

Grace & Truth Magazine

2021 EDITION

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WINTER



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does not follow the church. He is any thing
religious, yet is fond of a certain suit, and
Scarlet. He keeps a running ac-
with Horse, Dog, Fox, and Co. but ob-
check. As to cards, in choosing a
prefers Hunt's. In the theatricals, he
Alias Somerville, because her namesake
e Chase, though he never read it. He
at dancer, though he is found of casting
dog and no great painter, though he
ts, and seeks for a brush. He is no
d yet is fond of five bars. He des-
s, yet follows a course of bark. He
love his country, but is perpetually
le is fond of strong ale and beer, but
url. He is good tempered yet so fara
er a saddle horse to a saddle of
ome what rough, and bear him-
n good breeding in horse and
ses the church catechism, and
then dogmas, by naming his
ter, Juno, Mars, and Diana,
violet, but he doats on a good
who is a shrew, but objects
n. In politics he inclines
t Fox. He is no milk-
tally. He protects poul-
boxes. He follows but one bu-
as many pursuits. He pre-
ing, but a dog leads him by
as honest a fellow as needs
is oftener in danger than a
wears he can clear any thing, but
a fog; he esteems himself prosper-
always going to the dogs. He delights
anter's stakes, but takes care not to
is hunter. He praises discretion, but
ould rather let the cat out of the bag than a
fox. To conclude, he runs as long as he can,
and then goes to earth, and his heir is in at his
beath. But his heir does not stand in his
shoes, for he never wore any thing but boots.
[Hood's comic Annual.

Indian Eloquence. A writer in the New-
York Mirror, gives this lament of an Indian
Warrior of the Yamassee tribe over the graves
of his fathers and the recollections and affections
of his youth. It is "the majesty of grief without

The

VOL. I.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESD

BY O. P. S

AND

Edited by A. G. F

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"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run & not grow weary, they will walk & not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31

Grateful Hearts



FROM ALL OF US HERE AT
GRACE & TRUTH MAGAZINE

Thank you for all your support!


Our team thanks you.

I will give thanks
to the Lord
because of His
righteousness;
I will sing praise
of the Name of the
Lord Most High!"

Psalm 7:17



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To our dear friends

Finding Rest in 2021, or "2020.1"



A MESSAGE FROM US

here at Grace & Truth Magazine

As we are already several weeks into the new year, 2020.1, as our founder, Jessica Stern Foster likes to call it, things are looking a little crazy. The weather can't seem to make up its mind and many states are getting pummeled in ways that they are not prepared to handle.

Many of you, our dear readers, may be in despair. Maybe your home, your safe place, your sanctuary, has been destroyed. Maybe you still don't have heat or water for your children. Maybe you are doing your best to find food. Maybe you are viewing the terrible events from afar and are heartbroken as you pray for those in need.

We hope that you find encouragement within these pages and that your spirit is lifted. Our Heavenly Father loves to take us into His bosom and embrace us like we would embrace our own children. He loves us and longs to show us His good plans for each of us.

Be encouraged this month and ask the Lord to show you His plans to bring peace, beauty, and provision into your life.

We love each of you and, as always, we are here if you need prayer. Please let us know how we can pray for you at prayer@redeemourchildren.org

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RANDAL REEDER



Why Racial and Ethnic Minorities Must Speak Out Against Reverse Racism and the Progressive Agenda

an interview with
Dr. Carol Swain
and Dr. Ming Wang

Swain: Hello Ming.

Wang: Hello Carol, it's good to be here.

Swain: You have been a busy man.

Wang: Yes.

Swain: And before we get into Common Ground, I want you to tell our viewers a little bit about yourself. The short version.

Wang: Okay, the short version. I came from China. I survived what we call "cultural revolution" in the 1960's when all the students were deported to labor camps for hard labor. And eventually made my way to America with \$50 many years ago. And have enjoyed my life here in America. Since then, have got two doctorate degrees, one in laser physics, one in medicine, and now I'm a practicing ophthalmologist here in Tennessee.

Swain: Our viewers will know this, but you have been very active in the community. In numerous causes, and you have founded this nonprofit the Common Ground Network. Tell us about the Common Ground Network.

Wang: You know, umm, Carol, one of the first things after I landed in this country as an immigrant--as a student, a very poor student with no money, but with opportunity and freedom in America. I heard this expression that someone told me that stayed in my memory for the last some 30 years. They said, "You know what America is about, it's about freedom and liberty and mutual respect. It's about shared humanity on the spaceship earth. We can work together, respect each other. I may not agree with what you say but I will defend to my death your right to say it."

Swain: That's the way it use to be in America, I believe. And recently we have seen something that many people and I consider the rise of socialism. We see our nation being torn apart and America no longer looks like America. Probably it is beginning to look more like the China you fled.

Wang: Yes. You know, the hyper polarization that people are so fixated on our differences rather than appreciating what we have in common. To see all the rise in destruction as someone who use to not have freedom to see, freedom so precious in America. I just want to shout to these

folks. Don't destroy, we got it good, It's such a blessing to live in this country. Protect America. Keep America strong.

Swain: Well, sometimes I feel like we have almost gone to the point no return. Because our young people they don't seem to appreciate the Constitution, or the sacrifices their parents have made. And they have, we have reached the point that through critical race theory and just various philosophies they have learned in college and now also in high school and middle school. That they have no appreciation for America. You find that with some of them they are ashamed of their race. They are ashamed of everything. Ah their religion that's made America great. What do we about that, Dr. Wang?

Wang: You know Carol, every day I take care of people with vision problems. While most of us realize how important sight is,, those who truly appreciate sight are those who use to be blind. And so the people who truly appreciate liberty and freedom in America are those who use to not have freedom and liberty. So, sometimes people were so enamored by socialism and all that. And I say that you have not experienced.

I have. I have suffered, been there. Don't go there. I have suffered through extreme formal polarization which is dictatorship. I realized that we need to know the suffering and experience of folks in other parts of the world who never had freedom. And to realize in comparison how precious the freedom liberty and mutual respect we have in America.

Swain: Well, one of the things, Dr. Wang, that I argue at times is it seems like with the diversity inclusion movement there is this focus on white privilege, whites being oppressors, white minorities being victims, and the whole move seems to be pushed in such a way that it divides us. I find that a lot of white people seem feel like they can't speak up when things are truly wrong or they see things that are against the constitution against our values and principles as Americans. I feel sometimes that it is up to people like me and you to try to bridge the gap and try to bring Americans together. Because we have a situation where one side shouts loudly and the other side cowers.

Wang: I totally agree. Carol, people like you and me who represent the diverse culture, you know, Hispanics, African American, Asian American. These three groups are actually are 44% of the population today. And it is up to us folks with different backgrounds, different race ethnicities to speak up. Because America is about freedom and liberty, but also it's about individual responsibility. We all have the responsibility to keep America strong. To protect the freedom and liberty we cannot take for granted. And only I think through a deeper appreciation of what America is. Our foundation, our freedom and liberty is in our constitution can we really remind ourselves to not take our freedom liberty for granted.

Swain: Well, it's a herculean task to be able to do that, because there seems to be so many forces that are working against those that would like to see common ground.

Wang: Yes, and I feel. It is interesting in front of the virus, COVID-19 and others factors we actually have found a common ground. Meaning with this virus it doesn't matter if your White or Black or Hispanic or Asian. We are all vulnerable and I am hoping this virus will give us a valuable opportunity. Make us all more humble, more just more inter reflecting about what we

have to share humanity on this spaceship earth. We have no other way other than to work together to find a common ground.

Swain: Well, we believe there is a silver lining in everything and for this virus, hope it will bring more people together. But, even something like the corona virus has been racialized by some people. Because of the data that suggests that there are certain groups that are more affected. Racializing everything does not serve the needs of our nation. And so, we will talk more about this we have to take a break...

Swain: I'm back with my guest Dr. Ming Wang and we are talking about America's race problems and how to find common ground. And so, Dr. Wang, we closed the last segment, you and I agreed that we needed as racial ethnic minorities we needed to speak up and try to bring people together. As part of that we sympathize with and we have to acknowledge the people who truly believe that America is a racist country and that America is deeply flawed. What would you say to young people that are angry? That are so angry, they don't know much about American history but they know they are angry.

Wang: I would say, take a look at other nations in the rest of the world. To see suffering and injustice and just look at the whole living standard of the rest of the world in comparison what we have here. Really, we have got it good so blessed in America. It is not a perfect country, but it is the best country. And we need to appreciate what we have. We need to look at the cup is half full, rather than complaining the cup is half empty. We need to appreciate what we have in common rather than being fixated on what makes us different.

Swain: I agree so much because if you look at blacks in America, blacks in America even the poorest of the poor are better off than blacks in other places in the world. And because blacks have thrived in America, they are able to help people in third world nations. They are able to be a voice. You know we have the Congressional Black Caucus, will you love them or hate them,; they are out there speaking. What other country would have that many black people not just in congress but in other positions of power throughout our society? And yet, you hear America is a terrible country there is all this systemic racism and this systemic racism is crippling and that's why we don't succeed. That's what they tell us.

Wang: In one of my commencement speeches to a school, and I always talk about appreciating America what we have. And one student raise their hand and ask Dr. Wang what's so great about America? My parents make together \$30,000 a year. We are struggling. What's so great about America? And I said you know what \$30,000 a year household income would make you on a world-wide scale today? The top 1%. That will help us put in perspective.

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Swain: He was shocked.

Wang: Yes. It's not that we don't have problems. It's about appreciating on this planet America is the best country. And we need to appreciate it. We need to keep it strong by being proactively trying to find the common ground to work together. Rather than complaining about us being polarized and no longer focused on issue.

Swain: One of the things that really bothers me is when I hear the conversation about systemic racism. I was born in 1954. I know I look too young to have been born in 1954, but I was. There was real systemic racism back then. Schools were segregated and that was the year of the *Browns vs Board of Education* school decision. The Supreme Court decision to desegregate schools. But the schools were not desegregated until I was about ten years old. That's when I went to the first integrated schools. But I watched, during the 1960's. The 1964 civil rights act was passed, 1965 voting rights passed, 1968 open housing. I saw opportunities open up for people like me. Even though I was a high school dropout. I was born in poverty. I was able to get a high school equivalency, go to community college get the first of five degrees graduate with honors become a professor at Princeton University earn tenure. Become a professor at Vanderbilt. You know all these things happened to me. I didn't see that systemic racism. All I wanted, and I'm sure all you wanted was an equal opportunity. And that's what America offered me.

Wang: Yes your life story, Carol, is such and inspiration to all the young people who in the different parts of the world are thinking can I be able to achieve the success with the circumstance I am in. And I agree with you. People like you and me who through our appreciation of America, through our work ethic, our dedication, through our confidence. We believe in ourselves we believe that the world is what we make of it. Rather than in complaining about it but proactive make the best of our lives. And work with people and try to encourage common ground. And I think people like us should speak up more about the greatness of this country. About the opportunity, freedom, and liberty. About this common ground seeking mutual respect.

Swain: And Dr. Wang, you do speak at some colleges and universities. Do you feel like you are reaching the young people? Or do you feel like there is a resistance to your message?

Wang: I think there is some resistance. Especially young people. Many of them want things to be free and they are in some ways taking the freedom. In America, freedom to get an education for granted. You know that's human nature; we always tend to take things for granted. So, I do feel that disconnect that they don't know what it's like in socialism in a country with dictatorship. So let's speak to the challenge, all of us. Our task in front of us to communicate to our young people the future of our country. That America is a great country let's appreciate and go back to the fundamental. Respect the country, respect the freedom liberty, and respect individual responsibility.

Swain: Well, we are going to take another break and when we return, we are going to finish. We are going to talk longer with Dr. Wang about some of his experiences with America. We think America is a great country, stick with us.

Swain: Ming, we haven't talked about this book I know it was published some years ago "From Darkness to Sight, Journey from Hardship to Healing". Tell us a little bit about this book and the proceeds they go to your vision foundation.

Wang: Yes, and the book talks about my life as an immigrant. The point of the book is appreciating living in America. Don't take freedom for granted. In detail we talk about many of the Foundation's patients. And Foundation is many doctors from around the world that find our common ground, which is our passion to help blind orphan children. And the book "From Darkness to Sight" is now being made into a major motion picture right now.

Swain: Really?

Wang: Yeah, it's called "Sight".

Swain: When will "Sight" be released?

Wang: The movie will be released next year. They are in the casting stage and they ask me who you want to play you?

Swain: I want a role in the movie. I play somebody, right?

Wang: They actually ask me, who you want to play you? I said, "How about Brad Pitt?" just kidding. Got to be good looking. But the point is about helping those folks who need the most help. About finding common ground, because the doctors come from all around the world. Also, through the Foundation work we find that faith and signs have common ground as well. God wants us to push the research but at the same time respect sanity and sanctity of life itself.



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Swain: And Dr. Wang, I am glad you mentioned God. You are also involved with the Bible Project. Could you briefly mention what you do with getting the Word of God around the world?

Wang: Yes. And there is always a question that people say. "Were our founding fathers thinking about Christian principles, Christ, when they founded this great nation?" And through our American Bible Project we put a Bible back in school through the history department in the context of teaching the American Revolution. This first American Bible, called the Akins Bible, to show how important it was in the minds of our founders of America, thinking about Bible and Christian principles.

Swain: Right, because that was how they got values instilled in young people. And we know that was removed in the United States through the Supreme Court in 1962. First prayer in schools was removed, then in 1963 Bible reading fell by the wayside. I believe you are also involved in a project in China that involves Bibles

Wang: Yes, China Bible Project, because 95% of people in China are not Christians. So, it is a wonderful opportunity to recruit for Gods Kingdom a quarter of the human race.

Swain: Well, Dr. Wang, it has been a great honor and pleasure to have you on Conversations with Dr. Carol Swain. I would love to have you back on the show soon.

Wang: Thank you.



