

THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD Ministries

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# THE JOY OF THE LORD

# Thanksgiving

As We Enter Into The Month Of November And The Day We Have Set Aside To Be Thankful For All Our Many Blessings I Would Just Like To Say Thank You Lord For All You Have Done For Me And My Family I Know I Could Never Thank You For Every Thing But For A Few Thank You For Your Healing, Deliverance, Love, Mercy And Grace You Are Truly An Awesome God Not Only For One Day For One Month But For Three Hundred And Sixty Five Days A Year

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Through the years my family and friends have brought me much joy. But that can never compare to the joy that the Lord has brought to my life. There may have been many weeping nights ,but joy really does come in the morning. At the times in my life when I have been the weakest the Lord has been my strength. I want to praise my Lord for that joy !! ...weeping may endure for the night. but joy commeth in the morning Psalm 30:5 .... For the joy of the Lord is my strength Nehemiah . 8:10

Sister Betty Butterworth

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Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. Psalms 32:11

# **FRIENDS**

"And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance." Luke 8:1-3

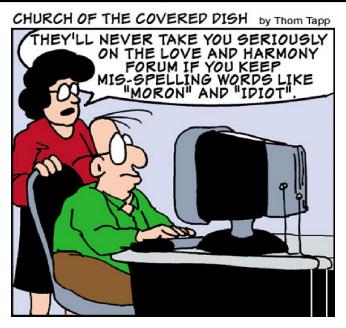
During the earthly ministry of Jesus multitudes followed him, but He also had an inner circle of friends to help give Him support and who would one day take the gospel into the known world in the first century. Jesus was God but He was also Man, and He needed encouragement from the attacks of the religious leaders. Jesus also needed food and water and even financial assistance as He traveled from place to place. One of the pictures I have in my mind each year when we travel to Galilee is visualizing Jesus walking along the hills and along the shore with His closest friends. Even though they would fail and have little faith at times, they would never forget walking with Jesus. They were diamonds in the rough who would transform human history. The women played a very important role in the ministry of the Messiah as well. They would have followed in the distance helping with the financial needs of Jesus' ministry. Jesus liberated many women who had been bound by Satan and the oppressive, cultural traditions of their day. We even see them at the tomb in Jerusalem sometimes simply being called, "the women from Galilee". Matt. 27:55, Mark 15:41, Luke 23:55. If Jesus needed friends, how much more do we need friends? As we travel through this life there are very few people that we can actually call our "friends". But there is One who is our true Friend, the Lord Jesus the Christ! Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. And the next verse says, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14 May we all be friends of Jesus! Brother Carroll Roberson

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# Cousin Leroy

On his first trip to the "big city" Leroy decided to step into an art gallery and have a look around. He began walking around and looking at the paintings. One is a huge canvas that has black with yellow blobs of paint splattered all over it. The next painting is a murky gray color that has drips of purple paint streaked across it. Leroy then walks over to the artist and says, "I don't understand these here paintings of yours." "I paint what I feel inside me," explains the artist. "Well", said Leroy "Have you ever tried Alka-Seltzer or Pepto Bismol?"

# Lost Cell Phone

An employee of the airport found a cell phone in one of the boarding areas. She switched it on, hoping a caller would identify the owner. It rang, and she answered it, but there was no response. When it rang a second time, another female employee answered, and the same thing happened. Moments later, a supervisor came by and picked up the ringing phone. "This is Bob. May I help you?" "Bob," the bewildered woman caller finally spoke. "Where is Bill, and who are those two women he's with?"

# Funny Sayings

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

Shin: A device for finding furniture in the dark.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

Did you hear? It was recently discovered that research may just be what causes cancer in rats.

The only cure for insomnia is to get more sleep.

I wished the buck stopped here, I could use a few.

I started out with nothing and I still have most of it.

