



THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD
Ministries

Vol. 22 No. 11

November 2018

— UPCOMING EVENT!! —

Jayson & Leslie Cardwell

From Beaver Dam, KY



Saturday Night

November 17th @ 6 PM

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**Come join us for this POWERFUL night of
worship, praise & THANKSGIVING!**

Fellowship & food following the service!

Come Where The Blood Can Heal

Sister Betty Jean Robinson

It's been awhile since I've been in touch with you due to health problems. I've traveled 44 years in the Ministry where I feel the Lord sent me, however 7 months ago I had some health issues. Praise God!! Jesus touched me. Like an old song says "You must come where the Blood can heal" I Came and OH!! THANK YOU DEAR JESUS!! There is healing in the Precious Blood of Jesus. I wrote this song when my daughter was healed of cancer.

I Will Draw My Strength From Jesus As I Lay Upon His Breast
I Will Take My Comfort From Him, I Will Find In Him My Rest.
For There Is No Other Fountain Where I Can Be More Satisfied
Than In The Arms Of Christ My Savior No Blessing I Will Be Denied.
All Pain Will Leave My Aching Body, As His Sweet Healing Virtue Flows
And Demons Tremble In His Presence, In Jesus Name They Have To Go.
For There Is No Other Fountain Where I Can Be More Satisfied
Than In The Arms Of Christ My Savior No Blessing I Will Be Denied.

Dear One, Whatever you are going through "COME WHERE The Blood Can Heal" I Love Hearing From You through Facebook and By Mail. My Mailing Address is:

Betty Jean Robinson Ministries PO Box 847 Brentwood, TN 37024 GOD BLESS YOU!

**CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH** by Thom Tapp

**"Judas sold Jesus out for 30 pieces of silver.
All it takes these days is a ball game on TV."**

**Cousin Leroy**

Ole Leroy was sitting out on the front porch keeping an eye on his little three-year-old daughter. They were having a wonderful time playing. At one point she said, "Pappy, look at this" and stuck out two of her fingers. Trying to keep her entertained, Leroy reached out and stuck her tiny fingers in his mouth and said, "Pappy's gonna eat your fingers," pretending to eat them. Pulling them out of his mouth Leroy's little girl sat there staring at her fingers with a devastated look on her face and tears in her eyes. "What's wrong, honey?" Leroy asked. She replied, "What happened to my booger?"

New Job

Ole Bubba came into the house and you could tell by the look on his face how excited he was! He said to his wife, "I've found a great job. The salary is good. It offers free medical insurance and paid holidays." "That's wonderful, Bubba," his wife said. "I thought you'd be pleased," Bubba said. "You start tomorrow."

"This hotel stinks!" a guest complained when he showed up at the front desk to check out. "What's wrong?" the clerk asked. "I got no sleep. Every 15 minutes this loud banging sound woke me up!" The clerk apologized for the noise and checked him out. A few minutes later, another couple showed up. Again, the clerk asked how their stay was. "Terrible!" They said. "The guy in the next room was snoring so loudly that we had to bang on the wall every 15 minutes to wake him up!"

The New Baby

For weeks a six-year old lad kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house. One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The six-year old was obviously impressed, but made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event. The teacher finally sat the boy on her lap and said, "Tommy, whatever has become of that baby brother or sister you were expecting at home?" Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

Wake Up Pills

Bob had this problem of getting up late in the morning and was always late for work. After a few weeks of this, his boss was mad and threatened to fire him if he didn't do something about it. So Bob went to his doctor, who gave him a pill and told him to take it before he went to bed. He got a great night's sleep and actually beat the alarm in the morning. After a leisurely breakfast, he cheerfully drove to work. "Boss," he said, "The pill actually worked!" "That's all fine," said the boss, "But where were you yesterday?"

The Strong Man

The strongman at a circus squeezed the juice from a lemon between his hands. He then said to the audience, "I will offer \$200 to anyone in the audience who can squeeze another drop from this lemon. A thin scholarly looking woman came forward, picked up the lemon, strained hard and managed to get a drop. The strongman was amazed. He paid the woman and asked, "What is the secret of your strength?" "Practice," the woman answered. "I was the treasurer of a Church for thirty-two years!"



