

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">THE TRUMPET</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">WWW.THETRUMPETONLINE.COM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Voice of the LORD Ministries</p>
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### A Gift From God Above

God sent us each an angel,  
A gift from God above.  
To calm our hearts and still our storms,  
And wrap us in His love.  
To dry our tears and mend our wounds,  
To go the extra mile.  
To nourish and encourage us,  
With her warm and gentle smile.  
So often took for granted,  
This gift from God above.  
So let us now say "Thank you LORD",  
For our mothers precious love.  
*written by Billy R Douglas*

### "I Count My Blessings"

I count my daily blessings, Lord,  
And try to count them all.  
But, it's like counting all the stars at night  
Or the raindrops, when they fall.  
  
For, my blessings are so many  
And my troubles are so few ...  
That the good always outweighs the bad;  
Due to blessings, sent from You.  
  
So, Father, please forgive me  
If I fail to count the ways ...  
As you have blessed my life immensely,  
Through your love that never strays.  
By Vickie Lambdin

To the chief Musician upon Muthlabben, A  
Psalm of David. I will praise thee, O LORD,  
with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy  
marvellous works. Psalms 9:1

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all  
my heart: and I will glorify thy name for  
evermore. Psalms 86:12

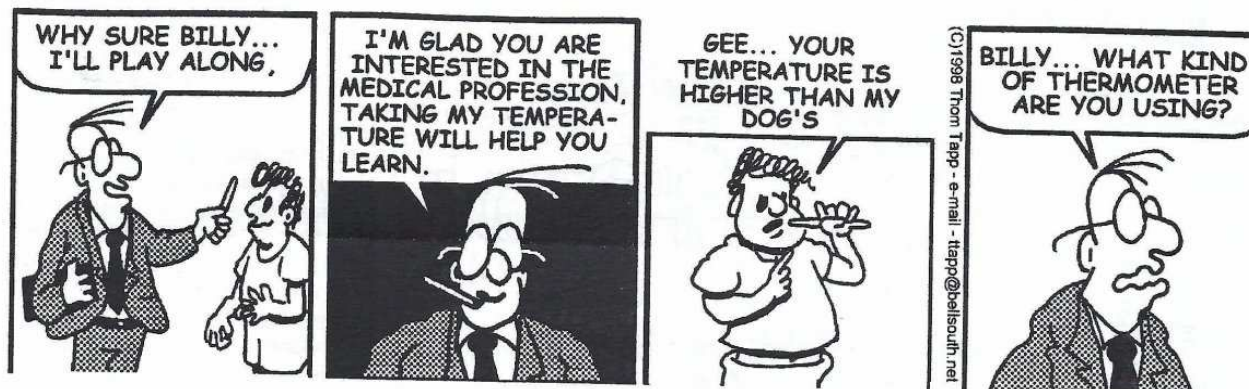
### The Mountain Climber

A mountain climber had worked hard all day and through most of the night to reach the top of a mountain. It was now dark and cold and suddenly he slipped and began to fall. As he was falling he grabbed hold of a small tree growing out of a rock. Hanging there so many thoughts raced through his mind. He was too afraid to look down and even if he did it was too dark to see anything. He knew without a doubt there was a thousand feet of air under him and rocks awaiting his fall if he let go. He thought of how hard he worked to climb the mountain. How he had conditioned to make the climb and all of the blood sweat and tears that had went into the work and then just when he thought he had made it he slipped and now all hope was gone and he regretted even trying. As he hung there growing weaker and weaker he finally had no choice but to let go. As he let go his life flashed in front of him.....he fell 2 inches and was on solid ground!

Things Are Never As Bad As They Seem

DON'T QUIT....Your Closer To Victory Than You Think!!

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. Hebrews 10:35



## Cousin Leroy

Old Leroy shows up late for work one morning. The boss yells, "LEROY, You should've been here at 8:30!" Leroy replies, "Why? What happened at 8:30?"

### The Faith Of A Child

A little boy said he wanted a baby brother. His Dad smiled and suggested he pray for one. The boy prayed earnestly, night after night, but after a couple weeks with no baby brother, he didn't bother to ask anymore. A few months later Dad said Mom was in the hospital and had a surprise. When they got to the room, the little boy saw Mom holding two babies! "Well, what do you think about having twin brothers?" Dad asked. The little boy, in awe, said: "I'm glad I stopped praying when I did!"