Dr. Carol M. Swain interviews Dr. Ming Wang, founder of Wang Vision Institute and a new Nonprofit called "Common Ground Network" about race relations in America. This is an excerpt from the interview to listen in its entirety please go to <https://bethepeoplenews.com/why-racial-and-ethnic-minorities-must-speak-out-against-reverse-racism-and-the-progressive-agenda/>

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WHY I PIVOTED MY SOCIAL MEDIA

By: Jessica Stern Foster

To all of my dear sweet friends who are asking why I decided to change the trajectory of my ministry and how I post on social media, please, read below and wash your face!

For over a decade I have been using the term "Wash Your Face"! Even before others wrote it in their books or used it in their book title... I have been telling everyone to "wash your face"! I even shared it in one of my pep talks for a well-known MLM not realizing who was in the room and later saw my words in print and the title of a new book! While I could have been mad, I was not! Rather, I was excited to know that my words were heard and now they continue to resonate in a chain effect! I feel excited to know that I helped to light a spark that ignited women and men alike to go "wash their faces" and pivot onto what God needs them to do with their lives!



But nothing says "wash your hands and wipe your feet on that doormat" like 2020!

If 2020 did not give us a clear vision of the disarray that our country and more importantly the view of God's House on this earth today, then you, my friend, might be blind and in need of vision healing!

Last year so many people became "woke" to the mess that not only our nation has become, but what the church body looks like! We have experienced a real-life version of the movie "Shallow Hal"- I actually want to call it: "Shallow 2020- the movement that shook God's people!"

The tell-all of the great awakening has been reflected on the social media posts. We see



What is your mission? What is your Great Commission?

many of our friends who are trying to do their followers a solid by waking up the masses with shocking posts and brash verbiage to help others see what is truly going on. Yet, are we really accomplishing the goal set before us? Because as much as we all want to hope that this is the case, I am going to tell you to STOP! Stop posting those things like that are changing hearts and waking up others because you are actually doing the reverse!

I realize that a select few of you reading this are right now reading these words and in the movie in your mind are making up a decision that I am wrong, and you are justified to have righteous wrath to give me your two cents on the matter! For you, my friend... feel free to email me at: jessica@redeemourchildren.org. For the rest of you, please, hear me out and prayerfully consider what I need to share with you about my personal pivot mandated by the Holy Ghost!

Working to combat Human Trafficking and sharing my own story of being kidnapped and supernaturally rescued by God is a heavy topic to share. I have had to learn to share my journey and heart on the matter in ways that will draw others to Christ! After all, it is our greatest commission given by Christ Jesus before He left earth for Heaven!

In July of 2020, I was sitting at Hope House in a team meeting working on the semantics of our ministry for Redeem Our Children and the birth of Grace & Truth Magazine (at that time a name that could have been suitable, but I later pivoted). Evangelist Mike Francine was at the table giving ministry guidance as my friend. I will never forget the advice he gave me that day as my redheaded self stepped in my own way. He pulled the correction card. Yep. Ouch!

Mike asked me what the real mission was!

Of course, I knew and know the mission of my own ministry... "to end human trafficking globally!"

Mike DID NOT miss a beat... "No. Jess, that is your passion that you have been given the goal and task to complete! What is your Great Commission- the real mission?!?"





Ya'll, I have to tell you in my transparency: I was at eyebrows-raised-stoneface-redheaded attitude level. Defcon Five. I-will-repeat-the-mission-to-you-one-more-time-because-maybe-you-did-not-hear-what-I-said-ten-seconds-ago! If you have ever known and loved a redhead, you know to get out of our way when we reach this point! But Mike, in his loving-kindness, took my hand and looked directly at me. My trusted friend advised me to get out of my own way! He said to me one more time, "Jess, what is our great commission? You know this! We are to preach the Gospel of Christ Jesus, win the lost, and make disciples of men and women! So how can we do this and end Human trafficking?"

My reply gave me the pivot for the ministry as a whole! It was the very things that I said forwards and backward and with my eyes closed:

Through Ezekiel 36:26 We read that God will take the stony heart of a man and give him a new heart!

Through Isaiah 53, we find Yeshua Jesus and learn that we gain a heart transplant!

Through John 3:16, because Yeshua Jesus died for us so that we are each a new creation in Christ Jesus and have eternal life!

It was in this revelation that I knew my commission, the great commission, is to win the heart of a person for Christ! It is NOT my job to make a person "WOKE", that is the job of the Holy Spirit! And if I continued to go on social media posting graphic photos of kids being abused, trafficked, and worse, I would NOT be doing my great commission! Worse, I would risk the tool of utilizing social media for posting graphic content that people cannot handle and leave an impression in non-believers' hearts and eyes that my heavenly Father is not a kind, loving, and just God! I would then be accountable for that, as well as the people I pushed away from the Cross of Salvation!

While I know that human trafficking is NOT a conspiracy theory, abortion kills

and is murder, Chem-trails are now declassified, and the reality of our world is in a bad spiritual state, my job as a minister of the Gospel is to share the heart of Yeshua Jesus and lead people to the foot of the Cross!

For those of you still considering using that email above for your righteous wrath lashing, read that last sentence again!

You cannot reach people for Jesus if you are beating them in the head or eyes with brash things! It ends up looking like a marketing technique to say, "Look at me!" or just becomes white noise and that clanging cymbal! I mean did we not learn anything from the choleric personality of the Apostle Paul in 1st Corinthians 13:1? I personally grew up with brothers and know how to ignore the noise and loudness until I have reached my limit and just become annoyed! When that happens on social media, I have learned to say, "Bless you and be blocked!"... in the words of my cousin, Jocelyn! And guess what, I am perfectly okay with having peace and really, it is just social media- a tool to utilize to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We need to keep our focus and our priorities on the real matters!

Yet, I do realize that we still need to share matters on social media, various platforms, and in our life and ministry!

In March of 2020 while at the NRB convention, I met some amazing ladies with a ministry called Embrace Grace! Embrace Grace is a ministry that helps women with unplanned pregnancies find a place of belonging within the church through an amazing support system that God has led them to help set up! Of course, I immediately recognized their chutzpah, as most churches and church folks are very judgmental about those topics! A scarlet letter might be an easier cross to wear! Yet I connected with all of the amazing ladies at their booth! One amazing sister in Christ and I really connected in a deeper Holy Spirit way, like meeting a kindred spirit. While I know that is the Holy Spirit, I asked the Lord over the course of the week we spent becoming friends, what did the Lord want me to learn from this encounter?

I know in my years as a Believer and in my walk with my Heavenly Father, that everything I do is meant to build the Kingdom for God's glory and my own glory! When I first met my new friend, Amanda, she introduced me to the other ladies with her. I listened to Jessica at Embrace Grace's journey of redemption after seeking an abortion. After connecting on that first day, Amanda gave me a black t-shirt and asked me if I would consider wearing it to remind me of them and all the unplanned babies. The t-shirt is black with lettering that reads 'Pro-Love'!

ROC CULTURE



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For those of you that know me, I have t-shirts but typically dress a little more business casual and very conservative. As a Jewish woman, I typically cover my arms, because that is how I was raised, and I am more comfortable that way.

I did, in fact, accept the tee and it is the most beloved t-shirt I own! It reminds me of the lesson I was taught that week! I can try to wake people up by telling them that abortion is the brutal ending of a life, and therefore murder, or I can speak to the hearts of people and possibly stop a girl considering abortion in her tracks by talking about Pro-Love!

Knowing that 1 in 4 pregnancies end in an abortion here in America is beyond horrifying! Knowing that the abortion rate within the church is also 1 in 4 is mind-blowing! Learning to make a greater impact has been the pivot for me of how I post and share on social media, platforms, and in my ministry! I realize that we are all different and our personalities vary! But when we wash our face and look with the very heart of our Heavenly Father, how are we going to reach the one?!? How will we touch the heart of the girl or woman who found themselves in the most precarious place, is lost, and doesn't know what to do?!

The answer, my friend, is through the Love of the Father! And as my t-shirt says, Pro-Love! This is how I plan to reach people and not run people off! The church body is already known for way too many judgmental, brash, and harsh folks! I desire to lead the one person to the foot of the Cross! And when I have done that, I will find one more and then repeat this process until I one day hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

“...’Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31

Jessica Stern Foster is the Creator and Founder of Grace & Truth Magazine, Redeem Our Children Foundation, and known for her Global Radio Show

The Jewess Believer. She grew up in a Jewish family, who came to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Jessica's Bubbie (who was thrown from the train to Auschwitz) along with her parents who raised her in an old school Jewish manner. With over 20 years ministry experience, Hebrew and Greek Studies, with over 12 years of college studies, a 3 time cancer survivor and writer.

Jessica shares her journey of being kidnapped, sold at auction and supernatural rescued by God! She is an activist to stop human trafficking! Ezekiel 36:26 - Isaiah 53 - John 3:16 Jessica lives on the Chesapeake Shores of Maryland with her big Jewish family!





Our Gracious Provider

By: Marta Greenman

The February winter storm of 2021 hit most of North America earlier this week, and it came with a vengeance. As a Texas resident, the storm was particularly brutal for several reasons. First, we only have these harsh winters about once every ten years, and Dallas hasn't seen temperatures this cold

since December 23, 1989. Secondly, the temperatures usually blow through pretty quickly, but this storm came to stay for a while. On Tuesday, February 16, there were about 5.5 million people without power and heat in America, and around 4.3 million of them lived in Texas. As a result, there were at least 30 deaths attributed to this

torrential storm. These are facts you will see all over the news, but what about truths you will never hear listening to traditional news sources? Here's my story of how God worked wonders in this winter weather tsunami. We had a few brief outages early on, but it wasn't until 10 am on Monday, February 15

that we began our 48-hour-long power outage. We do have gas heat, but with an electric starter, there was no way to get that heat going. As the temperatures began to drop, not only outside but inside our home, we realized this was going to last a while. After a time, the temperatures inside our home dipped into the low 40's. As my attitude began to dwindle, and as I started to complain, God immediately spoke to my heart and said, "I trained you for this."

My mind was immediately drawn to 1999 and a 40-day trip to the Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova. Upon arriving in Moldova, I realized my pitiful Texas coat would never keep me warm for the next six weeks. Amazingly, within an hour, I found a coat that would not only work but keep me warmer than this Texan thought possible. To this day, I call it my "bear coat" because that is what it looks like. It is a fake fur coat that cost me a meager thirty American dollars. By the time I arrived in Moldova, I realized just how gracious God had been to me to provide me with this lavish thirty-dollar coat.

At the time, the country of Moldova owed the country of Russia about seventy million dollars for gas. When the bill had not been paid, they just shut off the gas to the entire country. For the next ten days, I and a team of about fifteen Americans, stayed in a hotel without heat when the temperature never reached above ten degrees. The buildings were also made of concrete blocks, which meant that it was often colder inside the hotel than outside. Not only did the coat keep me warm during the day, but I slept with it over me at night like a furry blanket. To this day, the thirty dollars I spent on this coat was

the best money I have ever spent, and I will keep this coat until the day I see Jesus face to face.

As I grabbed my God-given coat out of the closet this week, I began to thank Him for the provision He delivered to me all those years before. My entire perspective changed from wondering how we would make it through until the heat came back on to feeling like an honored princess of the King of Kings, who had been given the special coat--much like Joseph's coat of many colors. We are His beloved children.

We had many people reach out and offer help and assistance. It gave me the opportunity to tell of God's graciousness and provision and tell them how God took care of me just like He does the little birds. Matthew 6:25-26 teaches, "Do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?"

God is our gracious provider. He delights in taking care of His children. He will shine in the most difficult circumstances of our lives if we let Him. We must always seek Him and give Him the glory when He provides through the trials of our lives.



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A Holy Assignment of a Different Kind



By: Ryan LaFavers

Do Santa and Jesus mix? Should a Christian home be a Santa loving home, as well? Should a Christian ever portray Santa? These are all questions I've personally heard or been asked. I have to say I've even wondered these things for myself.

So, what's the answer? I can't give you a black-and-white answer for your life because that's something that you will have to pray about for yourself--I know I sure did. If you continue to read this article, I will attempt to give you a clearer picture of the answer that I have come to for my own home.

My name is Ryan LaFavers, and I live in a smaller rural town in south-central Kentucky. I'm married to the beautiful and talented Jocelyn LaFavers, whose work you have probably read within the pages of this publication, and together we have four amazing children. But most importantly, I love Jesus with everything that I am.

This Christmas season will make my eighth year donning the white beard and red suit. Some might even call me a veteran Santa after eight years in the chair. Locally, I am the "head Santa", if you will. I find and hire Santas to work at our local mall and even some private events. I make out detailed schedules, ensuring that there is a Santa in place wherever he needs to be.

So why do I do it? Nine years ago, I was approached by a fellow Santa and asked if I'd be interested in taking on the role with a local photographer who sets up in the mall each Christmas. I thought long and hard, my wife and I discussed the opportunity, and ultimately we decided that it would be a fun experience. You see, my wife and I both love acting and have been in a great many stage productions over the years, so this isn't that different. It was an opportunity to play a role--a role that brings people, our children included, great joy. I had such a great time that first year and knew that it was something I wanted to continue for years to come.

Over the next couple of years, however, I began to question whether or not I should. I had concerns about whether or not I, as a Christian, should play this, shall I say, "fictional character" that so many children believe in. If your family "does Santa", I'm sure that you have pondered the same thing for your household when it comes to your children believing in something other than the God whom we know is so real. I talked it over with several people, voicing my concerns about the situation. One particular gentleman said, "I would never play Santa." That's really sad to me too, because he really looked the part. He said that he was once trying to witness to someone and the person said to him that believing in Jesus was like believing in Santa Claus. To him, that was the deciding factor of whether or not he could portray the jolly guy in the red suit.