VOTL
Voice of the LORD

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Billy R. Douglas

"Where God Ain't!"

(Author Unknown)

He was just a little lad, and on the week's first day.
He was wandering home from Sunday School, and dawdling on the way.
He scuffed his shoes into the grass; he found a caterpillar;
He found a fluffy milkweed pod, and blew out all the "filler."
A bird's nest in a tree o'er head so wisely placed on high,
Was just another wonder that caught his eager eye.
A neighbor watched his zigzag course, and hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day, and what was going on.
"I've been to Bible school, " he said, and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm and said, "I've learned a lot of God."
"M'm a very fine way," the neighbor said, "for a boy to spend his time."
"If you'll tell me where God is, I'll give you a brand new dime."
Quick as a flash his answer came! Nor were his accents faint.
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister, if you'll tell me where God ain't!"

First of all I want to say that I pray that each and everyone of you have a blessed Thanksgiving season. As I read the above poem it touched my heart as I thought of all of the ways that the LORD reveals himself to us each and every day. If we could only see the things that He has created through the eyes of a child I don't think there would be anyone who could not believe of His greatness and Glory! No wonder the Bible speaks so highly of having a childlike faith. More times than not we hurry through life never taking the time to slow down and look at the beauty all around us. The beauty and wonder that could only have been crafted by the hands of the Creator. I wonder how many times man has cried out "God if your real prove it to me...show me!" All the while ignoring the soft breeze that He allowed to brush across their face. Or the beauty of the stars or a clear blue sky that he has drawn out like an artist on a canvas that reveals the work of His hands. As we enter this time of Thanksgiving and gathering with family and friends may we all slow down, look around and give thanks for all the many ways that the LORD makes Himself known to us each and every day. In closing I want to share with you some of the lyrics of a song...

God's Coloring Book

Today as I was walking In the fields just down the way I sat down on a fallen log To pass the time away And as I looked around me The more that I did look the more I realized that I was viewing God's coloring book.

I saw a golden ray of sunlight A silver drop of dew A soft, white floating cloud Sailing cross the sky 'a blue A yellow dandelion Pretty evergreen And some red and orange flowers Growing wild along the stream And the more I looked around me And the more that I do look The more I realized that I was viewing God's coloring book

Then I turn my face toward the sky And say a silent prayer Though God doesn't speak to me I see him everywhere He is all around me He's everywhere I look And each new day is but a new page In God's coloring book Each new day is but a new page In God's coloring book.

LORD help us all to live our life each day never taking You for granted, or the ways that You have revealed yourself to man...and help us to ever have a heart and an attitude of Thanksgiving! Until next time, Pastor Billy R. Douglas