### Catching Up

Cop: You know how fast you were going?

Bubba: Sorry officer, I was just trying to catch up with traffic.

Cop: What traffic? The road is empty.

Bubba: Yeah, that's how far behind I am.

### Heaven

The Sunday school teacher asked, "How many of you children would like to go to Heaven?" All raised their hands except little Ronnie. The teacher asked him why not. "I'm sorry," Ronnie replied. "Mommy told me to come right home after Sunday school."

### Surrounded

An old wild west fort was about to be attacked. The wily old general sent for his trusty Indian scout. "You must use all your thirty years of skill in trying to estimate the sort of army we are up against here." The trusty old scout laid down and put his ear to the ground. "Large war party," he said, "maybe three hundred braves, four chiefs, two on black stallions, two on white stallions. All have war paint; Many many guns. Medicine man also with them." "Good grief!" exclaimed the general, "you can tell all of that just by listening to the ground?" "No," replied the Indian, "I can see under the gate."

### YOU KNOW YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING TOO MUCH COFFEE WHEN

- ~ You can take a picture of yourself from ten feet away without using the timer.
- ~ You get a speeding ticket even when you're parked.
- ~ You just completed another sweater... and you don't know how to knit!
- ~ You answer the door before people knock.
- ~ You have to watch videos in fast-forward.
- ~ You ski uphill.
- ~ You grind your coffee beans in your mouth.
- ~ You lick your coffeepot clean.

### The Bribe

Taking his seat in his chambers, the judge faced the opposing lawyers. "So," he said, "I have been presented, by both of you, with a bribe." Both lawyers squirmed uncomfortably. "You, Mr. Leon, gave me \$15,000. And you, Mr. Campos, gave me \$10,000." The judge reached into his pocket and pulled out a check. He handed it to Mr. Leon. "Now then, I'm returning \$5,000, and we're going to decide this case solely on its merits."



## **LIVE @ VOTL CD**

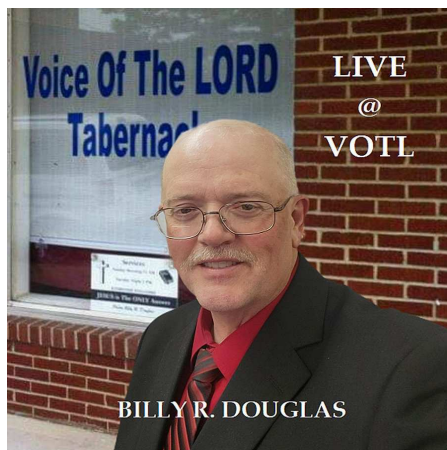
*From the Pastor's Desk*

Pastor Billy R Douglas

I want to take a moment to tell you about the new CD that we are offering this month. It is called LIVE @ VOTL and it is unlike any of the other CD's that we have offered. There are 15 songs on the project and all but two of them were recorded live in church services at VOTL. I have no doubt that this CD will be a blessing to you. Not because of me of course but as always it is because the songs are anointed of the LORD. We are making this CD available free of charge to anyone who requests it. If you can send a love offering to help with the ministry that would be great. BUT if you can't...don't let that stop you from getting a copy! It is our prayer that as you listen to the songs on this CD that you will HAVE CHURCH and be blessed of the LORD time and time again!

You can order a copy through our website or by mailing the address on the back of this newsletter

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



01. Lost In The Presence\*
02. If The Rapture Was Yesterday\*
03. This Valley Is For Me\*
04. Pray For Me\*
05. Miracle Business\*
06. Walk A Little Farther\*
07. Too Much To Gain To Lose
08. To Be Like Jesus\*
09. Winner Either Way
10. I Believe He's Coming Back\* (with Reesie Douglas)
11. Go Ahead And Throw\*
12. Did It Ever Just Occur To You\* (with Tyler Willis)
13. The Beggar And The King\*
14. When He Was On The Cross\*
15. The Only Real Peace\*
16. Invitation\*

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## **A Letter From Hell**

One day a woman named Louise fell asleep in her bed, and dreamed a very frightful dream. She dreamed that someone in Hell wrote a letter to her, and it was delivered to her by a messenger. Louise dreamed that the messenger walked to her house, came inside, and gently but firmly woke her up. He gave her the message, saying Only that *a friend had written it to her from Hell*. Louise, in her dream, with trembling hands took the letter and read:

