

JANUARY 20 ATLANTA







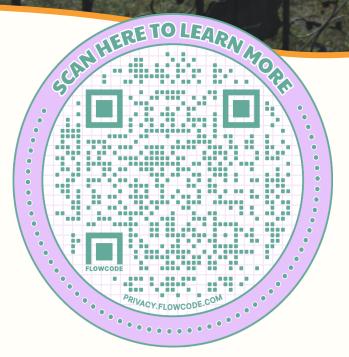












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Well, He Wanted to Know

After years of wondering why he didn't look like his younger sister or brother, a young man finally got up the nerve to ask his mother if he was adopted.

"Yes, you were son," his mother said as she started to cry softly. "But it didn't work out and **they brought you back."**

Stop Wearing Black

"I'll stop wearing black when they make a darker color."

Wednesday Addams, "The Addams family"

Must Be the Camera

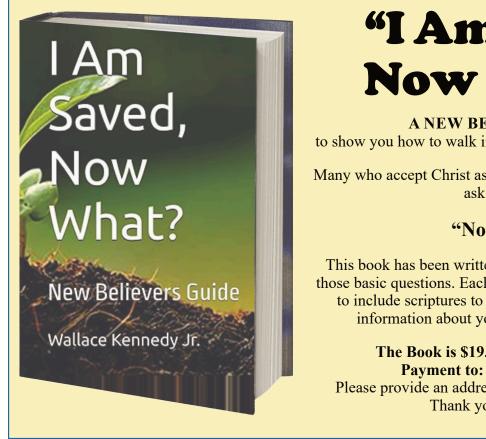
A photographer was invited to dinner with friends and took along a few pictures to show the lady of the house. She looked at the photos and commented, "These are great! You must have a good camera."

He didn't make any comment, but as he was leaving to go home he said, "That was a really delicious meal! You must have some very good pots."



JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 4

"There is more hunger in the world for love and appreciation than for bread." - Mother Teresa



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LAUGHS & LIFTS



A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered.

At mealtime, the family gathered at the table, but the grandfather struggled. His shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Food would roll off his spoon and onto the table. His drink would spill when he tried to grasp the glass.

The son and daughter-in-law grew frustrated with the mess. "We need to do something about Dad,"

JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 6 _____ said the son. "I'm tired of the spilled drinks, the noisy eating, and food on the floor."

So, they set up a small table away from their table for Grandfather to eat alone, while the rest of the family sat together. Because he had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. Occasionally, when the family glanced in his direction, they would notice a tear in the old man's eye as he sat alone. Yet, the only words he received from the couple were sharp reprimands when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched this all in silence. One evening, just before supper, the father noticed his son playing with some scraps of wood on the floor. He approached the child gently and asked, "What are you making?"

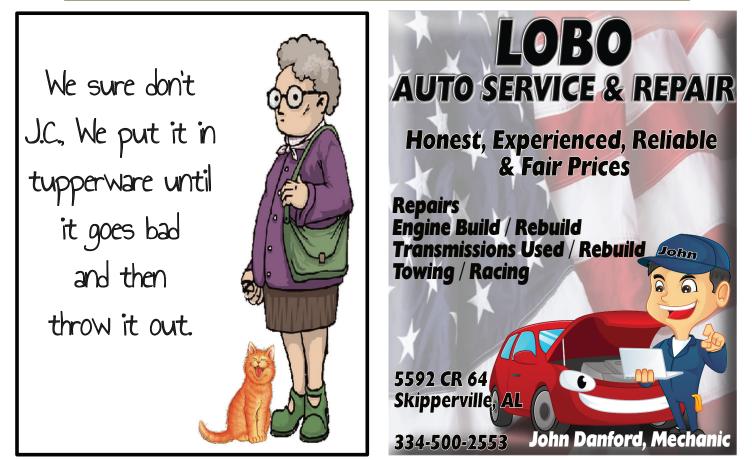
The boy smiled sweetly and replied, "I'm making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up."

The day they handed out patience I left because it was taking too long





"The only time to eat diet food is while you're waiting on the steak to cook," ~~Julie Child



JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 8 Published since 2008.

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Contributors: Wallace Kennedy, Jr. Hayes Wise, "Wise Words" Tric Parrish, "Aunt T's Kitchen" Dee Gilbert, "Claybank Master Gardeners" Special Thanks to Granny's Funnies and Sarcastic

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JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 9



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Here's an interesting thought to ponder....technically, all the money you have ever spent on food has been flushed down the toilet.