Never Forget: When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of 12 people that weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

# **Congratulations**

Once there were four business men. They were sitting on a bench in a hospital waiting room because their wives were having babies. A nurse comes over and says to the first businessman, "Congratulations! Your wife had 1 baby." The man says, "What a coincidence! I'm the president of And1!" The nurse goes away. Then the nurse comes back and says to the second businessman, "Congratulations! Your wife had twins!" The man says, "What a coincidence! I'm the owner of the Minnesota Twins!" The nurse goes away. The nurse comes back and says to the third businessman, "Congratulations! Your wife had triplets!" The man says, "What a coincidence! I work for Triple Crown!" The nurse goes away. The nurse comes back and sees the fourth businessman alone on the bench crying. She asks, "Why are you crying"? The man replies, "I work for Seven Up"!!

# Duck!

There was a duck that went to a local store to buy chapstick, the clerk asked if he would pay cash and the duck said, no, just put it on my bill.

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones. Proverbs 17:22

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#### "A Spiritual 2nd Wind"

#### Acts 18:1-11

After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. 4And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks. 5And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. 6And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean; from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles. 7And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue. 8And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. 9Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I hav much people in this city. 11And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

I suppose all of us at some time or another have been depressed, or want to give up and guit. In the heat of a moment we'll say, "I'll just leave this job, this church, or this family, and they'll miss me...they'll wish they had treated me different!" Often we have some of these feelings: There's no use, the harder I try, the worse things get! Don't witness, no one will listen! I'm just spinning my wheels and getting nothing done for the kingdom of Heaven! The daily stress and problems are all vanity! (Life is just mundane, repetitive, like Chinese water torture!) Sometimes God's people need a spiritual 2nd wind...EXAMPLES: Moses: The Greatest leader, handpicked by God! Had God's power on his life, but in Numbers 11:15 - And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness. Joshua: Greatest General, handpicked by God to lead Israel into the Promised Land...but in Joshua 7:7 - And Joshua said, Alas, O LORD God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan! He felt like quitting! He got over it, thankfully! Elijah: Greatest prophet of OT. He was willing to challenge the idolatry of his day and called fire down from heaven and won the face off with the prophets of Baal, but in 1st Kings 19:4 - But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. Job: We talk about his patience and faith, and he was truly a great man...he had a great beginning and a great ending, but in-between, when he lost everything, he wished he had not been born, became suicidal, extremely depressed for a period of time! Job 3:3 - Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived. Jonah: He wanted God to kill him, and was spiritually depressed and not even happy for the all the souls that just got saved in Nineveh! Paul:In Acts 18 we find Paul in his 2nd missionary journey, arriving from Athens to Corinth experiencing a low time in his life (of depression) 1st Corinthians 2:3 - And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. He was fatigued and alone. He was bi-vocational. (v. 3 - Tentmaker)-Stressed- v. 5 "pressed in spirit." (Spiritual stress) Had a sense of failure (not much success in Athens and called a "babbler." (Bird Brain) -Frustrated, leaving a city of idolatry and heading for the worst in the world for immorality! (Sin city! The Temple: Aphrodite, goddess of sex, and a thousand prostitutes sold their bodies in the temple in the name of religion!)-Unappreciated...he later wrote to the people of Corinthi 2nd Corinthians 12:15 - And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved. At this point on this trip alone, he's been beaten and jailed at Philippi, persecuted at Thessalonica and Berea, ridiculed in Athens, and now he has to face Corinth! He was at a low point, a crossroads in his ministry, and he was just about to quit! But the Lord came to Paul on this day, and showed him that trying times are not the time to quit trying! v. 11 - And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. - (He didn't quit, he continued!) Why? Because God told him in 9 and 10 - Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. - ("It's too soon to quit!") 3 Promises for the 'Winded': We have the promise of ...1. God's presence. v. 10 - "I am with thee" • In times of Ioneliness Hebrews 13:5 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Gospel of Matthew, 2 wonderful bookends: Beginning: "Emmanuel, God with us" Ending: Great commission, Matthew 28:20 - Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Your best friend may stab you in the back, but in Proverbs 18:24 - A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. In loneliness...• In the valley When defeat, discouragement, sickness, financial problems, heartaches and family problems comes...remember that the God of the Mountain is still God in the valley! III.—A little boy went home after school very sad and told his mom about Billy, his best friend, who had been absent for 3 days and found out today why when he returned to class...his daddy died, and when he told us, he cried and just laid his head flat on his desk. His mom asked: "What did you do?" and the little boy said "I didn't know what to do, so I just laid my head on my desk and cried, too!" That's the kind of Savior we have! Hebrews 4:15 - For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. John 11:35 says Jesus wept, why... because Lazarus had died. Jesus even knew he was going to raise him from the dead, things were going to get better, but Jesus' heart still broke in the meanwhile! He's there in the valley with you! In loneliness, in the valley...• In death Psalm 23:4 - Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. But when our time comes, the Lord comes Himself. He doesn't send an angel...He comes for us Himself! It's too soon to quit! We have the promise of His presence! 2. God's protection v. 10 - For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. They might have killed the apostle Paul, but not until he was able to say, "I have finished my course." They tried to kill the Lord Jesus, but it couldn't happen not before He said in John 19:30 - When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. God has a purpose for your life. And if you choose to, you can live it out, fearlessly...though there will be persecution, trials and hardships...but until your work here is done, God's not finished with you, the devil can't harm you, man can't hurt you, disease cannot touch you, there are no accidents with God...He and He alone will call you home when the time is right! So good to know, that nothing can happen without the Lord's permission. Philippians 1:21 - For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. God, take me when you're thru with me...until then, I'm going to serve you! It's too soon to quit! Ahead of us He's our guide, behind us He's our guard, under us are His everlasting arms, and above us, if we'll look up, He's ever-present with us in a cloud of glory! 3. God's potential v. 10b - "I have much people in this city" How could God say that? There were no more than a handful of Christians there! It's the promise of God's potential! God didn't see the perverts of this city for what they were, but for what they were going to be! Years later, here's what happened: 1st Corinthians 6: 9-11 - Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither

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# **REESIE'S HOLIDAY RECIPES**



# Apple Dumplings

2 cans crescent rolls 2 apples cut in cubes 2 sticks margarine 1 1/2 cups sugar 1 tsp cinnamon 1 tsp apple pie spice 1 (12 oz.) can mountain dew

Separate crescent rolls into triangles and place cubes of apples into each triangle slice. Roll up from large end to small end. Place in 9x13 pan. Melt margarine, add sugar and spices. Pour mixture over dumplings and pour can of mountain dew over the top of dumplings. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes.

# **Holiday Salad**

1 jar Maraschino Cherries 1 can Pineapple Chunks, in syrup 1 can Mandarin Oranges, in syrup 10 oz Mini-marshmallows 1/2 cup Chopped Walnuts 7 oz Sour Cream 1 small bowl Cool Whip

Drain the fruits and chop them all in half. Pour them into a large bowl and mix together. Stir in marshmallows. Then mix in the sour cream and walnuts. Fold in cool whip and chill.



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### Sour Cream Yeast Rolls

2-1/2 to 3 cups all-purpose flour 2 tablespoons sugar 1 package (1/4 ounce) active dry yeast 1 teaspoon salt 1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream 1/4 cup water 3 tablespoons butter, divided 1 egg

In a large bowl, combine 1-1/2 cups flour, sugar, yeast and salt. In a small saucepan, heat the sour cream, water and 2 tablespoons butter to 120°-130°; add to dry ingredients. Beat on medium speed for 2 minutes. Add egg and 1/2 cup flour; beat 2 minutes longer. Stir in enough remaining flour to form a soft dough. Turn onto a floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic, about 6-8 minutes. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease the top. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, about 1 hour. Punch dough down.

Turn onto a lightly floured surface; divide into 12 pieces. Shape each into a ball. Place in a greased 13in. x 9-in. baking pan. Cover and let rise until doubled, about 30 minutes. Bake at 375° for 25-30 minutes or until golden brown. Melt remaining butter; brush over rolls. Remove from pan to a wire rack.

Yield: 1 dozen.

#### **Cranberry Salad**

1 large box strawberry jello 3 oranges 3 small apples 1 cup chopped pecans 1 pkg. cranberries 1 small can crushed pineapples 2 cups sugar

Peel oranges. Put oranges, apples and cranberries through a food grinder. Remove any seeds. Add sugar pineapple and pecans. Dissolve jello in 2 cups boiling water. Add to cranberry mixture, chill until firm.