For me, there is always one man that I go to when I'm facing big decisions in life. Yes, I pray regarding all situations, but I also seek spiritual council, especially for big things like this. I went to my spiritual Dad, whose name is Ken. We discussed my concerns at length, and his answer hit closely to home, especially after having already seen some tough things in that line of work. He advised me to be the example of Jesus to those who may not encounter Him otherwise. This answer has continued to resonate with me over these eight years and is the reason I continue to "play the role".

For me, Santa is so much more than visiting with children each year, asking them what they want for Christmas. Sure, that's part of it, but to me, it's become more about being the hands and feet of Jesus. I know that probably sounds strange. How can Santa be the hands and feet of Jesus?

You see, there are families that I can impact as Santa that I would normally never come into contact with. As Jolly Ol' Saint Nick I am able to spread Joy--true Joy--and most importantly: I get to speak to and pray over so many children that may never get that if I weren't there. I'm not able to openly pray over them, laying my hands upon their little heads, but that's the great thing about our Father. He hears our silent prayers just as easily as He can hear our spoken ones. I do my very best to pray over each child that sits with me every year. It doesn't always feel like much. Often it is short and rushed. But the question I have asked myself is,

*"Are they worth my prayers,
no matter how short or
small?"*

The Lord knows the heart behind our words.

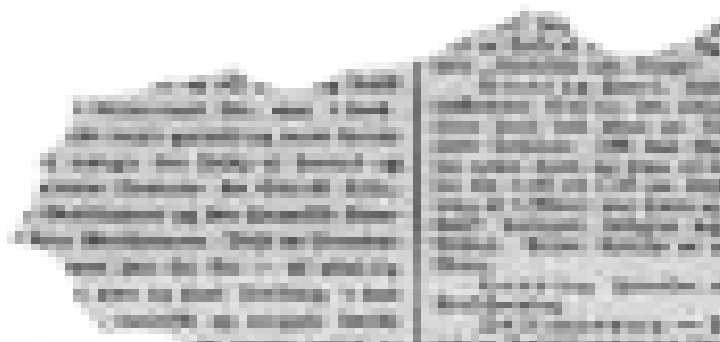
I get to listen to these children, and sometimes they tell more than they really should. All too often, some things are requested that give me an inside look at what each particular family may be going through; and because I hear those burdens, I can take them to the Father.

So, for me, Santa is a simple and unassuming way in which I get to show Jesus.

To pray over children and their families. To spread joy and bring a smile to faces that may be going through a tough time. To give people a shoulder to cry on if they need it. You would be surprised at the number of people that cry in the presence of Santa. The holidays are supposed to be the most joyful time of the year but, we know that the enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy, so this joyous time tends to be a heyday for him. 1 Peter 5:7 says to cast our cares on Him [Jesus] because He cares about us. Not everyone lives their life that way, but I do. So if people want to cast their cares on Santa, that's fine with me. I'm just going to give them straight over to Jesus. He wants them more than any of us do.

I hope that my experience has spoken to your heart, even if just a little. It makes no difference whether you want to take on the role in your own town or if you find another way to spread Joy and show Jesus. Just remember to serve the Lord in all that you do. In all things, give thanks to the Father. Go and make disciples, be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Until next time...Merry Christmas to all, and to all a goodnight.





LIVING IN THE *Spirit*

ROBERTS LIARDON

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

You can be born again and still live under condemnation. Many Christians do. But notice the rest of our text says, “to them which walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

We often quote the first part of the verse —“There is there now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,” and end it there, but the verse does continue. We need to examine this last portion because Christians will continually suffer from a sense of condemnation if they don’t learn to live in the realm of the Spirit.

Living in the Spirit realm is really very simple. Like Kathryn Kuhlman would say, “It’s so easy, most people miss it.” The Gospel is so simple, it takes man to mess it up.

Walking In The Spirit Is A Decision

Life in the Spirit is a decision. It’s not just a feeling or a vision that comes, or something dramatic that happens to you, even though supernatural experiences may happen in your life and ministry. It’s a decision about where and how you’re going to live your life.

when you are making decisions, or you’re being hit by the enemy, that you may fluctuate a little in the realm of the Spirit, but you never have to come out of that arena.

We cannot engage in spiritual warfare unless we live in the Spirit. If we attempt warfare in the strength of our flesh, we’ll get worn out. Spiritual warfare should not wear you out; it should make you stronger and more alive.

We’ve got to learn how to pray through the leading and unction of the Holy Spirit, and not by the flesh. It has got to be by the Spirit, in the Spirit and for the purposes of the Holy Spirit.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.” (Matthew 5:6) If there is no hunger in you, there will be no filling inside of you.

Becoming Addicted To Heaven

You have to become addicted to Heaven and to the things of God! Alcoholics drink and drink until their bodies acquire a taste, and eventually a craving, for alcohol. That’s the way we need to be concerning the realm of the Spirit of God. We need to keep putting the things of the Gospel and the move of the Holy Spirit in us to where we can’t live without them in our life and ministry. Some people only like to have Heaven about once

a month. The rest of the time, they say, “Let me do my thing the way I want to do it.” If you’re doing this—if you’re running your life and ministry according to the flesh—you’ll eventually wear yourself out. If you learn to run your life and ministry by the flow of the Holy Spirit, you won’t get so tired. You’ll have new strength.

Walk After The Spirit

The Bible tells us to walk after the Spirit. How do you walk “after” something? You make a decision to go after it. Life in the Spirit is a choice to go after the things of God all the way, allowing nothing to hinder or distract you.

You’ve got to want the move of the Spirit in your churches bad enough to go after it. You cannot settle for soulish activity. There are sermons that are preached by the soul and there are sermons that are preached by the Spirit. You must make it your goal to preach by the unction of the Holy Spirit.

There are songs sung in the natural and songs sung in the Spirit. Go after those that come by the Spirit. Reach out for them. If you don’t quite make it the first time, get back up and try again, just like a child learning to ride a bicycle. Don’t give up, because if you keep hungering and thirsting, you’ll get it.

A Holy Dissatisfaction

Never become satisfied with where you are in God. Become a person who has to have more, more, more! It’s a part of your addiction; you’re never satisfied with what you’ve got.

I crave Heaven! I crave the move of the Holy Spirit! If all I preach is just a pleasant sermon, I’m not happy. I have to feel the unction; the anointing. I have to know that what I did was right according to Heaven.

We need to be delivered from preaching through human ability. Yes, God will use our natural abilities, and that’s fine, but we shouldn’t depend on them. Our dependency must be upon the Holy Spirit.

One of the greatest truths that comes out of the life of Kathryn Kuhlman when you listen to her tapes or read her books, is her total dependence upon the Holy Spirit. She

We must become dependent upon the Holy Spirit, too. We must get to the place where we don’t know how to function without the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The problem is, we have learned the art of ministry without the moving of the Holy Spirit.

We’ve come to the point where there’s a whole generation that does not know the flow of the Holy Spirit! When the flow of the Holy Spirit comes and begins to work and manifest among them, they become nervous. They say, “We never saw it on this fashion before”—and they say it in a negative way, with no excitement.

We ministers must preach sermons to our people about the moving and the manifestation of the Holy Spirit—so they will not be afraid of what they will see happening in front of them in the days to come.

Becoming Normal In Heaven’s Eyes

I thank God I had my roots in the Pentecostal Movement. We had more Pentecost in my home than we did in our church. We had more prayer, more shouting, more praying for the sick and casting out devils in our front room than I saw in many church services.

Neighbors would come over for prayer. Even though they were sinners, they knew where to come when their children were sick. When someone faced a divorce or some other problem, guess who they would call? My mother and my grandmother. And what did we do? We prayed until we got the answer!

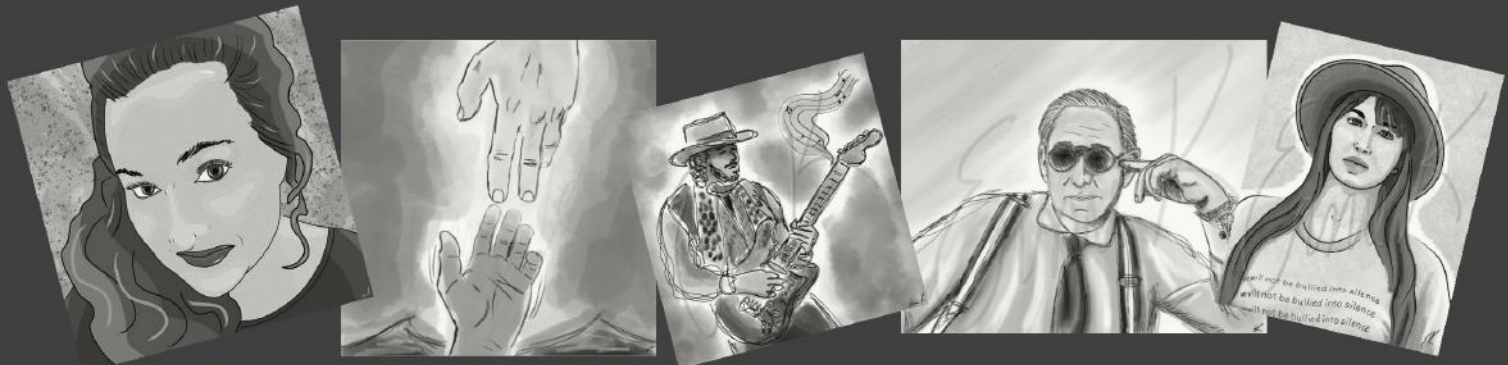
Often I’d come home from school and people would be lying on the front room floor. This was normal for my family, so when I began my ministry, I thought, “Everyone does this.” I didn’t know that we were such a rare breed in the earth.

We’ve got to know what’s normal according to Heaven—not what’s normal according to the soulish or natural realm. The standard of what is normal to Heaven is what we should crave and conform to.

Walking in the Spirit is becoming like Jesus. Walking in the Spirit is not always yielding to the natural desires of the flesh; it is staying in that high realm, on that narrow road. But you’ve got to make a choice to stay there.

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Dr. Roberts Liardon is an author of 86 books, public speaker, spiritual leader, church historian, and humanitarian. He has established many churches and Bible

is currently bu-

ilding Embassy International Church in Orlando, Florida, an apostolic center to serve his community

and the nations. Dr. Liardon has ministered in over 127 nations and loves to pray, teach the Word of God, and prophesy to bless God's people. He speaks to a current generation of believers who want to draw closer to the heart and mind of God and impact their communities and the nations through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our IG community knows Pastor Roberts as the God's Generals guy! For more about him, visit his website at: www.RobertsLiardon.org.



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Dear Friends,

Your calling is going to crush you.

If you're called to mend the brokenhearted, you're going to wrestle with broken-heartedness.
If you're called to prophesy, you're going to struggle to control your mouth.

If you're called lay hands, you will battle spiritual viruses. If you are called to preach
and to teach the gospel, you will be sifted for the wisdom that anoints your message.

If you are called to empower, your self-esteem will be attacked, your successes will
be hard fought.

Your calling will come with cups, thorns and sifting that are necessary for your mantle
to be authentic, humble and powerful.

Your crushing won't be easy because your assignment is not easy.

Your oil is not cheap.

Protecting your oil will cost you everything,
but your oil is valuable! Know your worth!

*Berakhah ve Ahava,
Jessica Stern Foster*



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A Well of Inheritance in Sychar, Samaria

By: Pastor Jim Carey

In chapter 4 of the Book of John, Jesus was traveling from Judea/ Jerusalem to Galilee. Most Jews would take the long way around Samaria, but this time the Lord went through Samaria. He traveled to a town called Sychar and stopped at the town's well on the outskirts of town. Many of us have heard of his conversation with the woman at the well. The one that had five husbands and was currently living with another man.

She was fetching water at the Noon hour and normally she would be the only one at the well. Can someone say divine appointment??? Sitting at the well was someone that normally does not walk through this kind of neighborhood. It was a Jesus and he asked her for a drink of water.

She immediately told him that Jews do not usually come through this neighborhood, however, father Jacob had dug this deep well and had given it and the surrounding land to his son Joseph, as an inheritance.

Jesus responded that if she knew who she was talking to, that he would give her living water...so that she thirsted no more. Jesus used the Word of Knowledge to tell her things in her life and she wanted this living water for the wrong reason, at first. "So I do not have to fetch water at the well, anymore."

After talking to Jesus, she left her water pitcher and went into town to tell the men that the Messiah might just be in their town. At first, the men were curious after her words but came to believe in Jesus because of his words/ teachings. The Samaritans asked Jesus to stay and teach...he stayed for two (2) days, before going to Galilee. I would venture to say he did more than just teach. He always healed the sick, set captives free as well as preached the acceptable word of the Lord.

Let's do some unpacking of John 4: 1- 42. Most have heard the story of the woman at the well. It was a well that Jacob of the Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob fame had dug and given to his son Joseph, as an inheritance...along with some land that surrounded it. The people in Sychar, Samaria claimed the inheritance from father Jacob.

We that are grafted into the vine of Jesus get to claim the inheritance of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. So what was so special that Jesus would stop by that well to talk to a woman and then the whole town about this living water source that he would give to them as an inheritance?



He (Jesus) was not talking about that particular water well. Jesus spoke of the living water that would flow from your belly as from the stream of life. The source being the Holy Spirit that abides in those that accept Jesus as the Son of God that died for their sins, so that person that accepts Him (Jesus) as their Lord and Savior. You have heard the phrase born again as in John 3:3.

Please do not leave just thinking ... I get the Holy Spirit in me...living water, etc. Go back to John 4:23 and 24.

But the hour is coming, and now is that the true worshippers shall (future tense) worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeks such/you to worship Him. 24. God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth.

How do you worship God the Father in spirit and truth??? When you get the Holy Spirit you get the ability to worship the Father in spirit.

The truth is what Jesus called the word of God...it is truth. Even Pilot wondered what is truth?...just before he had Jesus scourged/flogged and crucified. So is praising Father God using his word...like in songs of praise and worship... worshipping Him in truth? I think it is one of the ways. Holy Spirit can show you how. (That is what He does...read John chapters 14 - 17.)

