



THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD
Ministries

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The counsel of the LORD standeth
for ever, the thoughts of his heart to
all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is
the LORD; and the people whom he
hath chosen for his own inheritance.

Psalms 33:11-12

If the Son therefore shall make you
free, ye shall be free indeed.
John 8:36

America! America!

*God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!*

America, Don't Forget God

by Margaret Cagle

Devout Christians sailed from Europe
To worship God freely in a new land.
As they started various colonies here,
They were led by God's divine hand.

God blessed this humble new nation
As leaders sought to follow His plan,
And the citizens wanted each leader
To be a wise, Godly Christian man.

Eventually America became involved
With troubles overseas and here.
God brought this nation through wars
To preserve our freedom so dear.

Over the decades our dear nation
From almighty God has gone astray.
In our schools, Bibles aren't welcome,
And it is against the rules to pray.

How can a great nation so abundantly
Blessed so much by God's great love
Seem to forget about honoring God,
Who is still on His throne above?

America, please do not forget God.
This could bring a great downfall.
Let us repent and turn back to Him.
Upon His holy name, let us call.

If my people, which are called by my name, shall
humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face,
and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear
from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will
heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14



Cousin Leroy

Little Leroy jr was brought to old Doc Gillis cause he hadn't eaten anything for days. Doc offered him all the goodies he could think of. No luck. He tried a little scolding. It didn't work. A little pleading, to no avail. Finally he sat down, faced the boy, looked him in the eye. He said, "Look young man, if you can be stubborn, so can I. You're not going anywhere until you eat something. You can have whatever you want, but only after you have eaten will you leave." Leroy just sat and glared for some time, then said, "OK. I'll eat but I have some conditions. First, I'll have exactly what I want and exactly how I want it and second you'll share with me." Old Doc Gillis was OK with this. He asked the him what he'd like. "Worms!" said Leroy. Doc was horrified but didn't want to back out and go back on his word. So, he ordered a plate of worms to be brought in. "Not that many, just one," yelled Leroy as he saw the plate. So, everything other than one worm was removed. Leroy then demanded that the single worm be cut into two pieces and then Dr. Gillis eat half. Dr. Gillis went through the worst ordeal of his life, and after finishing, barely managing to keep his cool, said, "OK, now eat!" Leroy refused as he sobbed and screamed, "No way! You ate my half!"

The Ticket

A driver got a speeding ticket and went to pay the fine. The police clerk issued a receipt for payment and the annoyed driver said, "What am I supposed to do with this?" "Keep it," the clerk advised. "If you collect enough of them, you get a bicycle!"

College Daze

A mother and father were chatting with their 13-year-old son about his future. The teenager said he'd like to attend college, as his parents and other members of the family had. Pleased and filled with pride with his response, they pressed on. "What would you like to take when you attend college?" they asked the boy. After giving it some thought and glancing around the kitchen, he replied, "The refrigerator, if you can get along without it."

The Old Preacher

The old preacher was dying. He sent a message for his Doctor and his Lawyer, both church members, to come to his home. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his bedroom. As they entered the room, the preacher held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The preacher grasped their hands, sighed contentedly, smiled and stared at the ceiling. For a time, no one said anything. Both the Doctor and Lawyer were touched and flattered that the old preacher would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled; the preacher had never given them any indication that he particularly liked either of them. They both remembered his many long, uncomfortable sermons about greed, covetousness and their avaricious behavior that made them squirm in their seats. Finally, the doctor said, "Preacher, why did you ask the two of us to come?" The old preacher mustered up some strength, then said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves ... and that's how I want to go."

The Birthday Gift

John bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for her birthday. A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those jazzy 4-Wheel drive vehicles." "She did," he replied. "But where in the world was I going to find a fake jeep!!"



The Love Of God

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Billy R Douglas

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

In the sixteenth century, Oliver Cromwell ordered that an English soldier be shot for a cowardly crime. The execution was to take place at the evening bell. But at the appointed time no sound came from the belfry. Investigation revealed that the girl who was engaged to be married to the condemned man had climbed into the bell tower and clung to the clapper of the giant bell to prevent it from striking. They found her there covered in blood and her body literally torn to shreds.

What a great act of love this story portrays. Yet even this great story doesn't even come close to what Jesus did for us. The Bible says in Romans 5:8 that while we were sinners...Christ died for us. He did this, not because we were worthy or good. Not because we deserved it. BUT because of his great love. God the Father loved us so much that he gave his only begotten Son. The Son loved us so much that he gave his last drop of blood so that we could have everlasting life. You would be surprised how many times through the years of my ministry that people have told me that they will come to God when they get their life straightened out. In other words when they are worthy. I even had one man tell me he wanted God to prove to him His love before he turned his life over to Him.

