



## Sisters in the Spirit Ministries Newsletter

Empowerment for the Christian Woman

# It's All About the Children!



By Rev. Dr. Katrina White Brown

**H**appy Father's Day. The third Sunday in June is designated to celebrate Father's Day. Ironically, it was a woman who helped to make it a holiday.

In 1898, Sonora Louise Smart Dodd was just 16 years old when her mother died. This left her father, William Jackson Smart, to raise her and five younger brothers, alone at their home in Spokane, Washington. She was inspired by all her father was doing, and it led her to draw up a petition for the first Father's Day.

The celebration was to take place in June, which was the month of her father's birthday. Even though the petition only earned two signatures, Dodd convinced several local church communities to participate in a celebration on the third Sunday in June. The resulting celebration in Spokane kicked off Dodd's nearly life-long mission of promoting

Father's Day for national status. Over the next half-century, Dodd would travel the United States, speaking on behalf of Father's Day and campaigning for the cause for 62 years. Finally in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law Resolution 187, establishing Father's Day as a national holiday.

However, since Father's Day was first conceived, the nature of fatherhood itself has shifted. The impact of absentee fathers has been devastating. There are endless statistics that can confirm the influence that fathers have in their children's lives, no matter how they are involved. But regardless of the numbers, statistics, charts and analysis, and psychological evaluations, when it comes to fatherhood - it's all about the children.

God's fierce protection of children is demonstrated throughout the Bible. Clearly, if you want to make God angry, you have but to mistreat the children.

continues on page 6



## 20 SECONDS OF PRAISE

Health officials recommend washing your hands frequently, for a minimum of 20 seconds, as a primary defense against germs. You can time this by singing the refrain of:

### My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me

By William C. Martin

I trust in God, I know He cares for me;  
On mountain bleak or on the stormy sea;  
Though billows roll, He keeps my soul;  
My heavenly Father watches over me.

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*Sisters in the Spirit is an outreach ministry created to empower Christian women in better serving the Lord. We are here to help "equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ..."*

*Ephesians 4:12*



**L**ong before Kobe Bryant popularized the description, my father was the original Girl Dad. When I came along there were already two boys in the family, and so being the first girl AND the youngest child gave me some lofty rights and privileges. And while I was extremely comfortable and quite confident with the knowledge that I could do any and all things that I wanted because my Dad made it possible, I later came to understand that my Father never experienced that same level of contentment. That's because one of the main things a Girl Dad does is worry—all the time.

When I was growing up, the “isms” of this world were overwhelming. The obvious ones - racism and sexism were powerful and debilitating. But other “isms”, although more stealth, were just as incapacitating. Capitalism, nationalism, and ageism are just three that come to mind. My Dad was always worried about the impact of toxic “isms” on the future of his “Baby Girl.”

To be clear, “isms” can be defined as either an action or a “*system, principle, or ideological movement.*” “Isms” are often political, always personal, and frequently controversial. My Dad was well aware of past and present “isms” and the obstacles they firmly stacked against Black children. He was challenged however, by the realities of it being “A Man’s World.” He was concerned about how this reality limited his daughter, and he struggled to find ways of providing all the opportunities that I wanted to explore.

Although the societal pressures were also intense when it came to raising my brothers, Dad had a better navigation compass for what to expect as it related to Black males. But when I was born, his worry mode went into hyperdrive. He had always been the protector for his wife - my Mom - against the discrimination and oppression she experienced on a daily basis. They were both painfully familiar with the looks of disdain and outright hatred for Black people, but especially women. They had lived with the attitude of “if you are Black, you get to the back” all of their lives. They had learned to navigate the White man’s world of inequalities, despite the fact that God created all humans in God’s image. They understood that Jesus’ commandment to love others as yourself did not come with a caveat: He did not specify to love only those who look like you, think like you, have the same economic status as you, or come from the same place as you.

My parents wanted better for all of their children, but my Girl Dad had even bigger aspirations for me. He focused on finding a way to do his part in making the world a fairer and safer place. He wanted to ensure that his daughter never had to bear the weight of racism, inequality, and injustice; shoulder the burden of low self-esteem; or get crushed by mass ignorance and the lack of education. My Girl Dad wanted all opportunities available for me, my brothers, and eventually my much younger sister, just as they were for anybody else. He never stopped striving to achieve it.