Hope you enjoyed the unpacking of some of John 4. There is always more as you dig into a study of the Word of God...the eternal truth.

--Pastor Jim

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A person with blonde hair is seen from the back, wearing large black headphones. They are sitting at a desk in what appears to be a radio studio. In front of them is a professional microphone on a boom arm. To the left, there's a computer monitor and some other electronic equipment. The background is slightly blurred, showing shelves and other studio equipment.

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Weekly OMUG: Peace Be With Us

BY: Maureen Maldonado

In John 14, Jesus is trying to explain to his disciples that He will be leaving. We, of course, know that Jesus was going to be crucified for our sins, suffer, die, be buried, and resurrected on the third day. He would then ascend into heaven. The disciples did not know the future, nor did they have scripture to study and learn what was going to happen.

What do you believe the disciples are thinking and how do you think it makes them feel when Jesus tells them He is leaving but is sending a helper? If it were me, I would be very confused...what is He talking about? Why would he be leaving us? Where is he going? Who is coming to be the “helper”?

Have you ever had the feeling that something was a little “off” and you were just unsettled? In the troubling times of the world today, it is easy to think, “I just need some peace”. Jesus understood the disciples must have been concerned about the same thing. In John 14:27, Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my piece I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” These words, “Peace be with you” or “Shalom” were common phrases people spoke to each other in greeting or in departure. Jesus was getting His disciples ready for His time to return to the Father and wanted them to know they were being given the ultimate, His peace. Remember, friends, we have all been given this gift. Call on Jesus in times of fear and His peace will descend on you! Praying you have a week of Peace!!! Shalom.



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Listen to Maureen Maldonado on her show, Under God with Marta and Maureen Every Monday at 1:30 PM PST & 2:30 PM MST & 3:30 PM CST & 4:30 PM EST on GraceAndTruthRadio.World



A HIGHLY CONTESTED ELECTION

By: Marta Greenman

With a highly contested election behind us, on whatever side of the aisle you stand, as a believer there are seven principles we need to live by in these turbulent times.

1. God is Sovereign; He is still in control.

With this final declaration to His disciples, Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" Matthew 28:18. He ensured them He was the one who had the authority, consequently they could boldly persevere in His plan and purpose. Jesus closed the assertion with, "and lo, I will be with you always even to the end of the age." This assures us even today God is on the throne so we can trust in His divine wisdom—wisdom we may not understand—but which gives us confidence to lead us through difficult days.

1 Timothy 6:15 teaches the Lord Jesus Christ is, "the only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light." Bottom line, there is no one who can compare to Jesus, never has or ever will. John 1:1 tells us, "In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God, and the Word WAS God" (emphasis mine). Jesus is not only the Son of God, Jesus is God. This is difficult to understand with our finite minds but we can put our faith in this infinite God.

2. God removes kings & establishes kings.

Captured by King Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel was taken to Babylon to become his servant. Daniel was assigned to the wise men of Nebuchadnezzar. Shortly after, the king had a dream and demanded the impossible of his wise men, recount and interpret it! They were warned their lives would be forfeited upon failure. Daniel fervently prayed to the Lord. God graciously revealed both the dream and interpretation to him. In a prayer of praise, Daniel said, "For wisdom and power belong to God. 'It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding'" Daniel 2:21. Daniel knew God had set this pagan king over the children of Israel and made them his slaves. He also knew it was God who had given him this great perception.

Applying this principle to the present, we know God allowed Mr. Biden to become President of the United States. Yes, I can hear you who believe the election was undermined, "But the election was not fair. President Trump actually won!" My question to you, don't you think God knows what actually happened?

We may not appreciate the reality that God allowed Joe Biden to be elected president, but Joe Biden is the 46th President of the United States. God's people need to recognize that He positioned President Biden. We must accept this fact and pray for God to move in an effective way in our new president's life. Why? First, "that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity" (1 Timothy 2:2). Second, "Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare, you will have welfare." (Jeremiah 29:7). When we pray for our president and government officials, we are praying for the welfare of our daily lives. We want them to make good decisions on our behalf. It's to our benefit to pray for our elected officials, particularly if we don't agree with them!

3. Remember the days in which we live!

2 Timothy 3:1-5 clearly outlines these days, "Realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these." This is so true of the days in which we are living one would not know these words were penned 2,000 years ago. Knowing this is God's Word we, as believers, must live in faith.

4. What Satan means for evil, God means for good.

We may not understand why God allows certain events, but we must trust His plan and purpose. One may not see God's sovereignty in Joseph's life—having been sold into slavery by his brothers and imprisoned on Egypt. But fast forward many years when Joseph was second in command.

Standing in front of him, his brothers were fearful of retribution from Joseph for their evil actions.

Genesis 50:20-21 gives us great understanding into God's sovereignty and what forgiveness can accomplish, "'As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. So therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.' So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them." We, like Joseph, must understand there is purpose in our trials and tribulations. We must trust God and have faith regardless. We must have a heart of forgiveness and love the unlovable to show the heart of God to those who desperately need Him.

5. God is setting you up for a purpose.

Ephesians 2:10 tells us, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." God has a plan for our lives. He created us for a purpose, and He did so before we were born. Our responsibility is to walk the path God designed for us.

A young Jewish woman, Esther, was intended by God to become the queen of Persia (modern day Iran). Evil Haman, planned to destroy all Jews in the Persian Empire. Esther's uncle heard of the plan and fasted and prayed. He pleaded with Esther to intervene, sure she might be executed if she entered in to see the king without invitation. Esther 4:13-14 gives us insight into Uncle Mordecai's thoughts and plea to Esther, "'Do not imagine that you in the king's palace can escape any more than all the Jews. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?'"



Mordecai was confident God had placed Esther in the king's palace to be the tool used to rescue His people. Esther's role was to obey in faith the good work God planned. We must be like Queen Esther, Mordecai and the many others who boldly lived their God ordained destinies.

6. Stay Focused.

Distractions are a tool of the enemy to divert us from God's plan and purpose. This was the case for Nehemiah. God called him to rebuild the wall in Jerusalem that had been destroyed by King Nebuchadnezzar 150 years earlier. The enemy was relentless. Verbal attacks were constant with the ultimate goal of destroying Nehemiah's character and reputation. Nehemiah was invited to meet with his enemies. We can learn from his response in Nehemiah 6:3, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" Nehemiah knew this distraction was from the enemy when his purpose was to complete the task God had ordained. This is a reminder for me. How many times do I need to be reminded from the Lord to stay focused on God's task? If this is true for me, I'm sure it's true for others.

7. The outcome is the Lord's.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, found themselves in a difficult situation. They either bowed down to the false god of King Nebuchadnezzar or be thrown into a fiery furnace. Their response to the king shows they understood who God was and His Sovereignty over their lives, Daniel 3:17-18 "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up." It's clear they knew God was able to deliver them, but they also didn't know that He would. We must remember God is in control of the outcome; our responsibility is to be obedient nonetheless.

Hebrews 11:32-38 recounts the great victories God gave Old Testament saints. People, who, by faith conquered kingdoms and shut the mouths of lions. Women who received back their dead by resurrection. Then the victories shift to painful revelations of others who were tortured, experienced mocking, scouring, chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, sawn in two, put to death with the sword, being destitute and ill-treated. Then these profound words, "men (and women) of whom the world was not worthy." The Bible describes those with great victories and ones with terrible defeats the same ... "of whom the world was not worthy." All of us want the great victories but must trust our God just as much when experiencing the many trials and tribulations. Whatever the course our Lord chooses for us we, like the great men and women of old must be, "whom the world is not worthy."



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For We Cannot Stop Speaking About
What We Have Seen and Heard



marta e. greenman

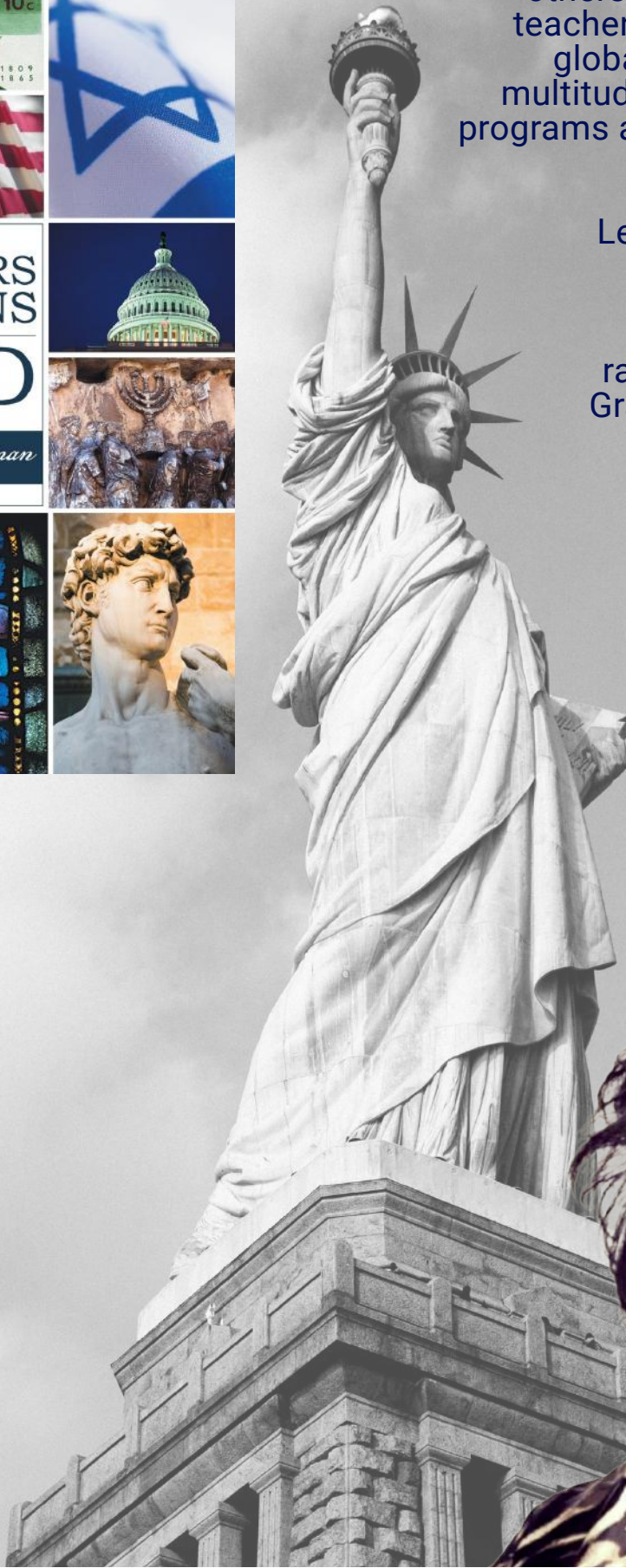
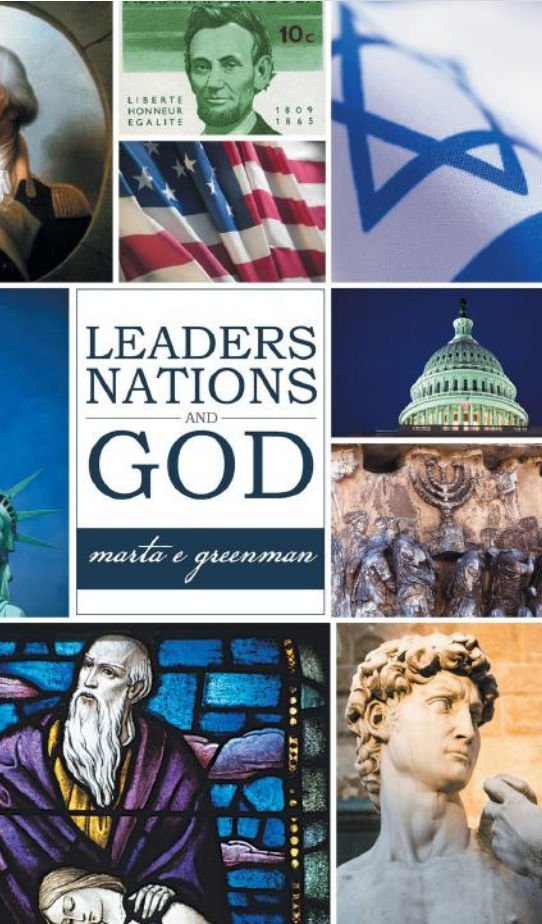
Marta Greenman

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With a mission is to teach God's
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You can hear Marta's
radio show: Under God on
GraceAndTruthRadio.World
every Monday at
1:30 PM PST
2:30 PM MST
3:30 PM CST
4:30 PM EST!

Marta lives in the
Dallas, Texas
area with her
husband, Marshall,
of over 25 years.



In Your Test of Promotion You Will Prevail

By: Dr. Candice Smithyman

Have you been experiencing spiritual warfare lately? Does it feel like there are blockades and obstacles in your way? Have things been difficult? Listen: This is happening because you have just been promoted!

Promotion time is here! On Thursday, February 11th, at sundown we entered a brand-new Hebrew calendar month, Adar. Adar means completion and is known as the month of joy. It is the 12th month on the ecclesiastical calendar which started at Passover in 2020. During this month, the Jewish people celebrate Purim. Purim this year is sundown, Thursday February 25-Friday February 26, when the Jewish people remember how Esther went boldly before the king to share Haman's evil plan for the annihilation of the Jewish people. Esther risked her life to properly position the Jews and their nation to be saved. God gave her favor and a plan. Just like God prepared, promoted and put her in a place for, "such a time as this," He is doing the same for you, for the purpose and destiny that He has called you to.

Mordecai, Esther's cousin told her about what would happen to the Jewish people if she did not speak up. These were the words that invited Esther to her place of promotion. They were words to save her nation. We are never truly promoted until we are faced with a situation where we have to stand for righteousness. There are steps to promotion -and Esther's first was coming into the palace and being purified for a year before seeing the King. The second promotion was when she was asked to stand in her position to save her people. Your promotion is not just about you it is about others too.