Is Christ Divided? conclusion

By: Evangelist Mike Heltsley

2nd Corinthians 11:3-4 - But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. Galatians 1:6-10 - I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. Luke:6:39 - And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? Denominationalism has men following men into different and often opposing directions. Is Christ divided? My high school driver's training teacher told us a true story. It was a foggy night along the lake, and a car was following two other cars. The driver couldn't see the road, so he just watched the taillights of the cars ahead. When the taillights ahead went right, he went right, and when they went left, he went left. He saw one pair of taillights dip down, then the other, so he followed them—right off the road and down over an embankment! All three cars wrecked! It pays to be careful whom you follow! But let us not forget that Paul was writing to the church at Corinth when he spoke of the divisions among them. Is Christ divided? We have the one-cuppers, the two-veilers, the Sunday-schoolers, the women-speakers, the Christian-collegers, fellowship-hallers, the fellowship-allers—no I didn't stutter!—and the disfellowship-allers, and on, and on, and on...I ask you again, is Christ divided? Brothers and sisters, we need to be working hard on mending fences. We need to lay aside that partisan spirit that says, "I am of Paul", or "I am of Apollos", "I am of Mike Heltsley", or "I am of Jimmy Swaggart". Christ is not divided. Yet we say that we are the church, the body of Christ, and we are divided. This ought not to be so. We must lay aside the philosophies of men and let the Holy Ghost guide us. Ephesians 4:1-7 - I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Some people will say, "We are of different faiths, but we will all go to heaven together." The Bible says that there is one faith. Faith, as defined in the scriptures, does not merely mean a doctrine. Faith refers to the trust that we place in Christ and the finished work of the Cross. We believe that He is who He said He is. We believe that He is resurrected from death. We trust that He has gone to prepare a place for us in heaven, and that He will come again to take us there. If we trust Him, we must keep His commandments. John 17:14-21 - I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. Is Christ divided? John 17:20-21 - Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. Is Christ divided? If you are in denominationalism, you need to come out of it! If you are in a cell-group, you need to come out of it! If you are in the world, you need to come out of it! Revelation 18:4 - And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. 2nd Corinthians 6:16-18 - And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17: Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18: And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 1st Corinthians: 11:1 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Ephesians 4: 14-16 - That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. In the church, since we are one body, we have an obligation to look after the health of the body. If your natural body is injured or sick, you seek to heal it. If the body of Christ is injured or sick, we need to work to heal it. Who are you following today? Are you following Jesus? How do you know? Do you study the scriptures to find out? 1st Corinthians 11:1-2 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. 1st Corinthians 4:16-17 - Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church. John 5:39 - Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. Ephesians 4:5 - One Lord, one faith, one baptism, Are you listening to that one Lord? Are you in that one faith? Have you received that one baptism? Christ is not divided. Why don't you share that one faith, have that one baptism, and be added to the one body of Christ, His sanctified church? You will be born of the water and of the Spirit, washed in the blood of the Lamb of God all because of the finished work at the Cross.



Are You Observant to Praise?

“Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” Psalms 150:6

I was (and still somewhat am) a huge Sherlock Holmes fan. So, I was pleasantly surprised to come across this illustration: Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. They lay down for the night and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes woke up and nudged his faithful friend: “Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see.” Watson said, “I see millions and millions of stars.” Sherlock asked, “And what does that tell you?” After a minute or so, Watson explained, “Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day today. Why, what does it tell you?” Holmes was astounded, then said, “Watson, you idiot! Someone has stolen our tent!” There are times when we are so busy enjoying the blessings that we have or complaining about what we don’t have, that we neglect to praise and thank the One who has sent those blessings to us. Like Dr. Watson, we can see and appreciate many things, but don’t realize why we can see them. Some things we take for granted: Food, clean water, air to breathe, shelter from the elements, transportation, family, (sad to say the gifts of salvation and sanctification become “old hat” to many as well), and the list goes on. There are other things for which we are thankful, but neglect to remember that *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”* (James 1:17) Then there are those times when the Holy Ghost graciously prompts our memories and we do give thanks and praise to the Father for what He has done for us and the provisions He sends our way. Dr. Watson missed the fact of the tent which would have stopped his many observations; we miss the fact of the Giver of good things which limits our praise. It’s important that we retrain our spiritual eyes to observe the fact that all that we have has come from a sovereign God who blesses us and at times allows hardship to come our way because it is best for us. So yes, *“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:18) There is a familiar saying going around; maybe you’ve heard it. “If tomorrow you only had what you thanked God for today, how much would you have?” Now there’s a sobering thought.

Be Careful Little Mind What You Think!

Consider your thoughts; guard your mind well! They will either lead you toward holy thinking and purer living or they will burn within you to please your flesh. Such lust—when allowed to sit, fester, and grow—leads to sin and then finally to death. Think also on this: how close are your thoughts to the actual deed. Dear Reader, they are much closer than you are aware. Beware the untamed thought life!

The Great Need For Purity!