It’s tough to be a Girl Dad. No matter how much dads love their daughters, they are not females; they have an inherent lack of understanding about how girls think, feel, and react. What Girl Dads can do however, without ever having any experience in being a father, is to show their daughters the characteristics of a godly man. Those qualities include love, loyalty, humility, and servanthood. Godly fathers are called to lead their homes with love, love their families, demonstrate loyalty to others, and to serve God with humility. My Dad poured all of that into our family. And although his joy and devotion to his “Baby Girl” made me believe that the sun neither rose nor set until I did, he was a man after God’s own heart and he reflected the goodness and strength of his character throughout our lives. I am so grateful that God chose William M. White Sr. to be my Dad. Happy Heavenly Father’s Day!

*Love, Peace, and Blessings Always,  
Katrina W. Brown*

# 7 Traits of a Strong Father



Not every successful man is a good father. But every good father is a successful man.

Robert Duvall

**By Wesley Baines**

**M**any things go into the making of a good father, but there are a few traits that stand out above the rest. These are the aspects of a man's personality that allow him to make a positive difference in his child's life, to be a pillar of support, love, and guidance, and to have the fortitude to not grudgingly endure fatherhood, but to love and commit to every moment of it.

Unfortunately, good fathers are a thing we lack right now. Too many men have warped ideas of what it means to be a father, and abandon their families when they feel they can't live up to the title - according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24 million American children live without their biological father in their home.

That's 1 out of 3 kids. And according to the National Fatherhood Initiative, those kids have four times the risk of poverty, when compared to homes where fathers remain. They're more likely to have behavioral problems. They're more likely to drop out of school. They suffer.

We need strong fathers. So whether you're dating and would like to learn how to spot men with the potential to be a great father, or if you're a man who desires to cultivate those traits within yourself, take a look at these 7 traits of a strong father, and learn what it means to truly take on the role of dad.

## 1. He's Patient

For a father, patience is essential.

A father will inevitably face challenges from his relationship, from his children, and even from himself. He will be tested. He will have to do things both noble and lowly. And he must be able to endure it all without giving up.

The truth is that fatherhood isn't always fun. In fact, it's downright difficult. Children constantly test boundaries from the time they can say "No," to the time they move out. Partners disagree with major life choices or make their own mistakes.

But what breaks fathers more than anything is a lack of patience with the self. Many men place the title of "father" on a pedestal, leaving no room for their own humanity. They feel unworthy to be dad.

This is because of any number of reasons—they feel they don't earn enough, that they're inadequate, that they're not perfect enough. Whatever the reason, the result is often the same—fathers with a lack of patience pull away, abandoning their families.

But fathers who practice patience have staying power, and don't waver when things get hard. This is one attribute dads can't do without.

## 2. He's Moral

The second attribute that all fathers need is a deeply grounded sense of morality. This simply means that his decisions are rooted in something greater than himself - he looks to something higher. He's selfless. He's righteous. He knows the difference between good and evil, and can deftly navigate the shades of gray between them.

This sense of morality is what will guide him when temptation arises—when another woman's eyes linger on him a little too long, when money is short and his workplace credit card is burning a hole in his pocket, when his child makes him angry enough to lash out. The moral man will know what to do in each of these situations—there will be no doubt as to which is the correct path.

Temptation will always be there. We're only human, after all. But having a strong moral compass that does not bend or break helps make a man the best father he can be.

## 3. He's Open-minded

An open-minded man makes for a thriving family. Some men have the wrong idea of what fatherhood really is. They think it's about control. They think it's about power or dominance or strength. They think it's about imposing upon their family their own single-minded vision of what should and should not be. They are wrong.

The open-minded man accepts that his family members are a diverse bunch, and admire the differences between them. He is teachable, and rather than rejecting what is different in his family, he happily learns from them. This means, for example, that when his child chooses a liberal arts education over the military, or vice-versa, he's

happy for him or her, despite his own preferences. This means that when his wife decides she wants to begin her career, he encourages her to follow her dream, even if he wants to be the sole breadwinner. This doesn't mean that he isn't rational that he makes poor leadership decisions. This simply means that he is open to the new, to the different, to possibility.

An open-minded father allows his family a safe place in which they can explore their own dreams, desires, and personalities, and in which they can fully be themselves. This trait makes for a wonderfully happy home.