First, the cold hard fact is we will never be worthy. It is only by His grace and mercy that we are saved and that not of ourselves. Secondly, God has nothing else to prove. He has given everything He has to save us from hell...the rest is up to us. Because of what Jesus did on the Cross "whosoever" will call upon his name can be saved. Don't wait until you are worthy for that will never happen! Don't wait for God to prove something to you...He already has! If you do not know Jesus, call on Him today and accept Him into your life. If you are already a Christian and your faith has been placed in anything other than what Jesus did on the cross, turn your eyes and faith to the Cross. For it is only through faith in Christ and His finished work on the Cross that true salvation can be found.

Dwight L. Moody said, "Many men fold their arms and say, 'If I am one of the elect-in other words, one of those God willed to be saved-I shall be saved; and if I am not, I shall not. No use bothering about it. "I have an idea," he said, "that the Lord Jesus saw how men were going to stumble over the doctrine of election, so after He had been thirty or forty years in heaven, He came down and spoke to John. On the Lord's Day in Patmos He said to him: 'Write these things to the churches.' John kept on writing. His pen flew very fast. Then the Lord, when it was nearly finished, said: 'John, before you close the book, put in one more invitation: "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Because of the boundless love of God an invitation has been given to ALL of mankind. The same words that Jesus spoke to those unworthy men as He called them to ministry He speaks to ALL who will heed today...COME AND FOLLOW ME!

Until next time, "May the LORD Bless and keep you," is our prayer. Pastor Billy R Douglas

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky



What The Word Means To The Church - part 01

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

Mark 2:1-2 - And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. 2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.

We truly are living in the last days I believe now more than ever. There are men and women running to and fro to every wind of doctrine and are not getting grounded in God's Word. We assemble ourselves together to encourage and build one another up but instead it's become more of a fashion runway for people who want to show off the new clothes or to show that new car that's been bought. We go to church to be Re-Fueled, Re-charged, Re- Worked, and Re-Vived, which makes us ready for service. We go to receive what the Lord has sent through the preached Word of God. It is the Word of God that we are begotten by, plus or minus nothing! Let's look at three points about the Word of God:

1. WE ARE GOING TO BELIEVE IT. Titus 1:1-3 - Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; 2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; 3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; No matter what the News says, We Believe The Word. No matter what the Critics say, We Believe The Word. No matter what the Teacher tells kids, We Believe the Word. No matter what our Friends say, We Believe The Word. No matter what or who, We believe the Word Every Time. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. We have to put our faith in Him and His Word and believe every promise written because there will come a day that we will search for it and not find it like we do today. Amos 8:11-12 - Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: 12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it. This is happening in most of the Churches today. Mark 1:14-15 - Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. A. Notice who came preaching.....Jesus. B. Notice what He was preaching.....The Gospel. C. Notice His cry.....Repent and Believe. I Believe the Word because.....It Saves, It Heals, It Delivers, It Provides, It Keeps, It Enables, It Empowers and It Equips. I'm not sure about you, but I'm going to believe the Word of God.

2. WE ARE GOING TO FEED ON IT. 1st Corinthians 3:1-2 - And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. We must have the ability to consume the Very En-Grafted Word of God. Revelation 10:9-10 - And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. 10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. William Burkitt's Commentary says the following...Ministers are spiritual nurses; they first must feed with milk, then with meat, otherwise they will not nourish, but destroy. Hebrews 5:12-14 - For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. I like what the Commentator Finis Dake says on these verses...You have been professed Christians long enough to be teachers. You must be taught a second time the first simple doctrines of Christ. You have not grown at all, your still little babes and unweaned. My friends you and I all know to well that it is time for the seasoned men and women of God to rise up and take a stand for God. We have sat to long idle by.

**The Price is TOO High to Forget, Neglect, and Reject!**

Pastor Steven Huston

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord,
and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; Hebrews 2:3

I'm not sure why I have a sense of patriotism and a concern for that which has and is taking place in America, the nation I call home. Maybe it's because I was born on the Fourth of July; perhaps it's because my grandfather, dad, and uncles fought in various branches of the U.S. military; possibly, it's simply because I am a conservative Christian and God has just hard-wired me that way. Regardless the reason, I recognize the high, high, price of freedom and am grateful to God, in His sovereignty, for making our national heritage a Christian one and for the men, women, children, and families who have taken the responsibility to pay such a high price to guard this freedom, often standing for what is good and right and holy, with their "lives, fortunes, and sacred honor." I've taken the words of former President Reagan seriously, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