Nehemiah and his fellow Israelites had finally finished rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem. This wall, which had once been in shambles, was reflective of their hearts. These people, too, were in shambles. To have this strong wall built around Jerusalem yet leave the people rotting and empty inside would be a great waste. Any wall defending an empty and broken people would be of little use, seeing that destruction from within is more hazardous than numerous threats from without. The same could be said for our country today—we need a revival like Israel began to experience in Nehemiah chapter 8. The same could be said for the church today—she is in desperate need of revival. Such reviving starts with prayer and a learning and understanding of the Word of God, sharing it with others, and diligently doing His Word—obedience. In the midst of these actions we definitely will find the joy of the Lord to be our strength; and should God be gracious, we may find that He will grant revival.

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



Reesie's Recipes



Banana Nut Cream Cheese Cake

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, sifted
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/3 cups vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 cups ripe banana, mashed
- 2 cups chopped pecans, divided
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 6 cups powdered sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, cut into small pieces

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 3 9-inch cake pans. In a large bowl, combine flour, 2 cups sugar, salt, baking powder, baking soda. Add vegetable oil, vanilla extract, and eggs and stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Stir in banana, 1 cup pecans, and milk just until evenly mixed. Divide batter evenly between the 3 cake pans. Place in oven and bake for 25 to 28 minutes, or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes and then remove to wire racks to cool completely. To make frosting, use an electric mixer to beat together butter and powdered sugar, adding powdered sugar gradually. Add vanilla extract and mix until smooth. With mixer on medium, add 1 piece of cream cheese at a time. Mix until all cream cheese has been incorporated. Spread frosting between layers of cake and cover top and sides. Sprinkle remaining chopped pecans on top.

Grape Salad by Chris Tatum

- 3-5 lbs red or white seedless grapes
- 8oz. pkg. Cream cheese
- 8oz. Sour cream
- 3/4 cup of white sugar
- 1/2 tsp Vanilla

Cream the cream cheese, sour cream, sugar and vanilla. mix with grapes and spread in 9x13 inch dish. top with topping.

Topping

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- Mix together and spread on top.

Holiday Yeast Rolls

- 2 c warm water
- 2 pkg. Fleischmann's very active dry yeast
- 2 1/2 Tsp sugar
- 6 cups bread flour
- 1 Tbsp of salt
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 6 Tbsp butter melted

Mix the water, sugar, and yeast together in a small bowl or measuring glass in a large bowl mix together flour and salt add in vegetable oil and start to mix pour in dissolved yeast mixture and stir with your hands (They're gonna get messy) once it forms a ball dump onto a floured counter and knead knead dough until it becomes smooth you may need to add a tablespoon or two more of water if the dough is too dry once well-combined place dough in a large oiled bowl and cover with a damp cloth place in a warm area of the house to rise for about an hour until the dough has doubled in size. Once doubled if you poke it with your finger it shouldn't push back out punch down dough to form even balls for your rolls split the dough in half then half each of those in half and so on and so on until you have 32 balls* form rolls and place in a greased circular pie plate 7 around and one in a center. Place covered in a warm place and allow to rise again for about an hour preheat oven to 350 degrees brush melted butter on the tops of the risen rolls Place in the oven and bake for 20 min or until golden brown



Which Report Will We Give

George Whitten

As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory. 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

When the twelve spies were sent into Canaan to spy out the land, ten returned with a bad report. Their assessment was that it was impossible to conquer the land that God had promised them. Forgetting how God had led them with a pillar of fire by night, and fed them manna from heaven during the day, brought forth water out of a rock, and parted the Red Sea, they saw the situation with only their natural eyes, failed to walk by faith, and succumbed to fear. Joshua and Caleb however, returned with a good report. Refusing to be discouraged by what they saw, they fully trusted that their supernatural God was not going to break His promise to His people, Israel. We are living in days where the world looks bleak, and the evils seem to grow more threatening and dangerous. How will we react? Will we be devastated and terrorized like the 10 spies with a bad report? Or will we do something extraordinary -- will we walk by faith like Joshua and Caleb, trust in the love and power of our God, and seize the opportunities that are at hand? Let's walk by faith and stand firm in it, facing every challenge, and laying hold of every opportunity that awaits us. May Joshua and Caleb be our examples of faith and courage in these days. With our God going before us, we also, can take the land, glorifying Him in every battle.