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#### **Thanksgiving Pie**

1 UNBAKED PIE CRUST ROLLED OUT TO A 12" SQUARE

3 EGGS

1 (16 OZ) CAN PUMPKIN

3/4 CUP BROWN SUGAR, FIRMLY PACKED

1 TEASPOON GROUND CINNAMON

1/2 TEASPOON GROUND GINGER

#### 1/2 TEASPOON GROUND CLOVES

#### 1/4 TEASPOON GROUND NUTMEG

#### 1/2 TEASPOON SALT

#### 11/2 CUPS MILK

Preheat the oven to 425°. Lay the pie crust in a 9" square pan and fit it up around the sides. Flute the edges in a pretty design. Beat the eggs until thoroughly mixed. Add the pumpkin, sugar, and spices and salt, and mix well. Add the milk and mix thoroughly. Pour the pumpkin mixture into the pie crust. Bake the pie at 425° for 15 minutes; then turn the oven down to 350° and continue baking for about 30 minutes more or until a knife put in about an inch from the edge comes out clean. The pie will set a little more as it cools. Cool the pie on a rack before serving. Cut it into squares to serve. Refrigerate any leftover pieces.

#### **Cheezy Green Bean Casserole**

2 tablespoons butter 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour 1 teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon white sugar 1/4 cup onion, diced 1 cup sour cream 3 (14.5 ounce) cans French style green beans, drained 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese 1/2 cup crumbled buttery round crackers 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth, and cook for one minute. Stir in the salt, sugar, onion, and sour cream. Add green beans, and stir to coat. Transfer the mixture to a 2 1/2 quart casserole dish. Spread shredded cheese over the top. In a small bowl, toss together cracker crumbs and remaining butter, and sprinkle over the cheese. Bake for 30 minutes in the preheated oven, or until the top is golden and cheese is bubbly. Italian Cream Cheesecake Bars

#### <u>Crust</u>

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs (24 squares)

3 tablespoons packed brown sugar 6 tablespoons butter, melted

Filling

2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened

3/4 cup granulated sugar

2 eggs

1/2 cup flaked coconut

1/2 cup chopped pecans, toasted

Additional chopped pecans, toasted, if desired

Heat oven to 350°F. Line bottom and sides of 13x9inch pan with foil, leaving foil overhanging at 2 opposite sides of pan; spray foil with cooking spray. In small bowl, mix crust ingredients. Press in bottom of pan. In large bowl, beat cream cheese, granulated sugar and eggs with electric mixer on medium speed 30 seconds. Beat on high speed 1 minute or until smooth. Stir in coconut and 1/2 cup pecans. Carefully spread filling over crust. Bake 25 minutes or until set. Cool in pan on cooling rack 30 minutes. Refrigerate at least 3 hours or overnight. Use foil to lift out of pan. Cut into 6 rows by 4 rows. Sprinkle with additional chopped pecans.

#### Meatballs with Cranberry Sauce

3 cups leftover cooked stuffing 1 pound ground turkey 1 pound bulk pork sausage 1 cup jellied cranberry sauce 1/2 cup chili sauce 1/4 cup orange juice 3 Tbsp brown sugar 1 tsp soy sauce 1/2 tsp grated orange peel

Place the stuffing in a large bowl. Crumble turkey and sausage over stuffing and mix well. Shape in 2" balls. Place on a greased rack in a shallow baking pan. Bake at 375 for 15-20 minutes or until no longer pink inside. Drain on paper towels. Meanwhile in a small saucepan, combine the remaining ingredients, heat through. Serve with meatballs.



