

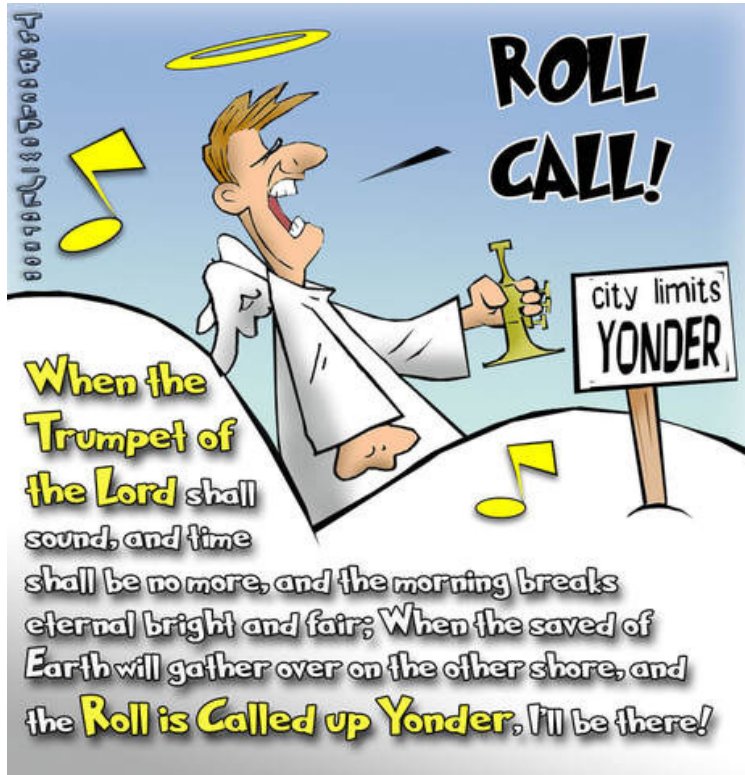
# Faith and Funnies

A newsletter from Faithful Friends KY

June, Vol. 1



***A cheerful heart is good medicine. Prov. 17:22***



## This Month in History

- **June 6, 1944** - D-Day, the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the northern coast of France.
- **June 10, 1652** - In Massachusetts, silversmith John Hull opened the first mint in America, in defiance of English colonial law. The first coin issued was the Pine Tree Shilling, designed by Hull.

## Laugh a Little



Q: Why did the coffee file a police report?

A: *It got mugged.*

Q: Dad, did you get a haircut?

A: *No, I got them all cut*

Q: What time did the man go to the dentist?

A: *Tooth hurt-y.*

Q: What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a tricycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle?

A: *Attire!*

Q: How many apples grow on a tree?

A: *All of them.*



## Pulling Weeds

written by Marla Carter

I realize this might sound strange, but I enjoy pulling weeds. I really do! I enjoy the immediate gratification of yanking those suckers up out of my garden and then seeing how quickly things look better just by removing those pesky weeds. There's an even greater satisfaction when I can get the whole thing in one grab, roots and all!

Every summer I'm always amazed and frustrated that weeds show up in the strangest of places, seemingly without any dirt at all. Weeds will grow in a crack in the sidewalk or driveway, or in between the bricks of my retaining wall. And every summer when I'm pulling those pesky weeds, I think about what the Bible says about sin. God uses a lot of farming and agriculture metaphors in the Bible. They are concepts most people can relate to, and they help us understand God and His ways a little bit better.

But first--why do weeds grow? Weeds are considered opportunistic and grow when conditions are favorable. They will grow anywhere there is room. Think about that and then think about how sin creeps into our life. Temptation and the sin that follows can grow anywhere in our heart where we have left room. Ephesians 4:27 says, "Do not give the devil a foothold," and Romans 13:14 says, "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and *make no provision for the flesh*, to gratify its desires." In other words, don't leave any room for sin!

Let's say that one Sunday I wake up and decide I'm just too tired to go to church. I decide to watch church on television; after all, I can

stay in my pj's and worship God from the comfort of my couch with my coffee in hand. That's almost as good as going, right? But maybe the next Sunday I wake up and have a headache. I decide to stay home again and watch the service on tv. Very quickly, these little excuses lead to my falling out of the habit of attending church in person, and eventually I stop attending altogether. Hebrews 10:25 says, "You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the day coming." That's not a suggestion from God, that's a command! I made space in my life for a sin to grow, and eventually it became a big weed of no longer attending church! (Of course, there are those who cannot attend church in person due to real health concerns, and that's not sin for them.)

Think about another weed--the dandelion. It has that cottony, puffy white top after its bright yellow flower disappears. What happens when the wind blows? (Or when little kids blow it for fun?) Those little seeds sitting in that white cloud float through the air and spread across your yard, just like sins that we pass on. Think about the sin of gossip. If I say something unkind about someone to a group of friends, it can often spread around to other people like the seeds of a dandelion blowing in the wind.

John Owen famously said, "Be killing sin or sin will be killing you." Just as little weeds can soon spread and take over my garden, so sin can spread in my life. We must constantly allow the Holy Spirit to act as the gardener of our hearts--to alert us to sin, to cause us to hate our sin, and to empower us to yank that sin out like a weed.

## Pesky Weeds

See if you can find all the names of weeds in the puzzle.

K P P O I S O N I V Y T T R A H N O D B  
 G O O O M D R F D J L L W U Q M D K X E  
 J I W R V E V N Y Z G H E X N P T F H H  
 U S R E P E E R C A I N I G R I V R K M  
 L O H H T W T O Q H Q A A H U L I R J Z  
 T N T G D K U O S R I G B D V D M F M L  
 Y S R O Q L C Q U Q I C G Q E Y X H E H  
 U U Y D I I A D N I P O K E W E E D L T  
 S M I B T M K K K N N Q W W T D D Z T J  
 I A S S G H F J N D Z G P Q E M K Z T D  
 S C J W U N L G T S A Y O D S E M V E F  
 T I H S N H C D N R V T O I X Y D C N B  
 U C R E E P I N G C H A R L I E S X G Q  
 A D M W H U H T B W A E Z F F U Z Z N A  
 S C V X I E Q Y L Z C A Q Z A E G E I C  
 C U L N B B N F H I B H O Y F D B S G Q  
 X I D A N D E L I O N S X G N K T L N P  
 K R E V O L C G T R J K O Y T V D D I V  
 L R E X T D N S S A R G B A R C N W T V  
 M U K M G A O W U G Z P X H E G I J S B

DANDELIONS

STINGING NETTLE

CRABGRASS

POISON SUMAC

CLOVER

RAGWEED

MILKWEED

VIRGINIA CREEPER

CHICKWEED

CREEPING CHARLIE

POISON IVY

POKEWEED

*\*there are no spaces in between words in the puzzle*