My Friend I stand in Judgment now, And feel that you're to blame somehow. On earth, I walked with you day by day And never did you point the way. You knew the Lord in truth and glory, But never did you tell the story. My knowledge then was very dim; You could have led me safe to Him. Though we lived together on the earth, You never told me of the second birth, And now I stand this day condemned, Because you failed to mention Him. You taught me many things, that's true, I called you "friend" and trusted you. But I learn now that it's too late, You could have kept me from this fate. We walked by day and talked by night, And yet you showed me not the light. You let me live, and love, and die, You knew I'd never live on high. Yes, I called you a "friend" in life, And trusted you through joy and strife. And yet on coming to the end, I cannot, now, call you "My Friend." -Marsha-

After reading the letter, Louise awoke. The dream was still so real in her mind and sweat dropped from her body in pools. It seemed she could almost smell the stench of brimstone and smoke in her room. As she thought about her dream, she realized that she had failed in her duty to share Jesus with her friends. She promised herself that the next day she would call Marsha and invite her to go to church with her. The next morning she called Marsha and this was the conversation: "Bill, Is Marsha there?" "Louise, you don't know?" "No, Bill, know what?" "Marsha was killed last night in a car accident....I thought you knew."

**"How Shall We Sing The Lord's Song In A Strange Land?"part 03**

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

Do you know why so many of these so-called Christians live in sin and never shed a tear? It is because they have no memory of Zion. They have never been to Zion. They have never been saved. They cannot remember what it was like when they walked with God because they have never had a walk with God. Do you know why many people drop out of church? It is because they were never a part of the church to begin with. 1st John 2:19 - They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. The church is more than a building. The church is a body. It is the Body of Christ. There is a tremendous difference between belonging to a building and being a part of body. A leech can attach itself to my body and yet never be a part of my body. In my ministry I have seen in the church spiritual leeches. People who attach themselves to the building, sucking all of the benefits and blessings from it they can, but when the blood is gone - they go find another building. But they never become a part of the body. Do you know why a true believer can never be happy in Babylon? Because once you have tasted Jesus, you will never be satisfied with the food the world has to offer. These dear people, who once had tasted the sweetness of Zion's glory, now was having to taste the bitterness of Babylon's guilt. And I can well imagine they were thinking to themselves: Where is the blessedness I knew When I first saw the Lord? Where is the soul refreshing view Of Jesus and His Word? What peaceful hours I once enjoyed! How sweet their memory still! But they have left an aching void The world can never fill. II. V. 3 THERE IS A SARCASM THEY CANNOT ENDURE Psalm 137:3 - For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion. (III. Sin always brings more than just slavery. It brings shame. This world is not interested in a Christian as long as he stands on his feet. But he will put him on the front page of the newspaper when he falls flat on his face. The world loves to see Christians fall. Their motto is "The bigger they are the harder they fall and the better we like it." Now that should not surprise you. Jesus said in John 15:19 - If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. The world loves to load its cannon with the fodder of fallen Christians. Did you notice that when Jim Baker and Jimmy Swaggart fell they became the biggest targets of comedians like Johnny Carson and others? They became the butt of so many jokes. Chuck Swindoll said: "The scoffers and critics of Christianity never stand any taller or shout any louder than when God's people publicly fall into sin and are forced to suffer the inevitable consequence. All Satan's host dance with glee when believers compromise, play with fire, then get burned." One of the first spiritual superstars ever to fall was the strongest man who ever lived by the name of Samson. You remember his story well. He was the fair-haired boy of the Jewish race. He was God's choice and the people's champion. But he fell. He tripped over his own sin. When he did, his enemies put out his eyes, they bound him, put him to doing a woman's work and the last thing they demanded of him before he took his revenge is recounted in: Judges 16:25 - And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars. But while he performed for them you can just imagine how they mocked him and how they scorned him. And more particularly how they made fun of the great God that he once served. The greatest tragedy of a backslidden believer in Babylon is the shame and disgrace he brings to his God. If God knows my heart, I would rather die today than ever to bring shame to the name of Jesus. (III. There was a teenage girl who was out on a date one night. In fact, she and her boyfriend were double dating and one of them suggested that they go to a party where there was going to be alcohol and drugs and all kinds of illicit activity. Well, this particular young lady was a radiant Christian who loved the Lord and she said, "No, I'm not going to do that. And if you're going to do that you can take me home." Well one of the kids said, "What's the matter? Are you afraid you're Daddy will hurt you?" She said, "No, I'm afraid that I will hurt my Daddy.") If you know and love the Lord Jesus Christ, you have been branded with the name Christian. And when a Christian falls into sin he drags the name of Jesus through the mud and the slime and the filth of that sin and holds his precious Saviour up to the ridicule of an unbelieving world. We ought to see sin as a spiritual AIDS that we avoid at any cost.