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?"Because someone bumped into

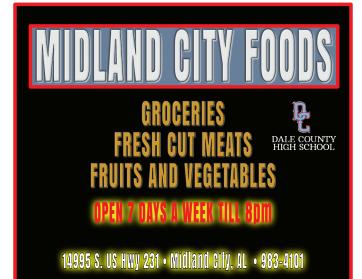


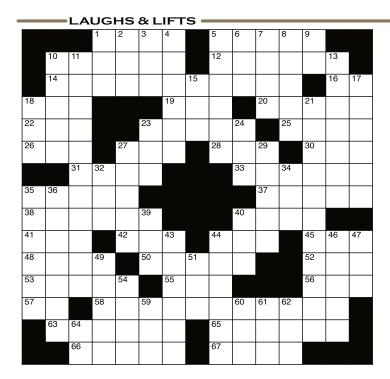
me!!!" ...Wrong answer. You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup. Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out. Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled. So we have to ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?" When life gets tough, what spills over? Joy, gratitude, peace and humility? Anger, bitterness, victim mentality and quitting tendencies? life provides the cup, YOU choose how to fill it.

life provides the cup, YOU choose how to fill it. This Year let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation, resilience, positivity; and kindness, gentleness and love for others. The mother of three notoriously unruly youngsters was asked whether or not she'd have children if she had it

to do over again. "Sure," she replied, "but not the same ones."







CLUES ACROSS 1. Color

properties 5. Arabian greeting 10. Frožen spike 12. Levels 14. Tear down social stiffness Rapper Hammer's initials 18. Midway between E and SE 19. Shooting marble 20. Edward British composer 22. Largest English dictionary (abbr.) 23. Cýgnus' brightest star 25. Goidelic language of Ireland 26. Midway between N and NE 27. Auditory organ 28. Last month (abbr.) 30. Indicated horsepower (abbr.) Médiation council Aussie crocodile hunter 35. Sylvan deity 37. Clears or tidies 38. In a way, emerges 40. Whimper 41. G. Gershwin's

brother 42. Begetter 44. Seated 45. Old world, new 48. Girls 50. "Song of triumph" 52. A covering for the head 53. Attack 55. Norwegian krone 56. Coach Parseghian 57. No good 58. Task that is simple 63. A way to move on 65. In a way, advanced 66. Loses weight 67. Shift sails

CLUES DOWN

1. Go quickly 2. Fiddler crabs 3. Cervid 4. Gundog 5. Gushed forth 6. Caliph Sho'e cord 8. Give extreme unction to 9. Of I 10. "A Doll's House" author 11. Documents certifying authórity 13. Drunk 15. Principal ethnic group of China 17. Crinkled fabrics Longest division of geological time

21. Pancake 23. Small pat 24. A garden plot 27. Strayed 29. Surgical instrument 32. No. French river 34. Modern 35. Now called Ho Chi Minh City 36. Set into a specific format 39. Exhaust 40. Individual 43. Moves rhythmically to músic 44. D. Lamour "Road" picture costumė 46. Having earlike appendages 47. Certified public accountant 49. Outermost part of a flower 51. Supplement with difficulty 54. Plains Indian tent (alt. sp.) 59. Electronic warfare-support measures 60. Displaying a fairylikė aspect 61. Taxi 62. They 64. Syrian pound

A OLD SNAKE GOES TO SEE HIS DOCTOR.

"Doc, I need something for my eyes..

.can't see well these days".

The Doc fixes him up with a pair of glasses and tells him to return in 2 weeks.



The snake comes back in 2 weeks and tells the doctor he's very depressed.

Doc says, "What's the problem.. .didn't the glasses help you?" "The glasses are fine doc, I just discovered I've been living with a water hose the past 2 years!"

After all this parenting, I think I'll become a hostage negotiator. Seems less stressful.



LAUGHS & LIFTS •



JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 11

After a long and exhausting day, a young woman finally settled into her seat on the train, hoping for a peaceful ride home. She closed her eyes, ready to drift into some muchneeded rest. But her hopes were quickly dashed by the man sitting next to her, who whipped out his phone and began speaking loudly enough for the entire train car to hear.

"Hi, sweetheart, it's John! I'm on the train," he announced. "Yes, I know it's 6:30, not 4:30, but I had a long meeting." "No, honey, I wasn't with Cathy from Accounts—I was with the boss, I swear." "You're the only one in my life. Yes, I'm sure, dear." For a solid fifteen minutes, the conversation dragged on, his voice dominating the space and testing the patience of everyone around him. Finally, the young woman had enough. She leaned in close to him, then spoke loudly into his phone:

"John, darling, hang up and come back to bed already." The train car erupted into laughter, and John's face turned bright red. He hung up instantly. And from that day on, John never made another loud phone call in public.

Be happy with what you have and are...be generous with both & happiness will chase you around.