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The Grace of God

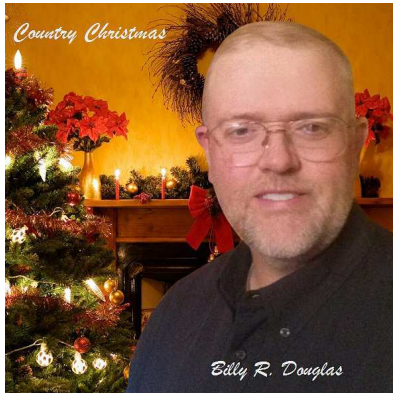
Pastor Lewis Taylor

God is a God of Abundant Grace and Mercy. We need to be thankful for this Grace and Mercy that He has abundantly poured out upon us. It is only because of the Work that Christ completed on the Cross that we are able to be partakers of these showers of blessings. We should never take for granted the Grace and Mercy of the Lord. We are Saved because of Grace (Ephesians 2:8). We are kept because of Grace (Colossians 2:6). We are healed because of Grace (Isaiah 53:5). We are given Power because of Grace. Help, Strength, Victory, and Deliverance are all bestowed upon because of Grace. All the blessings that we experience from God in this life are solely because of His Amazing Grace. What is Grace? One definition of the word "grace" is as follows- "the Goodness of God extended to undeserving man". We are not worthy of God's Grace. The Bible states clearly in Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God". I have found it interesting to learn overtime that this particular passage of Scripture implies that all of us continuously come short of God's Perfect Glory. Does this mean that since we are continuously coming short of God's Glory that we should just make light of our daily sins and trespasses? We emphatically declare "God forbid!". The Apostle Paul (through the Inspiration of the Lord) would write in Romans 6:1 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid!". Grace does not give us a license to sin, but rather live a Victorious Overcoming Christian life. So I admonish you to please be careful. The Grace of God is not "cheap", "easy", or even "greasy" as some would sadly and inaccurately proclaim. In order for us to be able to experience the Grace and Mercy of God a great Price had to be paid. That Price was the Blood that spilled out from Immanuel's veins (The Lord Jesus Christ) (John 3:16). Faith in the Finished Work of Christ on the Cross is what allows us to freely experience the Grace and Mercy of the Lord (Romans 5:2). Send The Rain Ministries PO Box 12172 Charleston, WV 25302

YOUR LIFE is Jesus to someone,
though tattered and torn it may be.
Though often times weak and unstable,
you're all of God someone will see.

You really are the only Bible that some people read!

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16



Country Christmas (2016)

1. Country Christmas
2. Three Wise Men
3. An Old Christmas Card
4. He's The Reason For The Season
5. When Jesus Came
6. Christmas On His Knees
7. Santa Claus Got Saved
8. What Child Is This
9. Mary Did You Know
10. Go Tell It On The Mountain



LATEST CD

Flow Through Me Holy Spirit (2018)

1. Flow Through Me Holy Spirit
2. Strong Enough To Bend
3. Something Pentecostal
4. Don't That Sound Like Heaven
5. Help Me Remember
6. My God Is Real
7. How Great Is Our God
8. Final Altar Call
9. There Is No Other Fountain
10. Funeral Plans
11. One More Tomorrow
12. Built On The Rock



He's The Reason For The Season (2005)

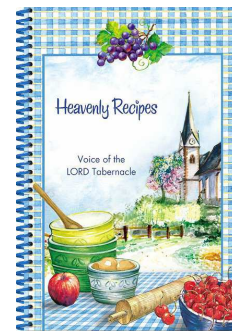
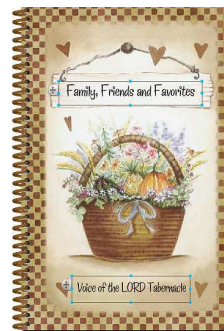
1. He's The Reason For The Season
2. O Come All Ye Faithful
3. Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem
4. What Child Is This
5. C H R I S T M A S
6. Sleep Little Baby
7. Come On Ring Those Bells
8. O Little Town Of Bethlehem
9. The First Christmas Tree
10. Joy To The World
11. Joseph's Song
12. Go Tell It On The Mountain