## 4. He's Loving

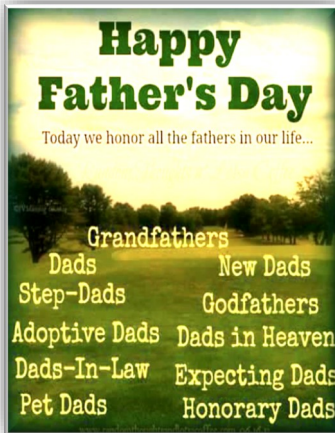
Ask people everywhere what they wish their fathers had done better, and you'll likely hear this. "I wish he had shown his love more often."

The lack of emotional intelligence—also known as EQ—in many men is a problem. Although this has been improving in recent years, the harsh lessons of conventional masculinity teaches men to, at best, hide the highs and lows of their emotions, or at worst, transmute it into anger. But for fathers, consistently showing affection and love are vital. Emotional honesty and intimacy are rare treasures in a dad, both for his children and his partner.

Looking at data from the U.S. Census Bureau, children who have loving, expressive, involved fathers are much likelier to do well in school, develop empathy, and avoid risky behaviors. And what's more, these children are simply happier. They feel safe. They feel unconditionally loved. That's important.

The spouse of a loving father also receives these benefits, and marriages thrive when both partners are able to express their love for one another. It's obvious that being unabashedly and openly loving is a prime trait of a good father.

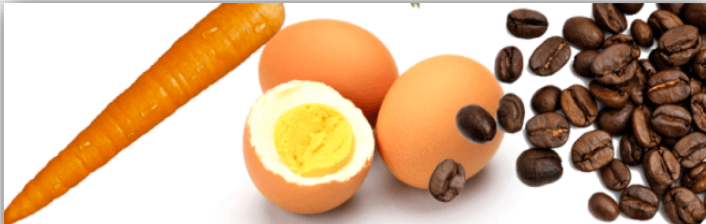
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# IN THE NAME OF THE FATHERS

Identify the fathers of these men of the Bible

1. My father had two sons, however one of the sons killed the other. Who was our father? \_\_\_\_\_
2. My father made his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth live inside an Ark for 40 days and nights. What was his name? \_\_\_\_\_
3. I have a brother named Ishmael, and our father was blessed by God to be the “Father of all Nations.” Who was he? \_\_\_\_\_
4. My father had 19 sons, and he was a man after God’s own heart. What was his name? \_\_\_\_\_
5. I am Gershom and my brother is Eliezer. Our father spent 40 years in the wilderness with God’s chosen people. Who was he? \_\_\_\_\_
6. My father gave birth to the man who would father the 12 Tribes of Israel. What was his name? \_\_\_\_\_
7. He was my father, and I was the strongest man on Earth. What was his name? \_\_\_\_\_
8. My father did not think he would ever have a child because my mother Elizabeth was barren. What was my father’s name? \_\_\_\_\_
9. I have a heavenly Father, but I also had an earthly father. What was my earthly father’s name? \_\_\_\_\_
10. My brother Hophni and I, Phinehas, were considered evil sons. Who was our father? \_\_\_\_\_



## Are you a Carrot, Egg, or Coffee Bean?

**A** young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She didn't know how she was going to make it and wanted to just give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each pot on a high fire. Soon the pots came to boil. In the first she placed some carrots, in the second she placed some eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, "tell me what you see." "Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied.

Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard boiled egg. Finally, the mother asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, "What does it mean, mother?"

Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity. Boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water. "Which are you?" she asked her daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

Think of this: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity do I wilt and become soft and lose my strength? Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart? Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you when the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest do you elevate yourself to another level?

How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean? The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way. The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying. May we all be COFFEE!



## FREEDOM IN THE WORD

*Join with Sisters in the Spirit in providing the SIS Newsletter to the 800 women incarcerated at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Troy, Virginia*

Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women (FCCW) is the largest prison for women in Virginia. SIS has been sending newsletters to several of the inmates for years, and the women have found *Freedom in the Word* that they read. The FCCW Chaplain Rev. Jerusha Moses, contacted SIS and asked if the Ministry could provide newsletters to all 800 of the women. We said

**Yes, Yes, Yes!**

**You can help us accomplish this!  
Your gift of \$25 will help sponsor  
three months of newsletters for 10  
women incarcerated at FCCW.**