For decades I have done my best to instill this sense of gratitude into my children regarding the sacredness of selfless sacrifice, the beauty and great responsibility of self-governance, and the freedoms given to us by God and to be protected by our Constitution. They've seen me in tears as I've pointed out both the grandness of America and those times where we, as a nation, blew it; recognizing that these are not just historical facts but actions that have affected the lives of individuals and their families as well, for generations to come. It's in this same vein that I point out the impossibility of national pride, recognizing that all the good we have has come from the Hand of God, who has moved upon the hearts of obedient men, bringing us such freedoms and blessings and that the stains upon our national story come from the sins of ingratitude, disobedience, and self-glorification and self-worship. My children and their friends have followed me through museums, hearing me warn that the high cost of this freedom has been blood, discomfort, and the laying down of one's life; hearing me also warn that this country was starting to embrace the very things for which these soldiers sacrificed.

Sometimes I wonder if any of this really sinks in; but then there are those times when God lets you know that someone was listening. This past Memorial Day was one of those days. My girls and I were enjoying the sun and getting some exercise when we struck up a short conversation with a couple we met. As we left, the woman wished us a "Happy Memorial Day." Part way back to the car my daughter asked me, "Dad, is it appropriate to say, 'Happy Memorial Day'?" She said she knew that the woman meant no disrespect by it; but with what this special day of remembering represents, wondered if the word "happy" was really the right thing to say. I was grateful for her mixed feelings. I explained that it's similar, but to a much lesser degree, to why Good Friday is "good."

On this celebration of Independence Day, I hope the above helps you to understand that the price has been, and is, TOO high to forget, to neglect, and to reject! If we forget the tremendous cost of what was paid for our freedom we will cease to value it. If we neglect and disregard these freedoms we will lose them and will one day be called upon to answer for so great a loss. If we reject even a portion of our Constitution, denying the great price paid for self-governance and the protecting of our rights and freedoms, it will unravel, leaving us to the whims of a tyrannical dictatorship. I urge you to gratefully remember God's beneficence to the United States and its people and for those who have died to protect the blessings of freedom which the God of heaven has bestowed upon us. Make a habit of thanking those living who have and are serving to protect this nation and what it constitutionally represents. My girls and I go do our best to not miss any opportunity to do so. They have paid a great price; how can we not show our gratitude?

Now, please go back over the last paragraph carefully and apply this spiritually to your salvation and Christian growth as well. We must not forget, neglect, and reject such a high cost.

Pastor Steven Huston 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412



Squash Casserole

- 1 package corn bread stuffing
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 3 cups diced squash
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 3/4 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream

Put squash, onion and butter together in a microwave safe bowl. Cover with plastic wrap. Cook 3 to 4 minutes, stirring half way through, until squash is fork tender and butter is melted. Remove from microwave and add soup, cheese, sour cream and half of the stuffing mix. Spread mixture in a baking dish. Sprinkle remaining stuffing mix on top. Bake uncovered on 350 degrees for about 45 minutes, until top is golden brown and edges are bubbling.

Homemade Barbecue Sauce

- 1 (16oz) ketchup
- 5 oz cola
- 1 Tbsp prepared mustard
- 1/4 cup pickle juice
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3/4 Tbsp black pepper
- 3/4 Tbsp salt
- 3/4 Tbsp red pepper
- 1 Tbsp garlic powder

Mix in order given. Put in jar and shake vigorously. Makes one quart.

Loaded Baked Potato Salad

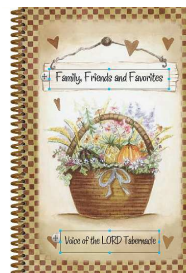
- 8 medium potatoes
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup miracle whip salad dressing
- 1 pkg bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 small onion
- Chives to taste
- 1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste

Wash, cut and cook potatoes until tender. Drain and cool. Mix all ingredients together. Top with extra cheese and bacon.

Copycat KFC Coleslaw

- 6 cups chopped cabbage
- 1/4 cup shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp pepper
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup buttermilk
- 1 1/2 Tbsp white vinegar
- 2 1/2 Tbsp lemon juice

Combine all ingredients. Chill at least 2 hours.



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Lay It Down!

George Whitten

Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.
Psalms 55:12

One of my favorite heroes of the faith is Hudson Taylor. For those who are unfamiliar with him, Hudson Taylor led a great awakening in China which continues to this day. At one point during his ministry, he was deeply distressed by many burdens. As he prayed for strength to carry on, he came across Psalm 55:22 -- "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain thee."