## **Pity or Praise?**

Pastor Steven Huston

“I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” Psalm 34:1

When hard times come we can either pity ourselves or praise God. I understand that there are other reactions we have and emotions we feel; but often our responses will stem from and will more closely align to pity or to praise. Think back with me over the last year or so. When COVID-19 struck with all its tyrannical restrictions, were your responses closer to pity or praise? When you recognize that the economic struggles and emptying store shelves are due to a government's agenda of mishandling this “crisis” does your mind move more quickly to pity or praise? When illness strikes you or a loved one, what does the God of heaven see as He looks down upon your frail humanity? Is it trusting in Him with worship and praise or do you more closely resemble the Israelites who were murmuring over a lack of water only three days after praising God for bringing them through the Red Sea?

Admittedly, I, myself, am a slow learner; but I'm grateful for the example of those around me who choose praise. When my parents came down with cancer all I saw was praise and reliance on their Creator. My co-worker, in desperate need of a kidney transplant shows no self-pity but plenty of praise to the One in control of all things. Please understand, one can have questions and sadness about the situations they find themselves in without plummeting to self-pity. How often did David praise God in the midst of such internal struggles?

Dr. Frank Crane, Presbyterian minister and columnist who wrote a set of ten volumes of “Four Minute Essays,” observed, “Pity is a glorious and creditable attribute—when it flows out toward another. Then it is like the mountain brook, carrying health and joy to all who drink of its cool flow or even gaze upon its happy play. But pity, when it turns upon self, is like a stagnant pool, covered with hateful scum, and concealing ugly, slimy things in its foul ooze. One who is sorry for himself is already half-beaten. ...Self-pity is the collapse of all the faculties, it is cowardly surrender in the face of the enemy.”

In another of Dr. Crane's “Four Minute Essays” he shares this example. “I know a young man, twisted, crippled, paralyzed, unable to feed or dress himself, yet who sits daily by his window with a shining face. He is cheerful, helpful, a fountain of joy to all who know him. The boys love to gather in his room at night and play cards and tell stories. One would think he would be a gloom and a burden; his is an uplift. You soon forget his limitations. You soon cease to pity him, for he does not pity himself. He does not drain you; he inspires you.”

What about you? In the midst of adversity or disappointment, do you drain or inspire others? Those who are believers in Christ have every help available to us and every reason to inspire those around us, regardless our circumstance. I suppose the question is: Where do you turn to during these trying times we all face? We can either turn to the One who is in control of all things, Who can truly make a difference both in us and in our circumstances or we can turn inward becoming “like a stagnant pool, covered with hateful scum.” Job's friends were of no help; he would need to focus inward or upward. Job chose wisely, “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.”

The Word of God promises that we will face trying times; and as we see the world around us, it is proof again that God knows the end from the beginning. What kind of counsel, or self-talk, do you give yourself? Paul exhorts us to “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” David rejected the temptation to wallow in self-pity, instead, encouraging himself in the Lord: “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.” (Psalm 42:5)

That's the kind of hope we need. Think of your life as a music box. Hope in God winds it perfectly, allowing us to be beautiful music in the ears of God and those around us. When we put our own hand to the turnkey during trying times we often over wind it, breaking the spring and stopping the music meant to come from our lives. It takes discipline for such self-talk and trust; but it is the difference between joy and a downcast spirit.

“Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.”