*Jesus said "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."*

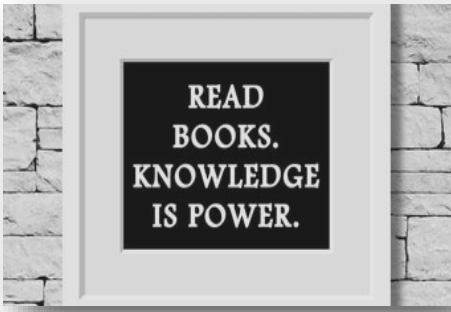
There is encouragement, enlightenment, and empowerment within the pages of the SIS Newsletter. You can help provide this freedom in the words of the Newsletter by sending your contribution to:

*SIS Ministries*

*P.O. Box 649 \* Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
Attention: Freedom in the Word Campaign*

*Or use our cash app - \$SnthS*

*Thank you!  
for your generosity towards  
those who are in prison!*



# It's All About the Children

*Continued from Page 1*

God repeatedly punished Israel for three main offenses: neglect of the widows; failure to show concern and hospitality towards foreigners; and the mistreatment of children. In both the Old and New Testaments, God has consistently denounced the mistreatment of these three groups as a sin of disobedience; punishable by death. There are some striking examples.

Consider Moses' plight, as described in Exodus 4:19-26. These passages were written about the time when Moses was being prepared for the greatest challenge of his life. God had assigned him to go back to Egypt and demand of a hard-hearted Pharaoh, that he release the people of Israel from bondage. Verses 19-23 detail God's instructions: *"When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go. Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, and I told you, 'Let my son go, so he may worship me.' But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son."*

However, the 24th verse explained that *"At a lodging place on the way, the Lord met Moses and was about to kill him."* God was angry with Moses because he had not done right by his children.

Moses had failed to perform the ritual of circumcision on his first born son Gershom, as mandated by the Abrahamic Covenant. As Moses and his family ventured back to Egypt, Gershom would have been subjected to the same fate as those who were not protected under the Covenant. God was prepared to punish Moses with death because he did not take care of the needs of his children.

In the New Testament, Matthew recounted how Jesus felt about the children. *"He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. 'If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea'"* (Matthew 18:3-6).

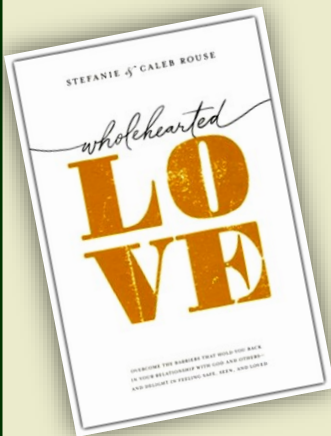
According to Medical Daily, drowning can be an incredibly painful and difficult way to die. Yet Jesus told his disciples that it would be better for a person to drown than to face the punishment that will come to those who mistreat children.

For God, it is all about the children, and His is consistent in this point. God wants the children to be trained in His ways (Proverbs 22:6); He cautions against provoking them to anger (Ephesians 6:4); and He warns about mistreating fatherless children (Exodus 22:22). God cherishes His children.

Fatherhood has, and continues to be, both a demanding and gratifying endeavor. Father's Day is an occasion to thank every person who has embraced this challenging role, and is committed to making a positive difference. When we realize that we are all God's children, we know that our relationship with Him, and each other, is all about the children!

## WHOLEHEARTED LOVE

BY STEFANIE AND CALEB ROUSE



*Overcome the barriers that hold you back in your relationship with God and others - and delight in feeling safe, seen, and loved.*

**Loving others can be so messy.** Somewhere along the way, maybe you've

- Experienced pain and trauma that caused you to put up barriers in your heart
- Felt disappointed that you didn't get the relationship you once dreamed of
- Decided it's too risky to open yourself up to getting hurt.

Maybe you've even felt this spreading into your relationship with God. If you're honest, maybe your connection with Him only feels surface level. You've shutdown with him too and aren't experiencing His love like before.

Relationship counselors Stefanie and Caleb Rouse are no strangers to this heartache, loneliness, and brokenness. Yet despite personal pain and loss, they've come to discover that God wants us to experience nothing less than wholehearted love--a love that allows us to be fully safe, seen, and known, with Him and with each other. Join them in the journey as they reveal personal stories, practical coaching, and biblical wisdom to guide you towards living—and loving—wholeheartedly.

Reviewed by Tyndale Publishers.