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MAC & CHEESE

8 Servings INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups macaroni noodles
- 1 lb chicken breast, cut into cubes
- Salt & pepper
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1/3 cup flour
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 4 cups whole milk
- 4 cups broccoli florets
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2 teaspoon dijon mustard

INSTRUCTIONS

HERS

DRYERS

1. Cook pasta per package directions, drain & set aside

2. Salt and pepper the chicken to taste and cook in 1 tablespoon of butter until done, remove from skillet and set aside

3. Add remaining butter in the same skillet and cook onion and red bell pepper until tender and transparent.

4. Stir in flour and cook for 1 minute.

5. Stir in broth, milk, and mustard and simmer until thickened.

6. Stir in broccoli and chicken until broccoli is cooked - around 3-4 minutes.

7. Remove from heat, let stand 1 minute then stir in cooked pasta and cheese until smooth.

8. Add salt and pepper to taste, serve, & enjoy!

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RANG



4-8 Servings

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 cup onion chopped
- 1 cup celery chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 7 oz can sliced mushrooms drained
- 13.75 oz can quartered artichokes drained and chopped
- 1 tbsp flour
- 8 oz. cream cheese softened
- 14 oz can cut leaf spinach drained and squeezed
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup freshly shredded Parmesan cheese
- 2 cup mozzarella cheese shredded
- 2 cups cooked chicken chopped
- salt and pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat olive oil over medium heat in a large pot

2. Add in onion and celery and allow to soften about 5 minutes

3. Stir in garlic and cook for 1 minute

4. Pour in the sliced mushrooms and chopped artichokes

5. Sprinkle our over vegetables and stir, allow to cook for 1-2 minutes

6. Stir in the cream cheese and allow it to melt and coat all the ingredients

7. Add in the spinach and combine





 $\left(D \right)$



8. Pour in the chicken broth, milk, Parmesan cheese and mozzarella cheese

9. Add in the chicken and season with salt and pepper to taste

10. Bring to a boil and allow to simmer for 10-15 minutes

JALAPENO POPPER

6 Servings

INGREDIENTS

- 10 slices bacon, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 3 4 jalapeno peppers, stemmed, seeded, and finely chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped green onions
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- ¹/₃ cup all-purpose flour
- 2 14.5-ounce cans reducedsodium chicken broth
- 1 cup half-and-half or whole milk



- 2 cup shredded deli-roasted chicken breast
- 18-ounce package cream cheese, cut up and softened
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese (4 oz.)
- 1 ½ cup purchased garlic croutons, lightly

crushed INSTRUCTIONS

- In a 4 to 5qt. Dutch oven cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Drain on paper towels, reserving 3 Tbsp. drippings in pot. Add bell pepper and jalapenos. Cook for about 5 minutes or until peppers are just tender, stirring occasionally. Stir in green onions and garlic; cook 1 minute more.
- 2. Add flour; cook and stir for 1 minute. Gradually stir in broth and half-and-half. Bring to boiling, stirring frequently. Stir in chicken. Return mixture to boiling; cook and stir1 minute. Remove from heat.
- 3. Place cream cheese in a medium heat-proof bowl. Slowly stir about1/2 cup of the hot broth mixture until smooth and creamy.
- 4. Stir cream cheese mixture and cheddar cheese into chicken mixture until melted. Reserve about 1/4 cup bacon for topping; stir remaining bacon into soup. Top servings with crushed croutons and reserved bacon. If desired, sprinkle with additional chopped green onion,

chopped jalapenos, and/or shredded cheddar cheese.

CHICKEN ALFREDO SOUP

6 Servings INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt, plus more to taste
- 3 Tbsp. salted butter
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 4 c. low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 c. heavy cream
- 4 oz. fettuccine, broken into 2-inch pieces
- 3 c. broccoli florets
- 2 c. chopped cooked chicken
- 1/4 c. fresh parsley, chopped
- 1/2 c. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- Red pepper flakes, to taste(optional) INSTRUCTIONS

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Melt the butter in a medium Dutch oven over medium-low heat. Add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, 5 to 6 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until sizzling, about 1 minute. Sprinkle in the flour and stir to coat the vegetables. Cook, stirring, until the coating is smooth but not browned, about 2 minutes.

2. Add the chicken broth, heavy cream, 1 cup water and 1/2 teaspoon salt to the pot, and stir to combine. Adjust the heat so the soup is simmering and cook until slightly thickened, about 10 minutes.

 Meanwhile, add the fettuccine to the boiling water and cook until just al dente, 6 to 7 minutes, adding the broccoli to the pot in the last 3 minutes of cooking. Drain well, then stir the pasta and broccoli into the soup along with the chicken.
Return the soup to a simmer and heat the

chicken through, about 2 minutes. Stir in the parsley. Remove from the heat and stir in the Parmesan and lemon juice; sprinkle with red pepper flakes, if desired.