Pastor Steven Huston

103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412





### Breakfast Casserole

- 1 lb sausage, browned and drained
- 1 lb bacon, cooked, drained and crumbled
- 12 oz frozen hashbrowns
- 1 medium green bell pepper, diced
- 4 Tbsp onion, chopped
- 2 cups shredded monterey jack cheese, divided
- 1 cup Bisquick pancake mix
- 3 cups milk
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 4 eggs

Preheat oven to 375. Grease a 9x13" pan. In a large bowl combine sausage, bacon, hashbrowns, bell pepper, onion and 1 cup of the cheese. Pour into baking pan. In a medium bowl whisk together Bisquick, milk, salt and eggs until well blended. Pour over potato mixture. Sprinkle top with remaining cheese. Cover and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. Remove dish from fridge. Bake uncovered 30-35 minutes or until light golden brown on edges. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting.

### All-American Meatloaf

- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup milk
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 Tablespoon A1 steak sauce
- 1 Tablespoon BBQ Sauce
- 3 slices bread, crumbled in processor
- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 green bell pepper, finely chopped
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup ketchup

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Whisk eggs, milk, salt, ground black pepper, steak sauce and bbq sauce in a large bowl. Add crumbled bread and stir until thoroughly combined. Mix ground beef, onion, green pepper and Cheddar cheese into bread mixture; transfer mixture to a pan. Combine brown sugar, ketchup in a small bowl; spread about half over meat mixture. Bake in the preheated oven until no longer pink in the center, 1 hour and 15 minutes. Drain grease off of meat loaf at the one hour mark. Top with remaining sauce and cook 15 minutes longer or until An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 160 degrees

### Sun Drop Cake

- 1 lemon cake mix
- 1 box lemon instant pudding
- 1/4 cup oil
- 3 eggs
- 12 ounces Sun Drop
- Squeeze of lemon

#### Glaze

- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 3 ounces Sun Drop

### Directions

Preheat oven to 350. Grease and flour bundt pan. In mixing bowl combine cake mix, pudding, oil, eggs, Sun Drop and squeeze of lemon. Mix well and pour into prepared pan. Bake for 30-35 minutes. Drizzle glaze over cake. **GLAZE:** In small mixing bowl combine vanilla, powdered sugar and Sun Drop. Mix until smooth.



## **EXPOSED!**

George Whitten

Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

I recently read a story about a rather pompous-looking deacon who was endeavoring to impress upon a class of boys the importance of living the Christian life. 'Why do you think people call me a Christian?' the man asked. After a moment's pause, one youngster said, 'Maybe it's because they don't know you.'

I don't know if this is a true story -- but I'm sure we've all experienced hypocrisy in our own lives. Mark Twain said "We're all like the moon, we have a dark side we don't want anyone to see" Hypocrisy is a dangerous thing. It has turned a many a man away from the Lord to search elsewhere for answers. It can ruin an entire generation and more after them. But we have the opportunity to change those generations for the good of God's kingdom! Those of us who know and love God must never stop allowing Him to search our "dark sides" so that we can more effectively be used as vessels to lead the hungry multitudes to Him. Let's come against the hypocrisy in our lives. Let's ask the Lord to search our hearts today and uproot the things that need uprooting. Let's give our all to God again. There's so much work to be done!

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It's time once again to upgrade our computer system and our operating software. Our desktop computer system is used in almost every aspect of the ministry. From our radio stations, program recording, CD ministry to this newsletter AND most everything else in between! And as always the upgrade is an expensive endeavor. Please prayerfully consider donating to help us raise the funds for this much needed upgrade. You can donate online at [www.voiceofthelordministries.com](http://www.voiceofthelordministries.com) and [www.votlradio.com](http://www.votlradio.com) or by sending your offering to the address on the back of this newsletter. When donating please let us know the donation is for our "computer upgrade". Thank you in advance for your continued support for the work of the LORD..



## John Geddie



"The love of Christ banished the terrors of the law." Those were the words of John Geddie concerning his salvation at age nineteen in 1834. He tirelessly preached this same message of Christ's love as a missionary in the New Hebrides islands for twenty-four years.

John was an avid reader; his favorite subject being stories of mission efforts and the desperate need of the Gospel in unevangelized areas. After completing secondary school at Pictou Academy in Nova Scotia, he studied theology. Small and slightly built, he was often referred to as "little Johnnie." While at seminary, his health became so poor that he was told to give up his studies. He promised the Lord that if his health were restored, he would go as a missionary to a heathen land. On March 13, 1838, he was ordained and began pastoring a church on Prince Edward Island.