Esther 4:12-14 reads, "When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: 'Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?'"

We need to remember the importance of our promotion as we see the increase in spiritual warfare and our response to it. The enemy always wants to push back whenever we get promoted. Let's not forget that in January we gave God our first fruits and consecrated ourselves before Him.

He brought us to capacity and expanded us upon a strong foundation. You've gone to the next level! This is why you feel the friction in the spirit realms. You have been given a greater responsibility than you have ever had before.

God has properly positioned you, not to sit around like royals, but to minister to a remnant. He has given you a sphere of influence for you to use the power He has given you to make changes. You must open your mouth! God has given you a voice and His Word. When you speak, it's like a spark of God releases and ignites things. You can change a nation!

Promotion comes with a test that proves we walked into the promotion. The enemy is prepared to convince you that this promotion didn't happen, that you're not good enough or that you couldn't possibly be called to do this. He tries to get involved in the things of God and the progression of the Lord. He tries to push it back by bringing hinderances.

Let's go back to Esther. What did she do? Esther 4:15-16 (NIV) reads, "Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 'Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.'"

She asked her people to fast and pray for her for three days and nights. They joined in agreement that she would obtain the strength needed to go before the king. If she didn't go, she and her people would perish. The secret to getting past the pushback of the enemy is to step into the heavenly places. We must operate in the joy of the Lord. Remember you're a citizen of heaven and the joy of the Lord is your strength (Nehemiah 8:10).

In His presence there is fullness of joy. That is where you need to position yourself: in His presence. Get in that secret place with the Lord and let Him build you up. Fasting and praying will discipline you to sit with the Lord and hear Him. He will give you strategies and show you how to navigate the sphere of influence He called you to. Our God is forever moving and does not stagnate. We have to keep up with Him!

The Lord will promote you many times to next levels. Two times of year there are regular times of fulfillment of the promotion, those are at Passover and Rosh Hashanah, the 2 main Hebrew New Years. God usually starts adjusting us for the promotion about four to six weeks beforehand. Why? Our God is cyclical. He works in cycles. God wants you to walk in the totality of each promotion for six months. This brings strength. It helps you stay in proper position, keeps your joy steady, and allows you carry His power until He turns the calendar again with a new promotion.

So be encouraged! You have stepped into a new season, a new time and place where God is using you in a mighty way. Do not shrink back. The righteous do not shrink back; they live by faith. No matter the opposition, press forward. The enemy cannot take your promotion. There is joy in His presence, and that is what it's going to take for you to fulfill your purpose and destiny.



Dr. Candice Smithyman is an international prophetic revivalist & healing minister who is Executive Pastor of Freedom Destiny Church, and Vice President of Dream Mentors International. She is also Host of the Glory Road Television broadcast on Faith Networks, CBN News Facebook and Youtube, Jesus Daily, King TV and other outlets. She has appeared on Sid Roth's "Its Supernatural", among other shows, and is the author of "Releasing Heaven: Creating a Supernatural Environment through Heavenly Encounters", among other books and publications. For a full bio you may visit: www.candicesmithyman.com



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No Weapon Shall Prosper

By Jessica Stern Foster

Back in mid November of 2020 during our Worship at the ROC services, I heard the Holy Spirit whispering to me... "No weapon formed against you shall prosper." Instantly something changed and shifted in my heart last night when I heard it again!

Though the elections in America are surrounded by fear, I keep hearing God speak... "Peace be still, my child." God's Word has become a shield for me. As this year keeps making more twists and turns, I am learning to not lean on my own understanding, but I am learning to lean more on the Holy Spirit!

Many years ago when I was kidnapped at the age of 13, God gave me an uncharacteristic peace during my days of captivity! The sparing of my life was nothing short of a miracle! Yet, the peace God gave me to be completely and to stand still in the midst of the storm around me was nothing short of miraculous and an outward showing of how amazing our God really is to us, His children!

By the time everything was done, and I had been rescued and returned to my family, I had to really deal with the things that scared me and that formed those soul wounds from just five days of being captive. It is amazing how a short time or a brief moment can leave a scar that lasts and penetrates. Yet God is a healer, a Redeemer, and a Restorer of hearts and souls! And though I can't explain all the reasons that things happen to some people and not to others, I do know that God's Word is a shield to those who hear it and embrace it. Here are just a couple verses of scripture that speak to those moments in our lives when we need hope, protection and peace...

Psalms 119:114 - "You are my hiding place and my shield: I hope in your word."

Proverbs 30:5 - "Every word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him." And;



Looking back, it's been about nearly three decades since my kidnapping and Human Trafficking experience where God supernaturally rescued me! In that time, God has done some amazing things in my life. I am excited for the things ahead.

The lessons I have learned from those days about hearing God's voice and applying His Words have served me well over the years, and hopefully are an encouragement to you who read this.

But today, I want to encourage you! I want to tell you that no matter the outcome God is still on the throne and He is still in control! So I will leave you with the verse that God used to save my life and help me out of the darkest moments of heartache...

"No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of Me, says the Lord." (Isaiah 54:17)

May God Bless you and keep you and your friends!

Berakhah ve Ahava,
Jessica Stern Foster

Want to hear more?!?!?

Check out Jessica Stern Foster on her show:
The Jewess Believer

on GraceAndTruthRadio.World
Tuesday & Thursday
7 PM CST & 8 PM EST!

Why do we hold fast to memories?

By: Courtney Means

What is it about having kids that makes time speed by like we are grasping at the wind for them to stay small? Yes, days can feel endless yet the amount of growth, change, and development that happens within months during childhood is absolutely astounding. We want to breathe deep and cherish every moment.

Babies so fresh and new are soon rolling, crawling, laughing, feeling, walking, eating, talking, arguing, running, creating, and being who they were designed to be by God.

It happens so fast.

So what do we do? We take pictures, save hair clippings and teeth, film funny moments, measure heights on the door frame and pack away beloved fridge art from another time.



We emulate the Father when we do this. It's quite "mother-like" really. Psalm 58 tells us that He puts our tears in a bottle.

Throughout the Old Testament, fathers of the faith laid down stones of remembrance for various reasons like Samuel setting up the Ebenezer stones after winning a battle.




Holding tight to memories is holy, it is good. Remembering causes gratitude to well up for not only what God has done in our lives but how He has transformed, changed, and renewed our families. Gratitude is transformative.

To me, that means that no matter how big my kid's feet grow or how many new pairs of socks I'll need to buy - it's good for me to remember the teeny newborn onesies that once held their tiny frames. It helps me remember how far they've come, how incredibly they've grown, the life they're experiencing to cause their hearts to expand in love for Jesus and their neighbors.

Even if childhood feels fleeting, it is the foundation for their future. I'll continue to place stones of remembrance here so they can look back and see the growth for themselves later. So they can see how God brought them this far, how His gentle hand has lead them their whole lives, and for gratitude to well up from deep within.

Courtney Means, originally from California, was born in the Jesus Movement and adopted by amazing Christian parents. She and her husband Kyl do ministry in their home church in Kansas City, iHOP. She is the mother of three children. Courtney and Kyl raise their children in a Christian, holistic and healthy home where they homeschool using the Charlotte Mason/Unschooling blend. She is the host of the Live Lovely podcast. Her passion is to help others walk in their true identities as beloved by God. For fun, Courtney loves to explore nature with her family, ready, enjoy a good cup of coffee with friends, and enjoy music! Courtney lives with her family in Kansas City. To learn more about Courtney go to:
www.courtneymean.com





America The Beautiful And Depraved

By: Christine Brejcha

We are a country that was once a thriving and booming Kingdom. A superpower that was built upon the principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We are a nation of economic hierarchy compared to the lands that surround us.

America, the melting pot of sociological promise and structure. A realm that is filled with free enterprise, diversity, love, law, and the opportunity to obtain financial wealth. We are a nation that was founded upon the principles of God, and a democracy that was built to protect and provide a fit and fair commonwealth.

We the people were once the main priority of those who we voted into office.

However, in the most recent decades, we have seen a shift in the weather. A supernatural hailstorm has ravished our nation. The land that was once a shining and hopeful beacon of light to the world, has become a darkened and polluted landfill of abomination and travesty. The laws of God have slowly been removed to replace them with filth, abortion, and choices that are not ours to make.

The Bible says in Romans 13:1-5

"Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended.

For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."

Apostle Paul says in Acts 5:29 "We must obey God rather than man."

The Bible tells us that the man who does not keep the Commandments of God is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

So, what do we do when the wickedness of men and worldly law overshadow the laws of God? When they tell us that we must submit to their evil?

What do we do when man-made fallacy is implemented into legislation that is in direct opposition with the word of God?

What do we do when the agenda of Satan becomes the law of the land?

Well, we fight back in the Armor of God. We seek Jesus Christ with all of our hearts and stand up to the giants in power. We rebel against the laws of filth and bigotry, and we place all faith, hope, joy, and the work of the Lord into action. The ways of the Lord our God are to be our honor and shield.

There are men and women set-aside for a time such as this, and we will rebel with strength and dignity. The demons having nothing over the Remnant of God. This is what the United States of America is longing for, and these are the plans of the Lord



Christine Brejcha is the TV Host of Christine's Cornerstone, on The Life Network For Women, founded by Pastor Paula White-Caine. Download the Life Network For Women App on your favorite Streaming platforms to watch.

Christine's series touches on the many facets of healing through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. She applies what the scriptures have to say in a unconventional way in which people can understand the scriptures, and how they apply to the controversial issues of today.

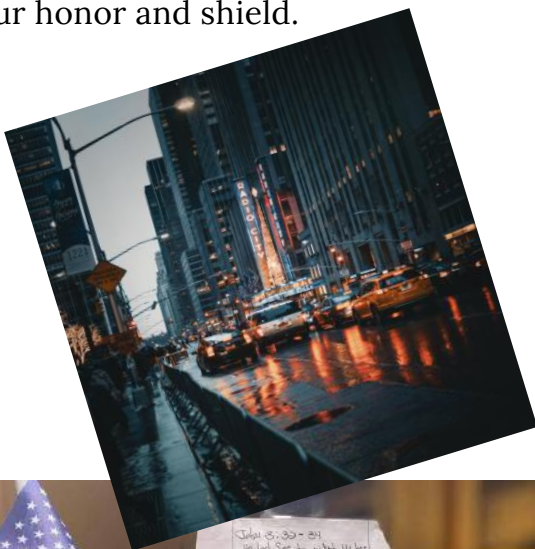
Christine is also an on-air voice and Contributor at Christian Mix 106 Radio and a TV Host at CTF-TV Christian broadcasting.

Brejcha founded Christine's Cornerstone Ministry in 2017, and after a near death experience. This is when she saw and spoke to Jesus Christ. This life altering experience, led her to give up her sixteen year career in sales, finance, and real estate, to pursue full time ministry.

Christine is a Prophetic voice in a world crying out for the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Evangelist Brejcha resides in Washington DC with her ministry.

Her mission is to preach the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to see that justice is served in the areas of the most need in America.





The Hidden Key

By: Jessica Stern Foster

The week before the end of 2020, I made a social media post that said:

“Once you realize that 2020 isn’t the problem and 2021 isn’t the answer, you will see that... 2020 was a year of corrective vision and 2021 will be a year of repentance FOR RESTORATION!”

Sounds kind of bittersweet, right?!?!

As I sought the Lord for the Word He had for me in 2020, I was given the word: COMPASS! If you know me well, you know that I love maps and the corresponding elements! While most have been trying to come up with their clever New Year resolutions, I have been seeking God for the Word He wants to impart! The Holy Spirit impressed me to speak with our team. As I collectively spoke with our ROC Core team and staff members, the Lord was giving us all an underlining Word that was and is cohesive to its very core! Repentance is needed for Restoration of God’s people!

A few months back I was listening to a friend on a social media live and it was mentioned that we rarely ever hear repentance preached any more. For months, this statement has resonated in my spirit. Now keep in mind that I often test a person’s prayer life by asking them to pray and listening to the development of their Holy Spirit language and certainty of their verbiage. Now to be clear, I am not looking to hear eloquence of words or sounds of power. I have learned that the maturity of a person’s Holy Spirit language has a flow and so will their English language. A person Apostle Paul, they just need to pray with

sincerity and Holy Ghost confidence! (It is okay to be a little nervous – for those wondering, but that does not mean you are not a prayer warrior- personalities vary.)

Often when praying for a specific person in a group setting where we are waging a Spiritual battle, we have a set of basic prayers we cover before getting to the deeper things. We ALWAYS start with the remittance of our sins! I can not tell ya'll how many get offended when I start the prayers with this statement! Seriously, I was speeding this morning on my way up the roadway! Pretty sure that not following the laws is sinful, so I remit my sins before I pray! Sometimes I am praying as I am speeding down the road... I ask the Lord to cover me and my vehicle in the Blood of Jesus! Seriously, I can not say that I will stop with my semi lead foot ways, but the fact is, we ALL sin daily! We were born into a world of sin! Thank the Lord for His mercy and grace... and sparing me a traffic ticket or two!

Repentance is such a simplistic thing! There is no need to stand on your head, walk backwards while jumping or 40 days of fasting 1st! You see, Jesus paid it all at the cross for the sake of you and me! Because of the Blood shed at Calvary, we have the ability to come before the throne of God like that toddler who walks into their parent's bedroom at 2am asking for a drink of water! As Children of the Most High, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, we have become joint heirs with Jesus! Which means that we have 'Birth right' Kingdom keys that we have access to use! The key to turning the set of keys is to come before God clean... thus REMIT YOUR SINS! Sometimes the sin might be as simple as offending a brother or sister in the Lord and we have zero clue we have done so, because often it is the result of the movie in someone else's mind!