"Lord, we thank you for every blessing in our lives. As we eat to nourish our bodies, we pray that you, O Bread of Life, might nourish our souls"





LAUGHS & LIFTS -

A young man buys a chicken farm in the countryside but knows little about raising chickens. Seeking advice, he approaches a seasoned farmer, who agrees to help. "Meet me here tomorrow at 6 a.M., And I'll show you the ropes," the old farmer says. The next morning, the young man arrives and is stunned to see the farmer dressed to the nines—three-piece suit, top hat, cane, monocle, and even spats. Confused but silent, you?" The he follows the farmer into the chicken coop. The moment they step inside, chaos erupts. A swarm of 20-30 chickens attacks the young man, pecking, clawing, and flapping relentlessly. After a frantic 30 seconds, he bolts from the coop, bruised and breathless. Turning back, he sees the old farmer standing

calmly. untouched, with not a single chicken bothering him.

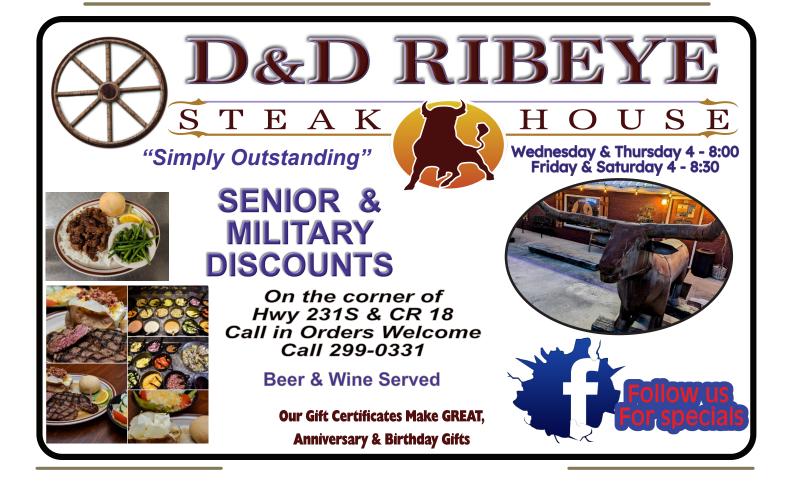
"Why didn't they attack young man asks in disbelief. The farmer



tips his hat and says, "lesson one, son: when dealing with chickens, always dress impeccably."



"You'll never change your life until you change something you do daily." Mike Murdock





Imagine how expensive the I-phone would be if they had called it Organic Apple



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Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going.



WACKIE WORDS

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The fourth-grade teacher had to leave the room for a few minutes. When she returned, she found the children in perfect order. Everybody was sitting absolutely quiet. She was shocked and stunned and said, "I've never seen anything like it before. This is wonderful. But, please tell me, what came over all of you? Why are you so well behaved and quiet?"

Finally, after much urging, little Sally spoke up and said, "Well, one time you said that if you ever came back and found us quiet, you would drop dead."

A lot of women say their husbands don't listen. Luckily, I've never heard my wife say that.



— LAUGHS & LIFTS — The Fruit Of The Spirit Is Goodness

JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 19

By Wallace Kennedy, Jr.

The Holy Spirit is the source of the fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, GOODNESS, faith, 23 meekness, temperance: against such



there is no law.Ephesians 5:9 For it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of GOODNESS, righteousness, and truth.

Fruit as a metaphor: The "fruit" imagery signifies that these qualities are not forced but naturally grow from a life yielded to the Holy Spirit, similar to how a tree produces fruit based on its root system. First and foremost, it's essential to understand that this spiritual fruit is not a mere personality trait that believers muster up through their own efforts. Rather, it is the natural outcome, or "harvest," of a life surrendered to the guidance and control of the Holy Spirit.

The Greek word for GOODNESS is agathosune, which means "uprightness of heart and life". The Bible defines GOODNESS as a moral characteristic that involves actively choosing to be kind, generous, and understanding towards others. It's about going above and beyond to spread positivity and care, even when it's not required. GOODNESS can often be seen in our actions, but our heart also has to be pure. The goodness of Christ is to be demonstrated in our lives every day. Psalm 23:6 says, "Surely GOODNESS and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Paul is speaking to you and I today: I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of GOODNESS, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another. Romans 15:14 (NIV)

We often say in church, "God is good all the time. And all the time God is good." Does this mean that our lives are always good? No, of course not. It means that God is practicing the fruit of the spirit of goodness, godliness. God is good, and He wants us to grow in the fruit of goodness so we can live a fulfilling life full of righteous love.

May your New Year be filled with peace, prosperity, and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy, and peaceful New Year.

God bless you and keep you in His care!



If you ever testify in court, you might wish you could have been as sharp as this policeman. He was being cross-examined by a defense attorney during a felony trial. The lawyer was trying to undermine the police officer's credibility...