*Wholehearted Love* is available at Amazon.com, Christianbooks.com, Barnes and Noble, and Walmart



# 7 Traits of a Strong Father

Continued from Page 3

## 5. He's Loyal

Loyalty is the trait that keeps families together in the hardest of times. A loyal father is one that can be trusted to be there today, tomorrow, and forever. This is about the ability to commit. A step forward from mere patience, loyalty is the ability to consistently stick by your choices, no matter the cost. And when a man makes the choice to become a father, a strong sense of loyalty becomes vital. This doesn't just mean a father physically stays with his family. Loyalty means much more than that.

It means standing up for your family when others attack them or when life events lay them low. It means being there for them—keeping your commitment to ensuring the welfare of your children and spouses. And it means being consistent in all of these things. Loyal fathers don't place work or recreation or friendships above their families. They put family first, and the result is a strong household that will not break beneath even the most violent of storms.

## 6. He's Honest

Honesty is hard to come by in anyone, but to be a good father, this trait is a must.

Relationships are built on trust. This includes the relationship between father and spouse, as well as that between father and child. Honesty creates a sense of safety—when everyone can trust that dad's word is his bond, they know that they can go to him for anything, and that they can trust him to do what he says he will do.

Dishonesty is the bane of closeness—you cannot develop an intimate relationship with someone who misrepresents themselves. And so honesty in all things encourages strong familial bonds. Honesty isn't just about telling the truth. It's also about keeping promises. If you say you're going to be at your son's recital, be there. If you promise your spouse a date night on Thursday evening, make it happen. This lets a father's family know that they can depend on him for anything, making honesty an extremely valuable trait.

## 7. He Leads by Example

Last of all, one of the most-needed traits of any parent is the ability to lead by example.

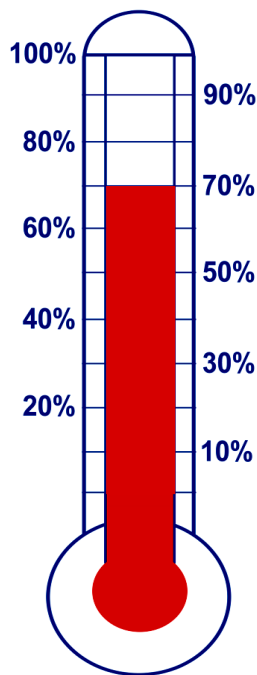
The father is the co-leader of the family unit, and is often considered the head of the house. What he does, and what he shows to be permissible through his own choices, everyone else will do. That's why it's vitally important that fathers lead by example. This means putting into action all of the traits on this list. It means being loving, honest, loyal, open-minded, moral, and patient. No one can be perfect, but if a father is able to visibly act in these ways, he'll plant the seeds of these traits in his children, and they'll one day do the same with their own kids.

Leading by example provides what every good father should be—a role model. The world is built on nations, nations are built on communities, communities are built on families, and families take their cues from the strong role models within their ranks. This means that if a father consistently makes harmful choices, his children may take the same path, and through them, will negatively affect the world. But if fathers begin making the right choices, and if they begin modeling good behavior and the wonderful effects this creates, he puts goodness out into the world. And what's more, his family will be happier and more stable beneath his guidance.

These traits make for a good man—a man who has the potential to become a great father. If you're a man who one day wishes to become a father, cultivate these traits. Practice them. Work on them until you can display them consistently and meaningfully. And if you're looking for this kind of man, well, you now know what to look for. Don't compromise—a great father is a treasure, and treasure is worth searching for.

The world needs better dads. It's time for men to step up to the task.

# FREEDOM IN THE WORD Campaign THANK YOU!



Our Goal

**3200**

*We have raised over half of our goal needed to get the SIS Newsletter to the 800 women incarcerated at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. (See page 5)*

**YOUR GIFT OF \$25 WILL HELP SPONSOR THREE MONTHS OF NEWSLETTERS FOR 10 WOMEN AT FCCW. PLEASE GIVE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN. THESE WOMEN MAY BE IN PHYSICAL BONDAGE, BUT NOT THEIR SPIRIT, BECAUSE THERE IS TRUE FREEDOM IN GOD'S WORD!**

**SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO  
FREEDOM IN THE WORD CAMPAIGN  
P.O. Box 649  
GLOUCESTER POINT, VA 23062**

## Answers to **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHERS** Quiz

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Adam    | 6. Jacob     |
| 2. Noah    | 7. Manoah    |
| 3. Abraham | 8. Zechariah |
| 4. David   | 9. Joseph    |
| 5. Moses   | 10. Eli      |





## Sisters in the Spirit Newsletter

This is a free monthly publication of Sisters in the Spirit Ministries, Inc, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded to empower Christian women in better fulfilling their God-given purpose.  
Editor: Dr. Katrina W. Brown  
The newsletter is distributed via mail and online throughout the United States and the Caribbean.