That does not really sound fair, does it?! BUT... you have Heavenly keys and Heavenly access through simplistic repentance of the remission of sins! How amazing is our God that He took care of these things for us, His children! As I dove deeper into the Word that God imparted to me for this New Year, the Holy Spirit gave me Isaiah 45. This is the passages speaking of King Cyrus. This already seems to be a hot topic in many prophetic Words from 2020 and 2021 already! But God reminded me that there are hidden keys in this Chapter. The Holy Spirit kept repeating: "Hidden treasures, hidden keys are concealed here!"



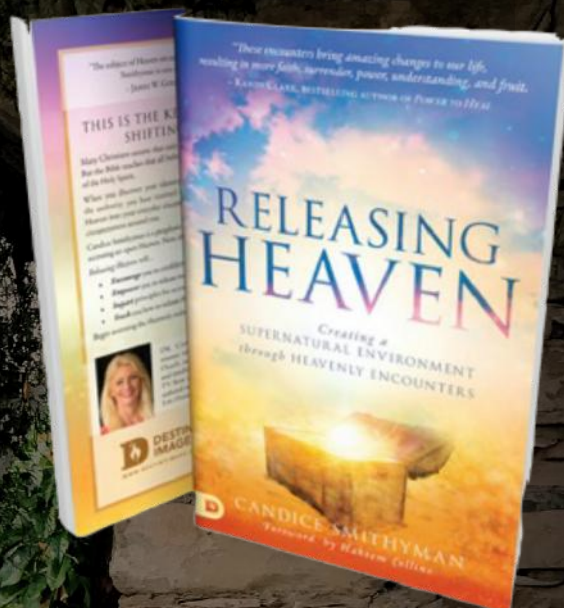
Many Christians assume that only a few gifted individuals can move in the miraculous, but the Bible teaches that all believers have unlimited access to the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit.

When you discover your identity in Jesus, cultivate a heavenly mindset, and access the authority you have received in Jesus, you can immediately release the power of Heaven into your everyday circumstances. This is the key to changing atmospheres and circumstances around you.

Candice Smithyman is a prophetic voice who has learned to move in the supernatural by accessing an open Heaven. Now, she wants to mentor you to do the same. *Releasing Heaven* will...

- Encourage you to confidently enter the supernatural realm as a citizen of Heaven.
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“I appreciate the encouragement and inspiration Pastor Candice Smithyman brings through her book, *Releasing Heaven*. Learning how to host the presence of God and recognize His ways is extremely important to being able to flow in His power and experience His supernatural presence.”



Dr. Randy Clark
Founder, Global Awakening



Releasing Heaven
by Candice Smithyman

“The subject of Heaven on earth is one of those strategic themes and Candice Smithyman is one of those anointed chosen messengers.”

– James W. Goll,
God Encounters Ministries

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As I went to my Bible, the Holy Spirit said verse 3...

I will give you hidden treasures from dark, concealed places and wealth waiting in secret sites so that you recognize me, for it is I, Yahweh, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name!" Isaiah 45:3 (TPT)

As we find repentance, we find restoration so much so that God has hidden treasures from the dark and concealed places of wealth for us! This is a promise from God, himself, to us, His children! Why would we NOT want access to these amazing hidden treasures!

As I read these words written in Isaiah, the Lord spoke to me so clearly...

"Daughter, I gave my people clear vision to see the truth around them in the last season. In this next season, my people need to come before me clean and with a repentant heart! Too many have bypassed my Words and gone straight for the blessings without the cost! How can I bless my people as they come before me dirty and stained?!"

My people have become blind to their own stench! My people have not been taught to clean themselves before they come before my throne! They have skipped the process and bypassed straight to My feet with a laundry list without cleaning their feet! They are an unfaithful and adulterous nation praying for revival yet neglecting repentance like an unfaithful spouse asking forgiveness while laying in bed with their mistress. While I, God, am merciful, I am not the desperate one! I, the Lord God, have allowed you to come to your knees as nations and as a church so that you would remit all sins to the foot of the cross! Only then, am I able to bless My people with the hidden treasures, the concealed places and wealth waiting in secret places!

This year your compass has led you to this place so you can MAP the hidden places and uncover My many blessings for my people, says the Lord God Almighty!"

I do not know about you, Friends, but I am excited to uncover: The Hidden Keys this year and MAP them out to uncover the many blessings from our Heavenly Abba Father! But first, we need to always approach the Throne of God clean through the remittance of our sins!


Until next time, Friends...

Berakhah ve Ahava!

Jessica Stern Foster is the Editor and founder of Grace & Truth Magazine, Redeem Our Children Foundation, and known for her Radio Show The Jewess Believer. She grew up in a Jewish family, who came to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Jessica's Bubbie (who was thrown from the train to Auschwitz) along with her parents who raised her in an old school Jewish manner. With over 20 years ministry experience, Hebrew and Greek Studies, with over 12 years of college studies, a 3 time cancer survivor and writer. Jessica shares her journey of being kidnapped, sold at auction and supernatural rescued by God! She is an activist to stop human trafficking!

Ezekiel 36:26 - Isaiah 53 - John 3:16
Jessica lives on the Chesapeake Shores of Maryland with her big Jewish family!
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Weekly OMUG: The Fear of the Lord

BY: Marta Greenman

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” What does it mean to fear the Lord? Yes, it means a reverence or awe of God, but what does it mean to live that out in our daily lives? Psalm 111:10 teaches, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever.” In other words, those who obey the Lord’s commandments fear the Lord. How simple!



Proverbs 29:25 tells us, “The fear of man brings a snare.” Fearing man is in stark contrast to fearing God. We are entrapped when consumed with people-pleasing rather than God-pleasing. I was once a people-pleaser and I have to tell you, it’s exhausting! Now I consider myself a recovering people-pleaser. Today, my heart’s desire is to please God and to be a yes woman for Jesus and Jesus alone.

After Peter and John were released after being flogged and imprisoned, they were warned by the Sanhedrin to quit testifying about Jesus. Once again, they were brought back before the Council and rebuked, “We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man’s blood upon us” (Acts 5:28). Peter and John’s response was simple, “We must obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

We often try to find a secret formula for living a successful Christian life. The reality is simple, obey God. A favorite saying of mine is, “Obedience always equals blessings.” We are personally blessed when we fear and obey the Lord, and others are also blessed. Who are you going to choose to please today?

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Listen to Marta Greenman on her show, Under God with Marta and Maureen Every Monday at 1:30 PM PST & 2:30 PM MST & 3:30 PM CST & 4:30 PM EST on GraceAndTruthRadio.World



Clean Filters/Clean Hearts

By: Jocelyn LaFavers

The Chesapeake Bay is often synonymous with seafood. Many people travel to the Virginia and Maryland shores in search of this delicacy, their mouths watering for fresh seafood long before the fresh and pungent scent of saltwater begins tickling their noses through their rolled-down car windows.

Many people love the fresh seafood that is fished off the shores of the Chesapeake, locals and vacationers alike. A number of locals make their living fishing, selling, or cooking the many treasures found beneath the waves. This brings in a large amount of revenue for the area's residents, mostly blue-collar folks who spend their days skillfully dropping nets, setting traps, and hauling their catches back to shore. It is an important line of work that has existed for thousands of years, supporting villages, towns, and cities that lie on the shores of a body of water.

A great deal of that came to an abrupt halt for shellfish harvesters on a small tributary in the St. George Creek area of St. Mary's river last month. On January 2nd of this year, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission in Maryland reported a sewage overflow as a result of a broken mainline. Officials estimate that between 4,000-6,750 gallons of sewage dumped into the waters before the flow was halted.

As a result of this accident, shellfish harvesting came to an emergency stop until January 21st, 2021. Members of the mollusk family such as clams and oysters are filter feeders, which means that the overflow could potentially make a number of people sick, and time must be allowed for the waters, and their tiny living filters, to clear.

You may read the above informative report and find that your face is twisted into an involuntary grimace. It really is a stomach-turning twist of events, although not that uncommon. We can see this as a parallel to our lives if we look at it from the right angle. If you have ever heard the phrase, "garbage in, garbage out", then your brain might already be going there now.

Paul wrote to the church of Galatia, addressing this very issue. In chapter five, he spoke to the Christians about things they held dear: freedom. Independence. Culturally, that was something that was very important to the Galatians, and that is something that Americans can readily identify with today. Our freedoms, our rights, our hard-won independence are all at stake, and

that means that we are often ready to stand and fight for those beloved freedoms. After all, God created people with free will and He honors that free will, even when we make mistakes that separate us from Him, right?

Galatians 5:7-10 (NLT) says this: You were running the race so well. Who has held you back from following the truth? It certainly isn't God, for He is the one who called you to freedom. This false teaching is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough! I am trusting the Lord to keep you from believing false teachings. God will judge that person, whoever he is, who has been confusing you.

Paul is discouraged because the church of Galatia has been listening to false teachers, and now their filters are clogged. Sound familiar? Just like some sewage spilling into a river in Maryland, our effectiveness can be shut down for a time when our spiritual filters are clogged with ungodly teachings. What are you taking in? Reading? Listening to? Does it line up with the infallible Word of God? Teaching can SOUND right but be completely off base and be clogging your spiritual filter, reducing your effectiveness. Just like a little yeast can spread through an entire batch of dough, or some sewage can make an oyster unsafe for human consumption, false teaching can have a measure of truth but lead us into murky waters. Murky waters hold a lot of dangerous things. They can hide snakes, alligators, sharks, and any



other number of predators that are just looking for a meal. Sin is always just looking for a meal. Make sure that what you are purposely putting into your filter lines up with the Word of God. If it can't be confirmed over and over again in different passages, then it is going to clog up your filter. Now, more than ever, the enemy is throwing false teaching at us from every direction. It is as simple for him as a friend that shares an inspirational quote from someone you have never heard of. Over time, you see more inspirational quotes from that person, and you like them. They are uplifting. They make you feel good inside. Then one day you realize that you have been following someone whose spiritual foundation is shaky at best, and now your filter is clogged with their ungodly teachings.

How many people around us have clogged filters, and they can only see things through a dirty lens? Sometimes we need to take that step back out of the murky waters, immersing ourselves in the clean and clear pool of Scripture once again. It is amazing how our perspectives will change for the better. Often, we can see this change almost immediately! Does that mean that our filters have been immediately cleaned? No, that is definitely not how cleaning works. But The Lord wants to clean the filters of our minds, hearts, and spirits so that we can see when we have been deceived and more thoroughly chase after the truth.

Galatians 5:13 (NLT) tells us how to use our free will when we have clean filters: "For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love."

I pray that we, as a people, will focus on keeping our spiritual filters clean, recognizing when they have become dirty before they are so dirty that we are blinded. Recognize godly teaching by staying rooted in His word, reading it every day and comparing it with anything else that you read or hear. He will not let us down or leave us to try to clean our filters alone. He is a kind and good Father who longs to guide us to clean waters where our souls find refreshment from the heat of the battle. He will take us by the hand and lead us when our filters need a gentle cleaning.



Eternally Placed & Fixed

By Joel Beach

So, you are looking to the future. You believe God directs your path. But it seems frightening, not knowing what is ahead. The path seems unsure. The bridge that you must cross seems unstable and impassable. The hope you once had seems so far off in the distance.

The devil has been continually trying to cut the cords of your life because he knows the Lord has great plans and a great purpose for you. But he is no match for your Lord, who chose you, who plucked you out of the fire and set you upon His Rock. Who sees you as the apple of His eye.

Jesus said, “While I was with them, I protected and preserved them by Your name, the name You gave Me. Not one of them has been lost, except the son of destruction, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.” John 17:12

The cliffs, valleys, pitfalls, and slippery slopes you had to traverse would have killed you by their great perils if it wasn't for the mighty hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. If it wasn't for His sacrifice and blood that bought you. He is the one who brought you through it all.

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. John 10:27-28

And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I shall lose none of those He has given Me, but raise them up at the last day. John 6:39

You know who you have believed. You are confident in the power of your Savior and His Holy Spirit. You do not look to the left or right. Your face is fixed firmly on Jesus Christ, your love, savior, and confidence. You know and trust the Lord will lead you on to the end. To great works for the Lord. Because it is all about Jesus. It is all for Jesus.

But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. 2 Timothy 1:12

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16

Keep Him in full remembrance, the Lord, the Lord He is God. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-surpassing anyone and anything that stands in opposition. For He has made and has dominion, power, rule, and authority over all things.

He has promised, "I will be with you, I will defend you, I will keep you, and I will protect you."

He was at your beginning crafting and creating you in His perfection. He was with you for each and every step along the way. Though you stumbled, stammered, and fell, He was right there to pick you up. He held and healed you with His loving hands. He was always there, will always be with you to the end, and will congratulate you on a job well done.

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' Matthew 25:23

So, believe Him and do not doubt. Trust Him and do not turn back. Be faithful and He will be faithful to you.

Tell that fig tree of doubt that has grown up in your way to wither and be cast away. Command that mountain of fear the looms on the horizon to be cast into the sea.

Pray that God will give you great and powerful faith, like none other. Trust Him fully and remember that you are held firmly in His hands. Rely on Him for He will take

care of your every step. He will guide you through to the end. Have hope and do no doubt or worry. He has planned out your beginning all the way to the end. Then forge forward in the confidence you have in His plan and purpose for your life.

As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. And Peter remembered and said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.

He leads, guides, and protects His chosen ones. His dearly beloved ones that they may never be put to shame by His eternal power and penetrating vision. Learn from the fig tree the important lesson of faith and hope.



Joel Beach is first and foremost a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. His lifelong passion is to encourage the weak and seek to save the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He has been a Professional Automotive Master Technician for 20 years. He is also a father of three sons, an accomplished writer of biblical devotions, Christian poetry, and Gospel messages. His gifting is in speaking a literary message through the Holy Spirit, from a firm and steadfast foundation of the Holy scriptures. His work can be viewed on his blog site thesoulsower.com. Joel's work has been an inspirational and uplifting part of the lives of many. He is a great asset to the body of Christ's church, and to all who receive his message. For more, please visit <http://thesoulsower.com/2020/10/06/placed-and-eternally-fixed/>



Welcome to our...