334-726-3278 or 334-726-3277

Q: 'Officer --- did you see my client fleeing the scene?'

A: 'No sir. But I subsequently observed a person matching the description of the offender, running several blocks away.' Q: 'Officer, who provided this description?' A: 'The officer who responded to the scene.' Q: 'A fellow officer provided the description of this so-called offender. Do you trust your fellow officers?'

A: 'Yes, sir. With my life.'

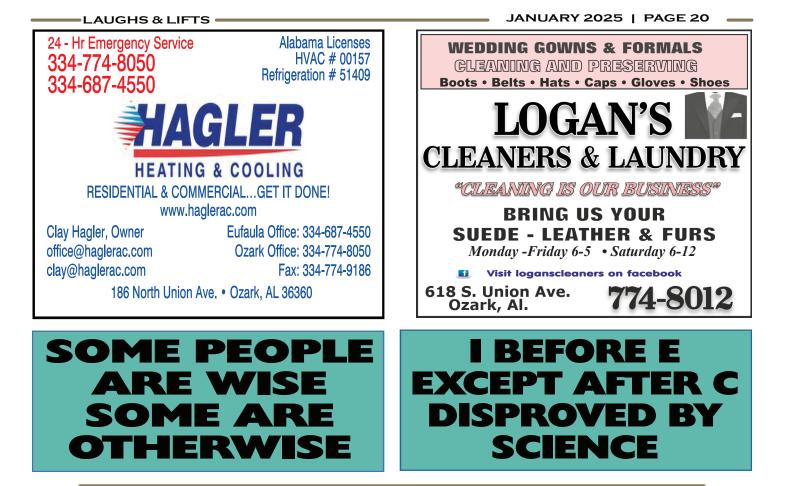
Q: 'With your life? Let me ask you this then officer. Do you have a room where you change your clothes in preparation for your daily duties?' A: 'Yes sir, we do!'

Q: 'And do you have a locker in the room?' A: 'Yes, sir, I do.'

Q: 'And do you have a lock on your locker?' A: 'Yes, sir.'

Q: 'Now, why is it, officer, if you trust your fellow officers with your life, you find it necessary to lock your locker in a room you share with these same officers?'

A: 'You see, sir, we share the building with the court complex, and sometimes lawyers have been known to walk through that room.'



I set aside a dollar every time a woman found me unattractive.. Now they are starting to find me attractive...





AUGHS & LIFTS young boy approached an elderly man one day and asked, "What is the biggest lesson life has taught you?" The old man paused, his face filled with

concern. "I'm sorry, but I'm not in the mood to talk right now. I'm deeply troubled." The boy, sensing the man's worry, asked. "What's wrong, sir?" The old man sighed



heavily. "My cow has been in labor for over twenty hours. I fear she might not make it. The pain is unbearable for her." The boy thought for a moment, then spoke up. "You must do something about it, sir." The old man shook his head, looking helpless. "I don't know what to do. I'm old and weak, and I don't have the knowledge to help her. But maybe, if we ask others for



JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 21 advice, we could save her. What do you think?" The boy nodded, feeling a sense of urgency. The old man continued, "Go down the road, meet four people, and ask for their advice about my cow. We need to know what others think." The boy set off immediately, eager to help. He returned an hour later and said, "I spoke with four people. The first said you should call the vet right away to perform a surgery and remove the calf. The second said to give the cow more time to give birth naturally and not worry. The third said you should kill the cow and sell the meat since she would die anyway. The fourth said you should try pulling the calf out with your own hands."

The old man listened carefully, then asked, "Interesting, isn't it? Everyone has a different opinion. Which one do you think I should follow?" The boy was perplexed. "I don't know. Each person had a different solution. It's confusing."

The old man smiled warmly, patting the boy on the shoulder. "I was surprised when you asked me about the biggest lesson life has taught me. Instead of simply telling you, I wanted you to experience it for yourself. I pretended that my cow was in pain and needed help, all to show you how differently people can view the same situation. The biggest lesson I've learned is that people can look at the same thing and see it in different ways. Just because someone's opinion differs from yours doesn't mean they're wrong. Life teaches us that we should be open-minded and respectful of other people's views, even if we don't agree with them. We don't need to argue or fight because our opinions clash.

Embrace the diversity of thought and be

kind to others' perspectives." The boy smiled, finally understanding. He had learned a valuable lesson that day—one that would stay with him for life.

LAUGHS & LIFTS

Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, A heart that forgives the worst, A mind that forgets the bad, And a soul that never Loses faith in God.

PEOPLE BE LIKE: "He doesn't act like a Christian." God be like: "Good I'm not looking for actors."



"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Martin Luther King, Jr.