Home For Christmas (2007)

1. First Christmas Tree
2. What Christmas Means To Me
3. The Gift
4. Santa Claus Got Saved
5. Home For Christmas
6. Joseph's Song
7. A Very Scary Christmas
8. Unto You This Night
9. It's Christmas Once Again
10. Gonna Be A Merry Christmas (with Tyler Willis)

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A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Colossians 4:6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. Additional passages for Today: Ephesians 4:29; Philippians 1:27

Thought for Today: What's at the tip of YOUR tongue? Are you always ready to spread the good news of the deliverance available to all who believe on the name of Jesus Christ? Are you sure what to say to each person to help them to see their need for a Saviour?

Story for Today: Benjamin sat in the dark, in deep thought as he reflected over the past 40 years. He wasn't a young man anymore and as the words of the doctor sank in he realized that he was fast approaching the last days of his life. Benjamin had been a follower of Christ for most of his life. He recalled the first trip he took with a group to spread the gospel and faces began to flood his memory. He had left on the trip with the intent of sharing the gospel with some of the less fortunate as he joined a street evangelism team only to find that most of the work that was really accomplished was within himself and with those that were on his own team. Being in confined quarters with no place to go for alone time, gave him the chance to really get to know the rest of the team, especially when things didn't go as planned. It was so encouraging and quite amazing to watch their leader as he just had such a presence about him that allowed him to speak in such a way as to defuse many situations and bring out the real problem in the lives of those involved. He was always pointing others to Christ and spoke in such a way that those in the midst of the trouble wanted to hear what he had to say and wanted to turn over the revealed sin to become closer to the Christ they were hoping to share with those they hoped to minister to on the street. Benjamin quickly thought of the years that followed as he learned more about God and how to share the grace of the Lord Jesus with those he encountered at work, or after school as he coached and at church in the class that he taught. As the faces of those he encountered flashed through his mind, one situation after the other reminded him of how God had used him. How he would be working on a passage for class only to find that someone at work was struggling with that very thing and that as he was hiding the word in his heart he was able to share it with those in need. He had learned early on to control his tongue and eventually to let God control his thoughts too! It was always amazing to realize that when he followed God, he always had an answer to the tough questions that he encountered. Even now, as his life on earth was coming to a close, he felt a peace that he couldn't explain. His only regret was that he wouldn't be able to speak on behalf of the Lord to those that he loved the most. He was grateful for the continued answers to the tough questions and the ability to give the message of grace, the one that told of a savior that came to earth as a man, lived a perfect life, died a horrible cruel death fulfilling all the prophesy and then rose again and that the Lord Jesus had done that so that every soul could have a restored relationship with the Father in heaven and that they could partake in life everlasting when their life on earth was over. Benjamin wished he could have assurance that his children and siblings would receive this gift of mercy and grace. He prayed they would stop rejecting the only way of salvation. Benjamin knew that as much as he desired that his loved ones would come to Christ, God desired it even more. He thought of the times when he had shared the truth and could feel the Spirit convicting others. He knew that even if he couldn't continue to share the truth, God could provide through others. And this he prayed for.

Questions for Today: How about you? Are you studying to know God? Are you speaking words that point others to the knowledge of a saving grace? Does it draw others to wanting to know more about the Lord Jesus? Do you walk so closely with the Lord that you can help others that are struggling to know the truth? Are you the one that can reach Benjamin's loved ones?

Prayer for Today: Dear Heavenly Father, Please draw us to yourself and help us to grow in spiritual wisdom and understanding. Help us to help others and please let us stand in the gap for those that have left this world, let us be a witness that is able to point others to you! In Jesus' Name Amen



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PRAYER LIST

If you would like to send a picture of a loved one, a special prayer request or when you send a name to be added to our prayer list we will place it in our Prayer Box. Our Prayer Box sits on the altar at VOTL Tabernacle and your prayer requests are prayed over daily and in our services.

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Ireland Henry	Angela & David Smith	Regina Woolsey	Grandchildren of Minnie Ball
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