During his time as pastor, he promoted foreign missions which was a new idea to the colonial churches. Up to this point, they had sought financial aid for their own work, but had not considered sending out missionaries. It took several years and many pleas, but a mission society was finally formed. John and his wife were the first missionary volunteers. Their destination was Aneiteum, an island in the New Hebrides where people practiced cannibalism.

The Geddies arrived in New Hebrides in 1848 and soon felt the reality of their situation. They were on an island, surrounded by people from whom they had much to fear and whose language and customs they did not know. Geddie wrote, "We have His promise, at whose command we have come hither, 'Lo, I am with you alway.'"

Their first task was to learn the unwritten Aneiteumese language. Then they began to print materials and teach the people to read. After three years and much labor, John had won a total of ten people to the Lord. Several times, while walking the trails, spears and clubs were thrown at him. He once faced an angry crowd of men who threatened to kill him for interfering as they strangled a young widow to death that she might "join her husband in the afterlife." He unwittingly violated some cultural taboos and made the chieftain angry. But eventually the message of Christ's love penetrated the hearts of the people and hundreds turned to the Lord.

As people were saved and their lives changed, John began to teach them and send them out to other islands with the message of the Gospel. People came from all over the region to see what had happened in Aneiteum. One group even brought a pig in the hopes they might use it to purchase a teacher to take back to their village. When John Geddie died on December 14, 1872, a tablet was placed behind the pulpit of the church in Anelcauhat which reads: In memory of John Geddie, D.D. When he landed in 1848, there were no Christians here, and when he left in 1872, there were no heathen."

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## How Rich Are You?

They huddled inside the storm door-two children in ragged, outgrown coats. "Any old papers, Lady?" they asked a passerby. She was very busy; she wanted to say no, until she looked down at their feet wrapped only in thin little sandals, sopped with sleet. "Come on in and I will make you a cup of cocoa," she said. There was no conversation. Their soggy sandals left marks on the clean hearthstone. Cocoa and cake would fortify against the chill outside. After serving them, she went back to the kitchen and started on her household budget as they sat enjoying the warmth. After a few minutes, the silence in the front room struck through to her. She looked in. The girl held her empty cup in her hands, looking at it. The boy asked in a flat voice, "Lady, are you rich?" "Am I rich? Mercy no!" She looked at her shabby slipcovers. The girl put her cup back in its saucer carefully. "Your cups match your saucers." Her voice was old with a hunger that was not of the stomach. They left then, holding their bundles of papers against the wind. They had not said thank you. They did not need to. They had done more than that. Plain blue pottery cups and saucers-but they matched. She tested the potatoes and stirred the gravy. "Potatoes and brown gravy, a roof over our heads, my husband with a good, steady job-these things matched, too," she mused. She moved the chairs back from the fire and tidied the living room. The muddy prints of small sandals were still set upon the hearth, and she let them be. "I want them there in case I ever forget how very rich I am," she told herself.





### **Out Of Balance**

Pastor David Starnes

People spend a lot of time at the gym. They go to great lengths to eat foods they deem healthy. (And there is nothing wrong with either of those things. As a matter of fact it is a GREAT thing to do.) So why is it people spend so little time feeding themselves and exercising themselves spiritually? Why do we spend all this time on the temporal, and neglect the eternal. Here are a few undeniable facts. You will get old no matter what you eat. You will die no matter how much you exercise. Nothing you can do will stop your body from dying. Am I telling people they need to go to the gym less or eat a box of Twinkies? NO! Of course not, but for heaven's sake don't fail to feed your soul. You need a constant diet of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. You need to daily rest and dwell in His finished work. You need to develop and exercise your relationship with Jesus. To put it in a way super healthy workout people might understand, what happens if you continuously skip leg day? You get way, way out of balance. I think someone who is reading this is out of balance. You have not been feeding your soul. Start today.

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

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### **Be Careful For Nothing**

Pastor Mike Vaughn

But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. Matthew 14:27

"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God". Philippians 4:6

Do you ever worry? We have all been guilty of worrying at some time in our life. It may have been about a financial matter or the well being of a loved one, yet the Bible so clearly tells us not to worry about anything but to pray about everything. There are really only two categories of things for which we ought not worry: those that we cannot do anything about and the things we can do something about. The best thing you can say about worry is that it is useless. The worst thing you can say about it is that it dishonors God. "Be careful for nothing" means don't be anxious about anything. How is that possible one may ask? I'll tell you how; By bringing it to God and leaving it there. "Let your requests be made known unto God"; then you can offer thanksgiving and rest in the fact that He is in control. Worry is the opposite of Faith. Hebrews 11:6 says, "But without faith it is impossible to please God: for He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." When we meditate on the problem it simply grows bigger. But when we meditate on God and His word, Faith increases. So if you are worried about something today, stop meditating on the problem. Give it to God and thank him for the solution. Then the peace of God will guard your heart and mind.