When I was in the second grade, I used to ask a lot of questions....! One day, I asked my English teacher, "Why do we ignore some letters in pronunciation eg. The letter H....in Hour. Honor,...etc....???" My English teacher said. "We are nor ignoring them; they are considered silent." I was even more confused. During the lunch break, my teacher gave me her packed lunch and asked me to heat it in the cafeteria. I ate all the food and returned the empty container to her. My teacher says, "What happened? I told you to Heat my food, you are returning an

empty container. I replied, Ma'am I thought "H" was silent.

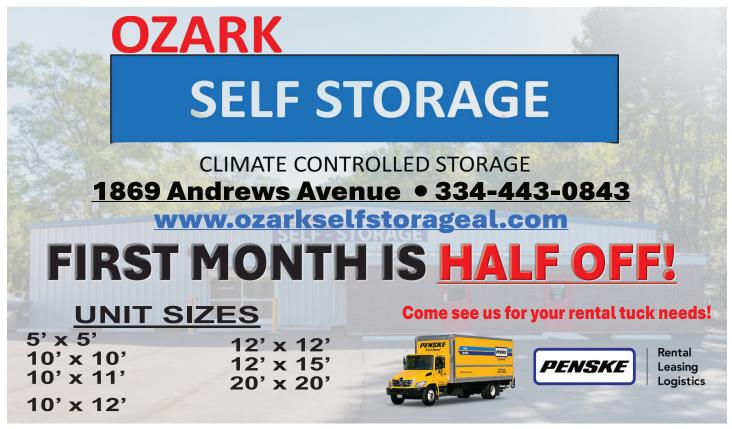
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Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the cool table in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.

"Wise Words" By: Hayes Wise PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

A friend posted a photo of a person with a worried, apprehensive look on his face. These words were written on it, "You can't change the past and you can't predict the future, but you can ruin the present by worrying about both." Worry and fear are natural feelings that we experience in this human body. If someone tells you they don't, they are lying. How we handle these and other human emotions is another thing.

While our initial response will follow our human instincts, lash out in anger, cry over a hurt, mourn a loved one, hurt ourself over a seemingly impossible situation. Our delayed response depends on our relationship with Jesus. If you don't have one, you will continue on to a condition of despair. If you are a bornagain Christian, you will pause and ask yourself how would Jesus respond? The Bible says that the past, present, and future, are all important for living a balanced Christian life. What does God say about worrying about the past? "Forget the things that happened in the past. Do not keep on thinking about them. I am about to do something new. It is beginning to happen even now." (Isa 43:18-19). What does God say about the future? "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jer 29:11). What does God say about the present? We see Jesus teaching us to embrace the present moment. "Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. (Mat 6:34). I have discovered that there is a difference in how Christians live life. Are they always nice, happy, joyful, and never worried? No! We are human and as such aren't perfect. But we recover, some faster than others, and seek to do the right thing. We are told to think on what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy and the peace of God will be with us. (Phil 4:8-9). Do this, and God will take care of your past, present, and future.



JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 24



WORLD'S GREATEST BIBLE SALESMAN"

A man had just accepted his new job as a door-to-door Bible salesman and was introducing himself to his new coworkers.

It quickly became clear that the man had a severe stutter and the other workers began to make fun of him for it. But by the end of the week when the man had sold over 100 Bibles. This continued throughout the year and he was awarded salesman of the year and was asked to share his technique and secret to selling.

"How do you manage to sell that many Bibles?", his boss asked at the award ceremony.

"It's r-really s-s-simple," he said. "I-i-I j-j-j-j-ju-ju-ju-just wa, wa, wa, just wal- wa- wa- walk, just walk up to up to up to just walk up to them and and ask, them and ask, them and ask if th-th-th-th ask if they w-w-w-wwa- ask if they want t-t-t-t-o-o- if they want to b-b-b-b-b if they want to buy a Bi-bi – want to buy a Bi-b-a – a- abi – buy a to buy a Bi-bi-bible, or d-d-d-d do th-th-they do they ww-w-ant me to READ it to 'em?"

Inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

Find the 10 or More Differences



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I'm in favor of a law that requires all telemarketers to wear shock collars that can be activated by pressing the pound (#) key.

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Eighty-year-old Bessie bursts into the recreation room of the retirement

She holds her clenched

announces, "Anyone who can guess what's in my hand, can take me out to

A witty, elderly gentleman in the rear shouts out, "An

replies, "Close enough!"

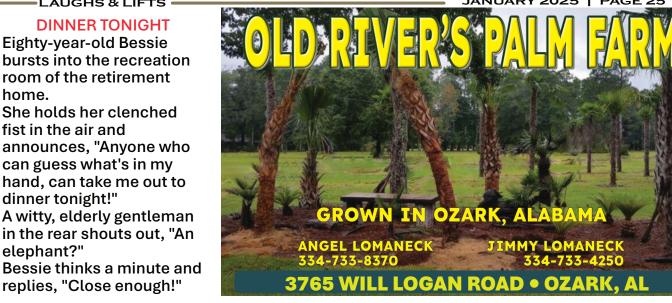
fist in the air and

dinner tonight!"

elephant?"

home.

JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 25



Saying "I'm offended" is basically telling the world you can't control your own emotions so everyone else should do it for you.



The Upper Crust... Just a few crumbs held together with a lot of dough!

Once you carry your own water, you learn the value of every drop.

CLAYBANK MASTER GARDENERS January 2025 Happy New Year Gardeners!

*If you have an interest in "Hobby Greenhouses" you don't want to miss the January 8th Claybank Master Gardener meeting at Hoppergrass Restaurant when Jan Schaumleffle, an experienced greenhouse owner and Wiregrass Master Gardener, will share her expertise with us.

(I think the planners had this particular gardener in mind!)

*Although January seems like a month of dead gardens, there are all kinds of activities going on above and below the surface of



your yard. Although it is a time of rest for our outdoor plants, be sure leave some dead stems and flowerheads, because birds and pollinators are still on the lookout for seeds, hollow stems, tree cavities, dead leaf debris & brush piles for shelter and nesting during the winter.

*Did you know that the leftover cooking water

from your potatoes and other vegetables are a rich sources of nutrients that your outdoor plants and shrubs can use? Sweet potato and regular potato water, steamed veggie water, if not overly salted, will nourish your roses and other perennials. Our asparagus bed gets broccoli, kale, and cauliflower water whenever it's available!

*Wednesday February 12th, 2025 will be the date for the next Claybank Master Gardeners meeting at Hoppergrass Restaurant in Ozark, located across the street from the Three Scoops Ice Cream Shop at 129 S. East Ave. Call the Dale County Extension Office at (334) 774-2329 to verify the date. The meeting starts at 11 AM, but if you wish to buy lunch at the buffet, the line is usually shorter at 10:30. We welcome newcomers, and love to share gardening information and opportunities to get involved, whether you are a gardener or a "wannabe"!

Dee Gilbert

Claybank Master Gardener





Outside a country store: "We buy junk and sell antiques."



I AUGHS & LIFTS

JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 27



My New Year's resolution was to read more so I put the subtitles on my TV.

PRAYING AND SMOKING

Jack and Max are walking from religious service. Jack wonders whether it would be all right to smoke while praying.

Max replies, "Why don't you ask the Priest?" So Jack goes up to the Priest and asks, "Father, may I smoke while | pray?"

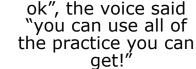
The Priest replies, "No, my son, you may not! That's utter disrespect to our religion."Jack goes back to his friend and tells him what the good Priest told him.

Max says, "I'm not surprised. You asked the wrong question. Let me try."

And so Max goes up to the Priest and asks, "Father, may I pray while I smoke ?"

To which the Priest eagerly replies, "By all means, my son. By all means. You can always pray whenever you want to."





CALL 334-379-7603 TO ADVERTISE

Practice The Pause

When In doubt, pause. When tired, pause. When angry, pause. When stressed, pause. And whenever you pause, pray.

My mom as a mom:

You get what you get, deal with it. My mom as a grandma: Would you like your

grilled cheese cut into hearts or stars?

THE BEST FEELING IN THE WORLD IS **KNOWING YOUR** PRESENCE AND ABSENCE BOTH MEAN SOMETHING TO SOMEONE. Augustesru Com

fter much convincing from my husband, I finally agreed to call an old family friend to sing her happy birthday. It was only after I finished singing, that the voice at the other end of the line informed me, that it was the wrong number. "Oh I'm sorry" I said, embarrassed. "It's



One says to the other, "How do you like that, a pay toilet!"



I never use turn signals! It's nobody's business where I'm going.

Find the difference solution



People over estimate what they can do in a single day And underestimate what they can do in their whole lives!



WACKIE WORD SOLUTION

- A-1. Prone to injury
- A-2. Short of breath
- A-3. Pyramid Scheme
- A-4. Green eggs and Ham
- B-1. Split second timing
- B-2. Sundown
- B-3. We've got them cornered
- B-4. The last Frontier
- C-1. Back in the day
- C-2. Dropping the pounds
- C-3. Misunderstood
- C-4. Sick in bed
- D-1. Foreign Policy
- D-2. Doctor Dolittle
- D-3. Aaron Burr
- D-4. Daybreak