WINTER
EDITION 2021





Hearth & Home

Late winter can often feel like we are stuck in a holding pattern. We aren't sure what decor to use and we are starting to feel tired of the cozy foods that we waited all summer for. Now we crave a hamburger on the grill in the place of potato soup, and warm evenings spent by a bonfire rather than the fireplace. Instead, many Americans have found themselves staring out the window at endless ice, praying for a reprieve in the weather so they can become physically warm again.

In each of our moments of struggle as well as peace, our home is our sanctuary. It is a place where we feel joy, a place where we take shelter from the world. We pray that you can find relief from trials within the pages of this magazine, especially in this section devoted to the places that make us...well...us.

May what you read here warm the cockles of your soul and bring a smile to your face, no matter how cold it has been in your corner of the world.

--The Grace and Truth Team



WHILE EVERYBODY IS AT HOME

- by Melody Bentfield

With all of the stay-at-home orders across our nation and our world, I have often wondered how everybody is doing being together. All the time. Without relief.

So how are you? Do you feel smothered? Anxious? Overwhelmed? Loving every minute of it?

Whether you have your children at home for remote learning or homeschooling, or it's just you within your four walls, or you and your partner and/or pets (or a combination of some of these), as much as you have heard it plenty of times – or even none at all – you're not alone.

Here at Redeem Our Children and Grace and Truth Magazine, we offer a digital community where you can connect, be heard, be prayed for, pray with somebody, and more. The Lord has impressed it upon our hearts – and possibly yours – that there is a necessity to the community that all of this pandemic stuff has ripped away.

Maybe you didn't notice before that you needed people.

I think I can safely say that for the majority of persons, we now feel that pull, that longing to be with others. To look into the eyes of our loved ones, laugh and smile in person together, and break bread with one another. Especially during the Holiday season. Especially right now. So, please lean in with me, if you will, as we briefly glean more about this.

When the Lord created men and women in His image in Genesis 1:26, He said "...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." [emphasis added]. Did you catch that? God refers to Himself in the plural, referring to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. From the very beginning of time, the Lord shows us that part of His image inherently involves being in a community. There are many passages that point to this very part of His nature, but the biggest part that I see is that throughout the love story that is the Bible, God demonstrates His heart toward His creation, saying

"I made you. I see you. I love you. I need you."

And because our sin nature separated us from Him, He deemed us worthy enough of paying the ultimate price to create the space and opportunity for us to be in a relationship with Him. Catch that – God sent His only son (John 3:16) to die and rise again for you, for me, for my noisy neighbor across the street, and everybody else – so that we can have a relationship together--so that we can be in community with Him.

With the Judeo-Christian right to worship in the United States under attack, it is more important than ever to resist the powers which would attempt to silence those of us who would otherwise be freely permitted to worship in the manner we choose – together and apart. Recently in the Christmas and Advent season, we celebrated the fulfilled promise of God sending His Son, Jesus Christ as our Yeshua Messiah. As we solemnly reflect on the realities of God becoming a vulnerable human child, to grow up in this broken world, and to experience community with His own creation, stand united with us, your brothers and sisters as we continue to connect in this digital space with one another.

In Hebrews 10:25 (amp), we read that we are not to give up “...our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more [faithfully] as you see the day [of Christ’s return] approaching.” Whether you feel safe to be with others in person, or you prefer to be a bit more isolated during this time, remember that you are made to be with others.

Reach out and stay connected, in every way possible. We at ROC and GRT Magazine cherish each and every one of you and pray for abundant joy and peace over you during this time of seclusion. Love you bunches!

--Melody





FAITHFULNESS DURING SEASONS OF DORMANCY

By: Jocelyn LaFavers

The winter months at the beginning of the calendar year can seem dreary and depressing after the delight that is the December holidays of Hanukkah and Christmas. We spend so many weeks anticipating the fun, laughter, food, and giving. We focus on the scriptures that bring hope in a dark time, the ones that give us a warm and fuzzy feeling as we dwell on God's promises kept and fulfilled.

Then comes January 1st, and we take down the menorahs, the glittering lights of the Christmas tree, the garlands, and holly. Where joy and hope had existed, now only cold months filled with colorless drudgery seem to stretch before us.

What you have just read will either sound melodramatic or familiar, but either way, we see that January, February, and even March tend to be months of emotional let-down. I often joke to my husband, "alright, it's January 2nd! Christmas is over and now spring may show its happy face again." Alright, alright. It's only partially said in jest. I hate the winter months, I truly do. They are cold, they are rainy in my part of the U.S., and they are dreary. But they have a lot to teach me.

It is always the uncomfortable things that have the most to teach us, and we are often the most reluctant to learn those hard lessons.

When we purchased our home in 2018, we fell in love with it, in part, because of the yard. “The yard” sounds so simplistic, so in my mind, I think of it as “the grounds”. Ah, yes, that sounds much grander, doesn’t it? Shhh! Don’t tell my husband! He will roll his eyes and chuckle at my Anne-Shirley-esque penchant for all things overly dramatic.

I spent the first two springs and summers finding something new every single time I worked in the yard. From tulips and daffodils to azaleas and SCORES of colorful daylilies, our roughly two-acre yard [grounds] is full of delight! That being said, gardening does not come without some heartache.

Over the next few months, I would like to highlight some of my favorite parts of the gardens and what the Lord has taught me and continues to teach me as I learn to tend to each area.

Later winter on the steep, rocky shores of Lake Cumberland is fickle and predictably unpredictable. One day the temperature will reach 64* F and be gloriously sunny and then the next day the entire county is shut down because you got an inch and a half of ice overnight, the temperature barely topping out at 21* F the next day. If you live in an area where you have ice storms, you know how much damage even a quarter of an inch of ice can do.

One thing that is for certain in late Kentucky winters, is daffodils. Those beauties are relentless in their faith and strength. Each year right about now, I put on my gardening boots every day and go on a daffodil hunt. Some years they come up earlier or later than others, but they always come. Daffodils are like a shining beacon of hope in an otherwise long, dark winter.

Whether the sun is casting down rays of warmth, or there is snow and ice on their petals, the daffodils are always happy. Honestly, my yard could be made up of no grass at all, just daffodils, and I would be sublimely happy.

Finding flowers among the dead grasses and bitter winds of winter’s barrenness brings me joy and hope in this month that seems to stretch out endlessly. Most people enjoy flowers and find joy in them, and the Bible is full of examples of how God gives them as a gift to His children.



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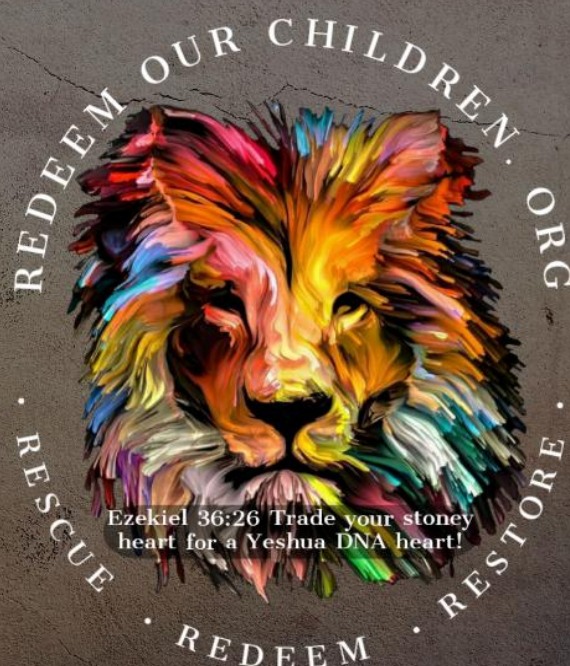
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Ezekiel 36:26 Trade your stony heart for a Yeshua DNA heart!



Matthew 6:28-30 tells us this:
“And why worry about your clothing?
Look at the lilies of the field and how
they grow. They don’t work or make
their clothing, yet Solomon in all his
glory was not dressed as beautifully as
they are. And if God cares so
wonderfully for the wildflowers that are
here today and thrown into the fire
tomorrow, He will certainly care for you.
Why do you have so little faith?”

This verse and the sentiment it holds
rings true for our current events, as well.
We find ourselves in a time when
everything is uncertain. We have walked
through a very long winter [year], and
there seems to be no end to the unrest
at hand. It feels a bit like C.S. Lewis’s
Narnia, doesn’t it? Always winter and
never spring. But the daffodils eventually
raised their heads in Narnia, as well, and
the White Witch, Jadis, knew that her
reign of terror was coming ever so
steadily to an end. We notice as we read
that the more signs of spring come to
Narnia, the angrier the White Witch
becomes. Sometimes this feels like how
winter responds to the onset of spring.

Let’s take that verse and change the
verbiage a bit, making it reflect our
current situation, shall we?

And why would you worry about your
freedoms, your politicians? Look at the
daffodils among the fallen leaves and
how persistently they grow. They don’t
hide from the cold in fear for their
buttery petals, or churn their own
compost, yet Solomon in his finest of
clothes could not have competed with
their simple beauty. And if God cares so
wonderfully for the wildflowers that
grace us today, but are gone in only a
few weeks, He will certainly care for you.
Where is your faith?

By simply personalizing what God has
already said to us, we can see that He
longs to take care of us and that He
sends us little signs and gifts along the
way to encourage us. I encourage you,
wherever you live, to find out what
growing things in your area are
beginning to emerge and change this



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time of year and go on a hunt with me. If you live somewhere where the temperatures are far too cold even for daffodils, plant some in a sunny windowsill and wait patiently. Every day you can find a gift. A promise. A sign of His faithfulness. Let these renew your faith as you put on your boots and trod through the mucky soil every day, hunting faithfully for a flower to snip and bring indoors. In time, you will find that your single flower has multiplied and your vase is full of spiritual sunshine to dispel the darkness.

A daffodil pushing up through the dark earth to the spring, knowing somehow deep in its roots that spring and light and sunshine will come, has more courage and more knowledge of the value of life than any human being I've met.
—Madeleine L'Engle



Jocelyn LaFavers is Grace and Truth Magazine's Senior Editor. She is a writer, blogger, and ministry leader.

She has spent many years writing, her work spanning from articles and short stories to a fiction novella and several stage plays. Jocelyn grew up as a ministry kid. She serves in her church as the director of the drama department where she writes all original material for their productions. Her passions and hobbies include reading, writing fiction, sewing her own wardrobe, watching documentaries, cooking, and DIY projects around her 1960s ranch home where she lives with her husband, Ryan, and their big family as a homeschool parent! Her favorite time of day is any time stolen away with Jesus and a cup of coffee!



HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES

Parents - Kids - Grandparents
NOT just a job for Moms in 2021



Tips for read-aloud time: Are they listening?

Let's talk reading with your kids. Sometimes getting them to all sit still and listen is hard--or even impossible, depending on the day you've had! Some simple tips and tricks for getting your kids to engage in read-aloud time are to give them something to do with their hands. If you are reading a book about Abraham Lincoln, give them Lincoln Logs or pretzel sticks and ask them to build a log cabin. Print out coloring pages that go with the theme of the day. If you are really brave, pull out paints or play-doh. Even when you don't think they are listening, I promise that they are.

It's no secret that we love books and reading! Check out are this month's staff personal picks!



God's Generals, Vol 3: John Alexander Dowie **By: Roberts Liardon and Olly Goldenberg**

This third volume in the God's Generals for Kids series looks at the life of John Alexander Dowie. Thousands of people were saved and healed through his ministry, but his life was one long battle from the moment he chose to follow Jesus. The harder the battle, though, the greater the victory God gave him!

"Little House in the Big Woods" **By: Laura Ingalls Wilder**

Little Laura Ingalls and her sister Mary explore every season of the year, learning beautiful lessons about life and family every step of the way. A timeless classic, every home should become acquainted with the adventures of the Ingalls family!



The Secret of the Pennsylvania Puzzler

**This is the story of an old
farmhouse, Covered in
stones weathered by years,
Its walls rang out with
laughter, And sometimes
echoed with tears, Of the
people who have lived in its
shelter, Who filled each day
with love and with cheer.**

One sunny spring day, Eli sat slumped in his seat, rhythmically tapping the eraser of his pencil against the surface of their family table.

Tap. Tap. Tap.

One could call it a dining table, but they did much more than eat on it, the streaks of paint and specks of glitter proof of their many arts and crafts that their mother could not always remove entirely. In the seat across from him, his twin sister Esther sat with her head bent down

over her school work, a second, smaller book nestled covertly within her science textbook. Her foot absentmindedly matched the rhythm of his pencil. *Tap. Tap. Tap.*

Eli changed the beat of his pencil, trying to trip up his sister, or even just to get her attention.

Tap-tap. Tap-tap. Tap-tap.

In just a moment, Esther had matched his new rhythm without missing a beat. She was using both of her feet against the cross-spindle of her chair, keeping up with him seamlessly.

Tap-tap. Tap-tap. Tap-tap.



Twins were funny like that, they could communicate in all kinds of ways.

More entertained by their new game than by his math lesson, Eli tried something new; this time using his other hand against the smooth surface of the wood.

Tap-tap. Pat. Tap-tap. Pat. Tap-tap. Pat.

Esther's eyes flashed over the glasses perched on her nose and up at her brother, her left hand dropping the pages of her book and taking up the extra motion that Eli had introduced.

Tap-tap. Pat. Tap-tap. Pat. Tap-tap. Pat.

"What do you want? I am trying to read." Esther hissed at him, keeping her voice low so their mother couldn't hear.

Eli looked over Esther's shoulder at their mother. She was standing at the kitchen sink, washing dishes. Their father was lying on his back, the upper half of his body hidden in a cabinet where he was working on plumbing.

They lived in a very old house in the Pennsylvania countryside and their father was often busy doing maintenance on the old fixtures. Since both of their parents were currently occupied, that meant that Eli and Esther could safely avoid concentrating on their studies as long as they stayed quiet. Their two little brothers were both napping in bedrooms upstairs.