Suddenly this truth entered his heart and he sprung to his feet and cried, "This fear-allaying truth has evaded me too long! I see it all now. If we are obeying the Lord and still run into difficulty, the heavy responsibility rests with HIM, not with us!" Then he prayed, "Lord, you shall carry all the burden! At your bidding I will go forward, leaving the results with You!"

With the burden lifted from his shoulders, Hudson Taylor went on to establish a great work in China. Are you burdened today? Whatever your burden may be -- cast it upon the Lord -- He will carry it, and free you to serve Him with His peace and power!

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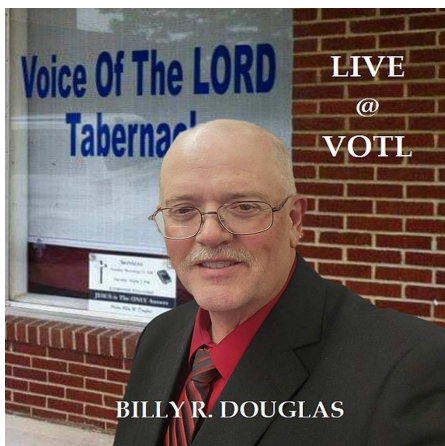
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12. Did It Ever Just Occur To You* (with Tyler Willis)
13. The Beggar And The King*
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A LITTLE GIRL AND THE GREAT REVIVAL AT ADALINE, ILLINOIS

From hdm0095 -- "Pentecostal Possibilities" by M. L. Haney

Hunger for souls is something which does not die in the breast of a blood-washed minister. After the first revival meeting had closed, I had a longing for another of a kindred character, and found my heart drawn toward Adaline, a little town nine miles away. Year after year efforts had been put forth at Adaline, which all seemed an utter failure. There was no church building, nor society, there, and I think there was not one professor of religion in the place, so the people were abandoned to their fate.

My brethren failing me, I went to God, and promised Him I would go to Adaline on a certain Friday and preach Friday night, Saturday night, and Sabbath, in the little school house, and if by Sabbath night no one had yielded, I would consider my mission at Adaline as ended. I took a few of my church to help me sing and pray, and opened the battle. That Sabbath night came, and I preached as though I was in sight of heaven and hell, and to a crowded house. I can never forget it. Having finished my appeal, I pressed any who were willing to seek God, to come to the "mourners' bench," and nobody came. I sat down and wept, while my brethren were singing, and suddenly the impression came to my heart, "There might be a child who would hear you."

I sprang to my feet with these words: "If there is a child here who wants religion, and will come to this 'mourners' bench,' I will agree to stay with you till sunrise, if need be, in order that you may be saved." And a little girl arose near the centre of the house, and came and knelt at the altar. The Holy Spirit had broken her little heart, and its door was open to receive the truth. I knelt before her with a deeper joy than Alexander had when he had conquered the world! I told her if she would give up all sin, and give herself to God to be His child forever, that Jesus would come right there and save her. And that if she would give up every sin she would then be able to trust Jesus so easy, and as soon as she trusted Him, He would forgive her all she had ever done and fill her heart with His peace and love.

And as we prayed she sprang to her feet and faced that wicked crowd, and told them what God had done for her soul. This she did without anybody suggesting it to her, and to my surprise. How she beat me preaching! I think there was not a dry eye in that house. Sinners broke down and came and came, till my little "mourners' bench" could not hold them. Forty-eight years are gone, and I think I have never known a whole community so nearly all saved as was the community at Adaline, when those meetings closed. "A little child shall lead them."

I Dreamed I Saw America On Her Knees

Porter Wagoner

I dreamed I saw America on her knees She knelt in prayer with humble outstretched hands

Last night I fell asleep sittin' in my favorite chair, I had read the evenin' paper news of trouble everywhere. Evil spread throughout the nation like a dark cloud overhead, Crime increasing faith decreasing people saying...

God is dead

Then I saw a great revival spreading like a mighty wind, From every city town and village starting first in the hearts of men. Every church bell started ringing, every Christian took their stand, And people learnt to love each other And the great and the small walked hand in hand.

I dreamed I saw America on her knees

She knelt in prayer with humble outstretched hands

I dreamed that God in heaven heard her plea

And with tender love reached down and healed our land

**BEWARE!**

Pastor David Starnes

Beware of a gospel that directs you to look inward to find peace or solve your problems. Beware of a gospel that relies on positive thinking. The ability to overcome sin does not lie within you! Strength of will might keep you from an act of sin, but it can't wash clean a heart stained with sin! There is only ONE way the sins of man (whether those are sins of a believer or the sins of someone who is lost), can be cleansed! At the Cross, Jesus defeated sin. Those who place their faith in this Crucified Jesus, those who believe Him and His words, are washed of all their guilty stains.