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# A Thankful Heart



And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry: and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small. Jeremiah 30:19

The Bible teaches us time and time again that the LORD is pleased with a heart of thanksgiving. Sadly I think many times all of us find ourselves feeling overwhelmed and being far more less thankful than we should be. Many times we focus much more

on the things we consider bad in our life than actually taking the time to see the good in all that comes our way. Even when "life happens" there is always a silver lining and we must remember that we have this everlasting promise that ALL THINGS will work together for our good. I believe that out of a thankful heart GREAT things can be birthed. But a heart of complaining and ingratitude NEVER births anything but more of the same ingratitude! David said in Psalms 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. He goes on to say in verse 13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. When can I teach others? When my heart is right...When will sinners be converted? When my heart is right. An ungrateful heart never changes anyone for the good ... never causes others to want what they see in you. I want to share with you just a little of the story of a woman who had a heart of Thanksgiving. At the age of 8 years old Fanny Crosby would write this poem..."Blind But Happy...O what a happy soul am I! Although I cannot see, I am resolved that in this world, Contented I will be. How many blessings I enjoy. That other people don't. To weep and sigh because I'm blind, I cannot and I won't." Blind for all of her life, Fanny Crosby, was one of if not the greatest hymn writer in the history of the Church, she later wrote, "And I shall see Him face to face, and tell the story - Saved by grace." She saw over 8,000 poems set to music and over 100,000,000 copies of her songs printed. Fanny gave the Christian world such songs as: A Shelter In The Time Of Storm, Blessed Assurance, I Am Thine 0 Lord, Safe In The Arms of Jesus, Near The Cross, Pass Me Not, Tell Me The Story Of Jesus, The Lights Of Home... just to mention a few. Born in a one-story cottage, her father, John, was never remembered by Fanny because he died when she was only twelve months old. When she was six weeks old, she caught a slight cold in her eyes. The family doctor was away. Another country doctor was called in to treat her. He prescribed hot mustard poultices to be applied to her eyes, which destroyed her sight completely! It was later learned that the man was not gualified to practice medicine, but he had left town and was never heard of again. If anyone had what we call a "right" to be bitter one would think that she would. But Fanny never felt any resentment against him, but believed it was permitted by the Lord to fulfill His plan for her life. Her songs touched countless hearts and lives and they continue to do so today...and all birthed from a heart of thanksgiving! When Missionary Bishop James Hannington was brutally murdered by savages, in Uganda, Africa, it was told that while he was being dragged away to be murdered, he was heard singing Fanny's song "Safe In The Arms Of Jesus". During the war in 1918. A Finnish engineer told of besieging a town and taking a number of prisoners. Seven of them were to be shot at dawn the following Monday. One of the doomed men began to sing that lovely song, "Safe In The Arms Of Jesus", that he had learned only three weeks previously, from the Salvation Army. One after another of his comrades fell to their knees and began to pray. The seven asked to be allowed to die with uncovered faces. With hands raised to Heaven, they sang this song as they were ushered into eternity. The Finnish engineer, Nordenberg, a former Army Officer, who told the story, met Christ Himself that very hour as a result of this witness. The stories seem endless of lives that have been touched by the words written from the thankful heart of Fanny Crosby. You will find a casual quote, on her grave in Bridgeport, Connecticut that reads..."she hath done what she could!" I would like to add...that not only did she do all that she could, BUT she did it all with a thankful heart. And from that souls were won to Christ and lives were changed for his glory. The same goes for us today not only during this special time of year but all year long may we have the Spirit of Thanksgiving...A THANKUL HEART. For it is with a thankful heart that we can teach others of Jesus and his love...it is with a THANKFUL HEART that we can see souls saved! Forgive us LORD when we whine...Create in us a heart of Thanksgiving and gratitude for your Kingdom and your Glory in Jesus name! Until next time, Pastor Billy Douglas

> In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1Thessalonians 5:18

I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. Psalms 69:30

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### "Heads Up!!"