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# The LAST Laugh



### Fuel for the job

I ran out of gas on the way home today. As it was losing power, I was able to pull over to the side of the road, where I cracked open the windows so it wouldn't get too hot. A moment later a bee flew in my car window, and landed on the steering wheel.

"Hi," said the bee in his squeaky little bee voice. "Are you out of gas?" he asked. Stunned by the bee's concern for a moment, I stumbled my response: "yes, it seems so..." "Give me a minute," said the bee. And, he flew away.

A few minutes later the bee returned with the entire hive of bees, and they all flew into my gas tank. Moments later they emerged. "Try it now," said one of the passing bees. Again, a little stunned by the bee's kindness, I gave it a try, and the car started...! Then asked one of the bees as it flew by, "Wow, what did you put in the tank." He answered "BP of course!"

### Let me help you with that

Walking down the street, a man passes a house and notices a child trying to reach the doorbell. No matter how much the little guy stretches, he can't make it. The man calls out, "Let me get that for you," and he bounds onto the porch to ring the bell. "Thanks, mister," says the kid. "Now let's run."

### The secret to a contented marriage

A couple was celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. Their domestic tranquility had long been the talk of the town. A local newspaper reporter was inquiring as to the secret of their long and happy marriage.

Well, it dates back to our honeymoon," explained the man. "We visited the Grand Canyon and took a trip down the bottom of the canyon by pack mule. We hadn't gone too far when my wife's mule stumbled. My wife quietly said, "That's one." We proceeded a little farther when the mule stumbled again. One more time my wife quietly said, "That's two." We hadn't gone a half mile when the mule stumbled a third time. My wife promptly removed a revolver from her pocket and shot him. I started to protest over her treatment of the mule when she looked at me and quietly said, "that's one."

### The Discovery

Little Johnny was bored one rainy day, so he picked up the family Bible looking for interesting pictures. Paging through it, something fell out. Turns out, it was a large oak leaf that had been pressed long ago between the pages. He immediately took it to his parents to proudly announce, "Look what I found in the Bible." "Adam's underwear!"

### The choice is yours

A man came into a shop with a 'Salesman Wanted' sign in a window. He went up to the owner and said, "I-I-I w-w-waannn-t the j- jooob-b."

"I don't know if this job would suit you because of your speaking impediment," said the owner. "I h-h-havvve a w-wi-wiife and s-s-s-six k- kkkids, IIII-I re-really neeedd thi-thi-this j-j-job!" said the man.

"O.K. Here are three Bibles. Go out and sell them." said the owner.

So the man went out and came back an hour later. "H-here-issss your m-m-money." said the man. The owner was impressed, so he gave the man a dozen more Bibles and sent him out. The man came back in two hours and said, "He-he ers y-yoouur m-m-money." The owner said, "This is fantastic. You sold more Bibles in three hours than anyone has sold in a week. Tell me, what do you say to the people when they come to the door?" "W-welllll," said the man, "I r-r-ring the d-door bell, a-a-and s-s-say 'H- Hel-Hello, M-m- maaaaddam, d-d-do you w-w- want t-t-t-to buy thi-thi-this B-B-Bible, oooor d-d-do y-you w-w-want m'me t-toooo read it t-t-t-to you?"

### Trust the Lord

It was time for the Sunday morning service to begin but there was no trace of the main preacher. A young priest was asked to take his place. Worried out of his mind, he went to the bishop's room. "What shall I do, bishop? They're asking me to give a sermon and I don't have anything prepared!"

"Trust the Lord, good man, trust the Lord." said the Bishop. Having found no solution, the priest left and looked around for inspiration in the bishop's Bible. In there, he found card notes for a sermon and, praising the Lord, went ahead and gave the sermon with the notes.

Everyone loved his sermon and came to praise him after the service was over. Just then, the Bishop comes storming over and says, "Young man, you've used my cards that I was going to use for my service tonight! And what do you expect me to do now?" The young priest replied, "Trust the Lord, good man, trust the Lord."