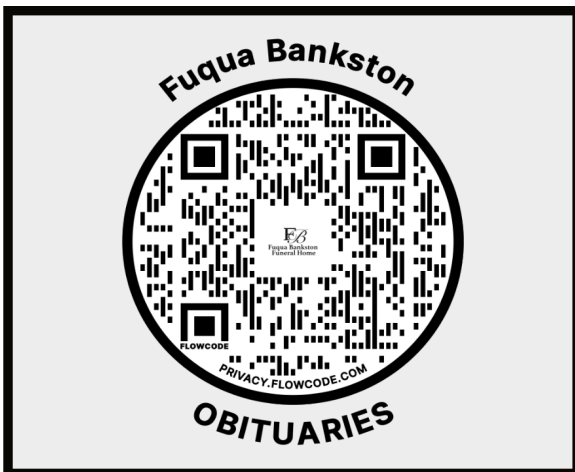
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