#### "But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head." Psa 3:3 (KJV)

Isn't it awesome to just sit and watch while the Lord God comes along and paints the sky every morning with His "Glory Brush"? I like to sit and gasp at every stroke of His brush until the sun gets so bright that I have to look away. In fact, I happened to wonder one morning if perhaps that wasn't God's intention for us to "in those moments" - when we close our eves from the Glory of it all... to just begin to pray. It would seem to be a natural enough progression. Oh how I thank God for those breath-taking moments as we say hello... my Father and I. While I am blessed just to praise Him for that 15 minutes to half an hour - He seems to take pleasure in it as well because he repeats it every morning - and it's awesome! What happens when the the sun doesn't come up? When all that fills the sky makes for an overcast and rainy - dingy gray? On those kind of days one might ask, "Where are You Lord?" How come You have not risen for me today? I am waiting and yet You are not here. Well, I've never flown in an airplane so I don't know by experience, but my wife says that beyond those dingy clouds is a silver and golden lining. She tells me of the beauty of the heavens just on the other side of those clouds as the airplane rises just past the drift of that dingy gray, and I always gasp at the thought of it as I picture in my mind the glory of it all. You know, often in the lives of many... the sun doesn't rise. For whatever reason, many people aren't even looking for a silver lining in those clouds - let alone a golden one. When they see the dingy clouds, they feel that's all they deserve or at least, that, to them, is what life is made of. There is no awe, no "Glory Brush" no hope or looking forward to tomorrow's sunrise... just moving from one day to the next, expecting tomorrow to possibly be worse than today or at least the same. Seemingly with no hope. Oh my friend if that is you ... The Lord wants so to be YOUR GLORY! He wants so much to be the lifter up of your head and to be your shield throughout all of your troubles. (ref., Psalm 3:3) Imagine the disciples, if you will. There they were in their storm-tossed boat, ready to capsize and imagine if Jesus wasn't there. Imagine that one thief on the cross, ready to believe in a God above and ready to ask forgiveness of his sins in life as his last dying wish, and imagine - if Jesus the Redeemer, the Blessed Gift and Giver of Eternal life, hadn't been dying right there next to him. Imagine if you will, that one fleeting moment in your life as one of your loved ones closed their eyes in death, breathing their last breath in this life, and no one in the room felt the still presence of the Lord... now that would be darkness and a lost feeling of emptiness. But Oh my friend, Listen to David as he tells it like it is this morning. Despite all of your short-comings, despite all of your conditions that would depress or dispirit your sunrise... The Lord wants so to be your GLORY! He wants so much to be the lifter up of your head and to be your shield throughout all of your troubles. (ref., Psalm 3:3) Call on HIM today, and let him shine in your life and let Him break through the clouds and be the lifter up of your head.

In The Garden Ministries - www.inthegarden.us - P.O. Box 8883 Saint Joseph, MO. 64508



#### Good Things

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Ephesians 5:20

An old Chinese legend tells of a group of elderly, cultured gentlemen who met often to exchange wisdom and drink tea. Each host tried to find the finest and most costly varieties, to create exotic blends that would arouse the admiration of his guests. When the most venerable and respected of the group entertained, he served his tea with unprecedented ceremony, measuring the leaves from a golden box. The assembled epicures praised this exquisite tea. The host smiled and said, "The tea you have found so delightful is the same tea our peasants drink. I hope it will be a reminder to all that the good things in life are not necessarily the rarest or the most costly. No, the good things in life are right in front of our faces and we so often neglect to see them for how very precious they are – our redemption in Jesus, our spouses, our children, our parents and extended family, our brothers and sisters in the Lord, our wonderful five senses, the talents and abilities He's given us – and so much more! Let's thank God for all the precious things he's given us and let's cherish them as so! We have so much! And there's so much work to be done!!

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## Forgive Me When I Whine

Today upon a bus, I saw a lovely maid with golden hair; I envied her -- she seemed so gay, and how, I wished I were so fair; When suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble down the aisle; she had one foot and wore a crutch, but as she passed, a smile. Oh God, forgive me when I whine, I have two feet -- the world is mine.

And when I stopped to buy some sweets, the lad who served me had such charm; he seemed to radiate good cheer, his manner was so kind and warm; I said, "It's nice to deal with you, such courtesy I seldom find"; he turned and said, "Oh, thank you sir." And then I saw that he was blind. Oh, God, forgive me when I whine, I have two eyes, the world is mine.

Then, when walking down the street, I saw a child with eyes of blue; he stood and watched the others play, it seemed he knew not what to do; I stopped a moment, then I said, "Why don't you join the others, dear?" He looked ahead without a word, and then I knew he could not hear. Oh God, forgive me when I whine, I have two ears, the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go; with eyes to see the sunsets glow, with ears to hear what I would know. I am blessed indeed. The world is mine; oh, God, forgive me when I whine.

~author unknown~



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