You are loved with an everlasting love, Mike

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Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7



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by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

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# A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

**Verse for Today:** James 3:11-12 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

**Additional passages for Today:** John 15:4-9; Matthew 7:15-23

**Thought for Today:** If we are a fountain, we can only pour out what we have inside. If we are a tree, the fruit we grow announces what kind of tree we are. If we are believers, how we live shows who we believe in. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.

**Story for Today:** Jackie glanced at her friend's parents expecting to see angry eyes and expressions of hate. She was amazed to see a calmness between the pair. The voices didn't escalate like she was used to hearing. They didn't bring up past hurts and say mean things as she had heard from her parents countless times over the years. Mr. and Mrs. Princeton were different than most of the couples she knew. That is one reason she loved going to their house. Her friend, Clarissa, was the nicest girl she knew. They had been friends for the last three years, and it always amazed her how kind and thoughtful Clarissa was to everyone. It was only a couple of minutes before Mr. and Mrs. Princeton had quietly talked out their differences and had come to a resolution and were back to engaging with Clarissa and her friends. When Jackie got home that night, it wasn't long before she realized that her mom and dad were fighting again. Jackie wondered how long before they would be divorced. She figured they were only staying together because of her and her brothers. Being Christians, they tried to look the part when others were watching. Sometimes Jackie wondered if there was any difference in how they treated each other and how they would if they weren't "Christians." She had been to her friend Alexis' house and knew her mom didn't put up with anything. She was a wild woman when she was upset. The language she used would curl your toenails. She wasn't opposed to throwing things and kicking her latest man out the door. But as Jackie thought about it, she realized that her parents often used unkind words and had hateful looks that were passed back and forth along with the accusations of "you always..." and "you never...." She wondered why Clarissa's parents were so much different. They attended the same church and even had some of the same friends. While both parents were happy much of the time, it seemed that Clarissa's family had something more than just a Sunday walk with God. They seemed to treat each other the way you would picture someone treating Jesus after they realized what all He had been through to save them from the bondage of sin. They had a peace that helped them be calm in the midst of the storm and seemed to look for ways to encourage each other and do unexpected good deeds for the other. They didn't hold onto the past mistakes or failings and put up with the quirks found in their spouse. It seemed like they knew the other would sometimes disappoint them because they were human, but their faith was in God, not that the other would be perfect. Looking out for the other rather than ruling over them and controlling their own thoughts, words and actions seemed to make them faithful Christians. Jackie continued to muse that even though her parents claimed to be Christians, it appeared they were more like the world than they were the Christ they claimed to imitate. She wondered what others thought when they saw her when she was upset. Who did she imitate?

**Questions for Today:** What comes out of you in the storms of life? Would others see Christ in you?

**Prayer for Today:** Lord, please help me to be the kind of person that reflects You and let me bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit at all times, even during the storm. Help me be the example of You that glorifies Your name rather than bringing shame and making others wonder if the Christian life is any different from the world. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

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WRMV FM 94.5 - Madison Heights, VA

WPAK 1490 AM Farmville, Virginia

Showers of Blessings 104 FM  
Pago Pago, American Samoa

WJJT FM 105.9 WJJT AM 1540  
Jellico, TN

WYAP-LP 101.7 FM - Clay, WV

WGAA 1340 AM - Cedartown, Georgia

RKP Radio 1710 AM - Washington, PA

WEKT 1070 AM - Elkton, KY

South Wind Radio - Montesano, WA

ASLN Radio - Cordova, Alaska

GCIN Radio - Wiggins, MS

WNY Radio - Youngstown, NY

WHSB Radio - Columbus, OH

Swain County Christian FM  
Bryson City, NC

WTRP 1620 AM  
Lagrange, GA

CCRG & WUUK 105.7 FM  
Erie, PA

WBPS FM 101.9 Cambridge, Ohio

WBLB 107.5 FM 1340 AM  
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