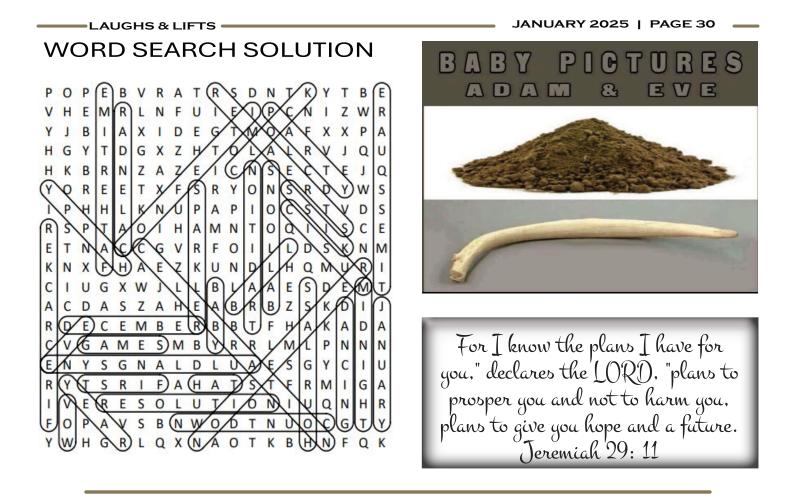
A careless word may kindle strife, A cruel word may wreck a life; A timely word may lessen stress, A loving word may heal and bless.



If I were describing your overall physical appearance, I would say you're looking for a girl with a great sense of humor!

For those of you who received a book from me for Christmas, they are due back to the library Tuesday.





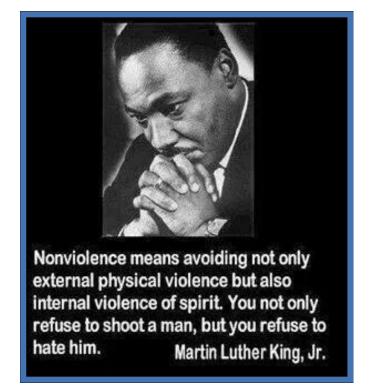
Drugs may make people stupid, but some seem to have a running start.

Bubba walks into a bar in Atlanta, orders 3 Glasses of beer and sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes, he comes back to the bar counter and orders 3 more. The bartender asks him, "You know, beer goes flat after I fill it in the glass; it would taste better if you buy one at a time." Bubba replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in the Army, the other in Marines and I'm here in Atlanta . When they left home, we promised that we'll drink this way to remember the days when we drank together."

The bartender admits this is a nice custom and leaves it there. Bubba became a regular in the bar and would always drink the same way. He'd order 3 beers and drink them in turn.

One day, he came in and ordered only 2 beers. All the other regulars notice and fall silent. When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my sincere condolences on your great loss."

Bubba looked confused for a moment, and then he laughs.... "Oh, no," He said, "Everyone's fine; both my brothers are alive. The only thing is I just quit drinking"!!!



-LAUGHS & LIFTS

JANUARY 2025 | PAGE 31

A few days after Christmas, a mother was in the kitchen, listening as her young son played with his new electric train set in the living room. Suddenly, she heard the train stop, and her son announced, "All of you people who want off, get off now, because this is the last stop! And everyone getting on, hurry up and get on, because we're heading down the tracks!" Shocked by his rudeness, the mother stormed into the living room and said, "We do not talk like that in this house! Go to your room right now and stay there for two hours. When you come back, you can play with your train again, but only if you use polite language."



use polite language." Two hours later, the boy returned, picked up where he left off, and started playing with the train again. This time, when the train stopped, he said, "Ladies and gentlemen, if you are disembarking, please take all of your belongings with you. Thank you for traveling with us today, and we hope you enjoyed your trip." As the mother listened with a smile, he continued, "For those just boarding, please stow your luggage under your seat and note that smoking is prohibited on the train. We hope you have a pleasant and relaxing journey."

Just as the mother was about to feel proud, her son added, "And for anyone upset about the two-hour delay, please see the lady in the kitchen!"

How come "You're a Peach." Is a compliment and "You're Bananas." is an insult?

An elderly woman had three grown sons, each eager to impress her on her milestone birthday. The first son, now wealthy and successful, gifted her a grand, luxurious house. The second son, wanting to



outdo his brother, bought her a sleek, expensive car. The third son, knowing how deeply devout she was, searched tirelessly for the perfect gift. Finally, he found a rare parrot that could recite the entire Bible and explain its prophecies. The bird was in Madagascar and came with an astronomical price tag. Determined, he sold his house and car to afford it, delivering the parrot to his beloved mother. A few weeks later, she wrote to her sons: To the first: "Thank you for the lovely house, dear, but it's far too big for me. I've decided to sell it and buy a cozy bungalow." To the second: "The car is wonderful, but too large for my needs. I'll be trading it in for something smaller." To the third: "My dear boy, you truly understand me. The chicken was absolutely delicious!"



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