Romans 5 - 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. 11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

And the same faith in Jesus and what He has done can set the christian free from sin in their life!

Romans 6 - 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

Pastor David Starnes - Old Union Crosslife Church Hwy 67 Simms, TX 75574

Tune Out The World And Tune In The Word

Pastor Mike Vaughn

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Proverbs 4:20-22

When you are listening to the radio and you don't want to hear what is being broadcast on that station any more ,what do you do? You change the station, right? You have made a decision to tune it out. The world is broadcasting doubt and fear daily. The result can be the loss of our Peace, Joy and victory. We must make a decision to tune out the world and tune in the word. One important truth about God's word is that, it builds Faith in our lives and Faith is our spiritual strength. If you are weak in Faith, then you will be weak spiritually. It does make a difference what you listen to. There are even some religious songs that are embalmed with doubt and unbelief. I encourage folks to listen to those things that will increase their Faith; like Word based music, Gospel preaching and teaching. You can walk in Joy and victory daily. You can walk in God's presence daily but you gotta tune the world out and Tune the word in. As Proverbs 4:22 says, It is life and health to the hearer. PRAISE GOD!!! You are loved with an everlasting love, Mike

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by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

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A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence. Matthew 19:13-15

Additional passages for Today: Matthew 18:3; Luke 18:16-17; 1 Peter 2:2

Thought for Today: Coming to Jesus as a child may be too humiliating for some people. But that is what Christ says is the type that makes up the kingdom of heaven. We must all seek to be converted and come humbly knowing we can not do it alone.

Story for Today: Becky and Anna plunged into the thick underbrush despite the scratches on their bare skin from the briars along the edge of the path. The two little girls had wandered away from the gathering by the lake unnoticed by the others. Chasing a butterfly first, then the bunny that they discovered, the two quickly vanished from sight. It wasn't long before the fun of the chase gave way to fear as they no longer saw the cute little bunny hopping ahead of them and realized they were no longer in the bright sunlight with the friends and laughter of the party but were much farther into the woods than either of them had realized. Anna began to cry. Becky quickly came to her and holding her hand tried to comfort the forlorn little girl. After a few minutes of looking around, the girls tried to find their way back to the group. They took a few steps to the left and turned in circles before heading to the right. They looked at trees to see if anything looked familiar, but one tree looked like the next, and honestly, both girls had been so focused on the bunny that they hadn't noticed any of the trees or other landmarks.

Jenny and Mark looked around for Becky. They began asking friends if they had seen their daughter only to find that no one knew where she was. It wasn't long before Mindy and John also realized that Anna was not in the group. The couples guessed that the two girlfriends were off on an adventure together. Several of the older kids came in from swimming and offered to search for the missing duo. It wasn't long before the echo of Becky and Anna could be heard in several directions. As the adult and teenaged searchers spread out, the sounds grew more distant to those still by the lake. Several of the mothers in the group gathered the little ones together and began to pray that Becky and Anna would be found and that they would be safe.

As soon as Anna heard the faint sound of voices calling out her name she burst into another round of tears. While Anna cried, Becky began calling back to the voices. Soon the two children were reunited with the searchers and then with the group by the lake. Once reunited, Mark and Jenny held their precious daughter close and thanked God for delivering her back to them. Mark reminded Becky that it was important not to wander away. Becky, who was ever so grateful for being safe, promised that no matter what fun thing tried to entice her in the future, she would not wander away. She repeated over and over how sorry she was for going off without asking permission. She remembered how scary it had been in the woods not knowing where to go or how to find her way back.

Questions for Today: Have you ever thought about how easy it is to be distracted, not realizing how far you have wandered away? Do you have a humble spirit that is willing to repent and learn from your mistakes? Do you come to God knowing that you can't find your way on your own? Do you try to do it by yourself?

Prayer for Today: Our Father, Thank You for drawing us to Yourself and for sending others to search for us when we have lost our way. Please help us to

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God's Simple Plan of Salvation

My Friend: we are about to ask you the most important question of your life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer. The question is: Are you saved? Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal LORD and Saviour? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but have you put your faith in Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? The Bible makes the plan of salvation plain and simple. *Romans 10:13* says *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Call on Jesus today. Put your faith and trust in him and ask him to forgive you of your sins and to be your LORD and savior and you will be born again...SAVED!! Do this today, tomorrow may be too late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus.



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