"It's so boring in here," Eli whispered back. "I'd rather be anywhere but stuck at this table, working math problems today."

He nodded at Esther's science book.

"Which one are you reading today?"

Esther peeked backward to see what her mother was doing and saw no sign that Eli had been heard, so she tilted up her book, showing him the cover.

Her head still bent over the sink of dishes, their mother spoke loudly enough so the children could hear her all the way in the dining room.

"She should be studying weather patterns of the Amazonian

rainforest, but she is reading Nancy Drew and the Secret of Shadow Ranch instead.”

Eli and Esther stared at one another, mouths agape.

Esther’s eyes were as big as saucers. “How di—“

“Your mother knows everything,” their father’s voice seemed to echo from the depths of the kitchen cabinet. They shouldn’t be surprised; after all, their mother was a twin, too. “Now you two go on outside and blow off some steam. Maybe then you will be able to study more efficiently.”

Neither of them had to be told twice. In a flash, the two were shoving their feet into the galoshes they kept by the kitchen door, tossing a thank-you over their shoulders, and dashing through the exit. They didn’t notice their parents’ laughter behind them.

Moments later, the two had made it down the hill, out of sight from the kitchen window they knew their mother would be looking out of. Beneath a towering oak tree,

there was an old outbuilding that they had claimed as their secret hideout. Their younger siblings were not allowed out of sight of the house, which meant that Eli and Esther didn’t have to worry about sharing their space with a couple of little kids.

Esther turned on the battery-operated lamp that the two had stashed in the old shed, while Eli picked up a stick and started poking around. Their dad had told them they could keep any little items that they uncovered inside the building, anticipating that they might find the odd Native American arrowhead, an old horseshoe, or perhaps a tool from days gone by. So, they spent a lot of their time just moving bunches of grass and looking for pieces of history. They never found much of anything, but that didn’t stop them.

Grabbing a little hand trowel that they had borrowed from their mother, Esther crouched down in a different corner to start digging.

“Funny how we got sent outside, yet here we are mucking around in the dark, huh?”

“Yeah, but it’s loads better than being

stuck doing math,” Eli grabbed a clod of dirt, crushing it in his hand. It fell apart to reveal nothing in the center, so he kept on poking and digging with his stick. “I think I would rather be outside in the rain than converting fractions to decimal points front-ways and back.”

“At least Dad was busy working on the house and didn’t decide that it was time for a lecture on the historical significance of indoor plumbing. I bet we get an impromptu lesson on that when we go inside.”

Eli shuddered at the thought of being educated on things like sewage in colonial America. It was enough that their parents gushed on and on about how the home they had purchased the year before had originally been owned by a signer of the Declaration of Independence. George Clymer had been a quiet member of that passionate group of men who fought for America’s freedom, but he had been just as brave as the rest. After the signing of that all-important document in July of 1776, the city of Philadelphia grew more

and more dangerous and Congress fled the city that December. But the owner of their home had stayed to make sure that important congressional business was done; a courageous and dangerous act. It was suspected that he had hidden some very important things on his farm outside the city, but so far, their parents hadn’t actually found any proof of that. After a few more minutes of poking his stick into the



mud, Eli heard the distinct ring of metal striking metal from behind him.

Dropping his stick, he rushed to Esther’s side.

“What is it? What did you find?”

“Back up, Eli! I can’t see it if you are blocking the light!”

Esther reached behind them and grabbed the lantern from the nail she had hung it on, setting it on the dirt beside the hole she’d dug. Together they brushed away dirt that was crusted to the top of whatever it was that she’d found with her little hand shovel.

Their eyes went wide, and they stared at one another with big, goofy grins.

“Is this what I think it is?” Eli whispered.

“TJ,” Esther read the letters scripted on the top of the box, her finger carefully tracing the swirls and lines.

“Who...,” Eli let his thought dangle.

Their eyes locked together, and their super-duper twin abilities kicked in.

“Thomas Jefferson!”

Any time they thought of something big, they always

announced it in unison. They weren’t sure how or why they did that, but they just...did.

“You’ve got to be kidding me,” Esther was breathless in her excitement.

“Guess not. Let’s see what’s inside!” Eli dug at the box with his bare hands, trying to free it from the dirt.

“Stop!” Esther grabbed his shoulder. “I think we should go get Dad!”

“Are you nuts?” Eli looked at her like she had broccoli coming out of her ears. “Dad said that we could have anything we found in here.”

“Yeah, but do you really think he thought we would find something like THIS?”

Eli shrugged. “No, but all’s fair in love and war.”

“Except that this isn’t war,” Esther used a dirty finger to push up her glasses.

“Yeah, but you know what Dad would say. He’d ramble on about this belongs in a museum, and then we’d never see what was inside.”

“I don’t know...”

"Whatever," Eli waved his hand dismissively. "All I know is, we need to get inside this box. Help me get it out of the mud."

"Okay," Esther looked from her brother to the box and back. "But we have to be really careful. Remember how dad taught us to handle old items like this."

Together, the twins carefully dug at the soil until they had a big enough hole to wiggle the box free. The lid was held closed tightly by a strange lock. Shaped like a medieval shield, it was pointed at the top and rounded at the bottom. There were four circular pieces on the face of the shield, each with a dial that could be turned like a single hand of a clock.

"It looks like some kind of combination lock, but not like the kind we use on our bikes," Eli rubbed away some of the dirt so he could see the details of the secretive device more clearly. "It looks like there are letters arranged on the edges of these circles. Kind of like a clock without numbers."

"You mean a cipher?" Esther looked closer. She was the literary brains of their operation. "Thomas Jefferson loved ciphers and puzzle boxes! He must have built it to unlock with a specific word in place of numbers."

"But what? Thomas Jefferson wrote like a billion letters and essays in his lifetime. What word would have meant enough to him to put it on a lock? And why did he hide something important here instead of at his home?"

Esther pulled the lantern even closer and studied the lock intently.

"I don't know the answers to those questions, but I do know that whatever is inside must have been really important. This lock has four keys on it, so we are obviously looking at a four-letter word. We will need to turn each key to point to the correct letter and spell a word. Think of some important words that he might have used in his work."

Eli rubbed his chin thoughtfully, forgetting about his muddy fingers and leaving a soil-goatee around his mouth. He concentrated so hard that Esther thought his brain might catch



“Nope, there’s no ‘O’ on the third circle. The letters on these cipher ‘clocks’ aren’t in alphabetical order, either. Think of another four-letter word.”

The twins tried ‘Jane’, ‘Mary’, and ‘Lucy’ for Thomas Jefferson’s daughters. They tried ‘Penn’ for their location in Pennsylvania. They tried ‘word’ because he was a writer. After several minutes of failed attempts, Esther started to pace the short length of the outbuilding. Suddenly, she stood up straighter and declared with a broad smile, “Free!”

“Free?” Eli echoed her shout in confusion.

“Yes, what did Thomas Jefferson and all of the Founding Fathers want us to be? The answer is ‘free!’”
fire with all of the effort he was putting into the task at hand.

“U-S-O-A,” he announced proudly after a moment.

“U-S-O-A? What would that mean? That isn’t a word, Eli.”

“United States o’ America’, Esther.
Duh.”

“Eli. Really?”

“Just try it, Esther!”

Esther sighed dramatically, rolling her eyes upward, and began turning the keys to the corresponding letters.

As quickly as she could maneuver the dirty lock, Esther turned each of the metal keys until she had spelled the word ‘free’. As she twisted the last key into place, the twins heard an audible click. The old lock had given way!

“Are you ready?”

Eli’s voice was shaky and breathless. Both twins knew that they were on the verge of a major historical discovery.

Esther nodded her head slowly, and together they reached for the box’s lid.

“One,” Esther counted.

“Two,” Eli joined her.

“Three!” they whispered in twin-unison, their hands lifting the lid to expose whatever treasure laid hidden inside.

Parents' Note: Please remind your children that this is a fictional story that weaves in historical figures and events. Artistic license has been taken to form a storyline, but I strive for historical accuracy and will point out ways in which to learn about those accuracies here in the study guide.

- In this chapter, we learn that Eli and Esther live in a very old house in Pennsylvania that was built by George Clymer. While I have taken some artistic license here, we do know that Mr. Clymer and his family lived in a home about 25 miles outside of Philadelphia in the 1770s. Since many of the Founding Fathers were colleagues or even friends, we can make a safe assumption that it is possible some of them may have been guests at one another's homes from time to time. With your parents, do an internet search to learn more about George Clymer and the things he did to help our country secure freedom.
- The twins are allowed to take a break from their school studies and go explore outside. What do you think they might have found in the yard of an old house like this?
- In their outbuilding, the twins uncover something amazing! What do you think is inside this special box? Thomas Jefferson famously loved puzzles often known as ciphers. After you and your parents have read about George Clymer, do a search for locks, puzzles, and ciphers popular during the American Revolution. Important information was often passed in secret using complicated devices.
- Create your own coded message and send them back and forth with friends or family members. Thomas Jefferson knew how to keep good secrets and decoding them is fun!
- Lastly, use the coloring sheet on the next page to make your own shed. What do you think the lock on the box looked like? Draw one and send your artwork to us in an email at homeschool@graceandtruthmagazine.com, we would love to see it!





Art By: EVK The Artist

Draw your own puzzle box below:





Walking out our faith—by EXAMPLE

Lesson 2

This lesson is a 4 part series of lessons designed for parents and children to work through together to help keep children engaged as well as to give them a better understanding of the importance of faith and pleasing our Heavenly Father.

What is Faith?

Let's look at what the Bible tells us about Faith...

Heb 11:6 No one can please God without faith, for whoever comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek him. So we know that faith is:

- something we can not see with our eyes.
- That we can not please God without faith
- We have to have faith to talk to Him.
- He will reward us for having faith



Alef Tav Game

Blindfold one child and put him in one part of the room make him call out "Alef", and the adult calls out "Tav"...til he can find the adult just by relying on his voice through a maze.

James 2:17 "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

So, that word, "works", means we have to put our faith to action or not just say what we believe, but SHOW others what we believe. In order for us to walk out our faith by example, we have to think about who our example is. What is an example? Someone who does things that are right and leads the way for others.

Yeshua...He is our greatest example...we want to live how He lived, and do the things He did. So what are some of the ways that we can be an example like Yeshua was?

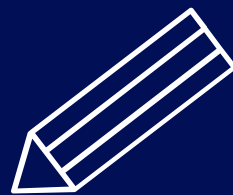
1. Praying to Yehovah every day.
 2. Reading God's word the Bible every day to hear Him.
 3. Always Showing love by helping others.
 4. Being obedient to His laws and Torah.
- 1Timothy 4:12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. When we learn these things about Jesus/Yeshua, and put our faith into action we will become someone that our parents are proud of, but most importantly someone that Yahweh is proud of and that He can use as an example.

Songs: Listen to the song "Welcome to the family" on Torahtown.xyz

Don't forget...

Memory Verse: Rom 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

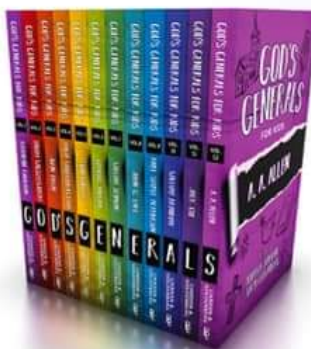
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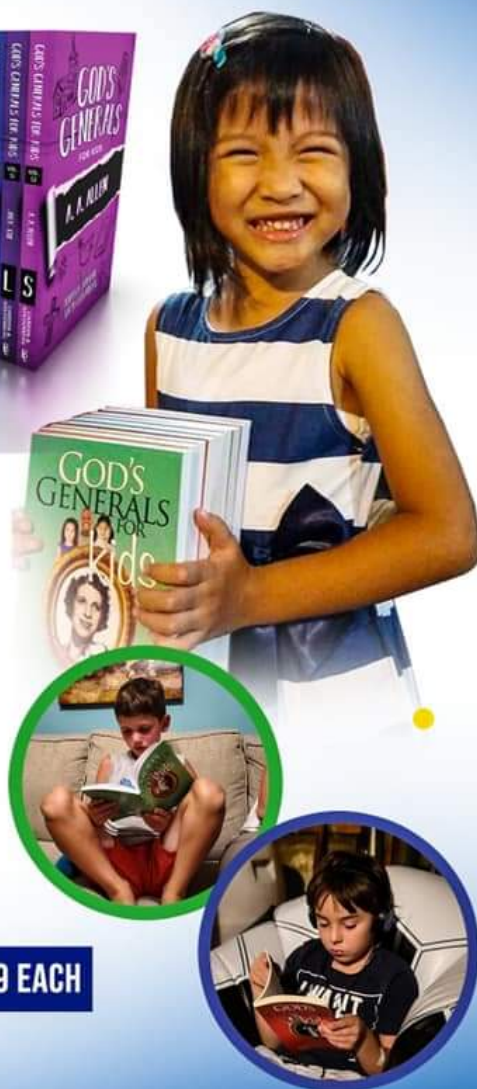
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Secret Decoder

Printable Secret Decoder Wheel – Attention all secret agents! Your secret decoder wheel has arrived and your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to send and receive secret messages to your friends without anyone being the wiser. No one will be able to decode your messages unless they have the secret key.

This is a super fun play activity for kids but also a useful resource for teachers, homeschoolers and parents. The secret decoder wheels could easily be used for math skills, spelling practice, writing activities, word work and more. They are also great for secret agent spy birthday theme parties or a secret treasure hunt. Think of all the possibilities!

1. Cut out the circles below and stack in order from the number 1 wheel on the bottom, then number 2 wheel and finally number 3 wheel on the top.
2. Attach the three discs by carefully poking a round brad fastener (or thumb tack with an eraser behind) through the middle of all three wheels.

HOW TO USE DECODER WHEEL:

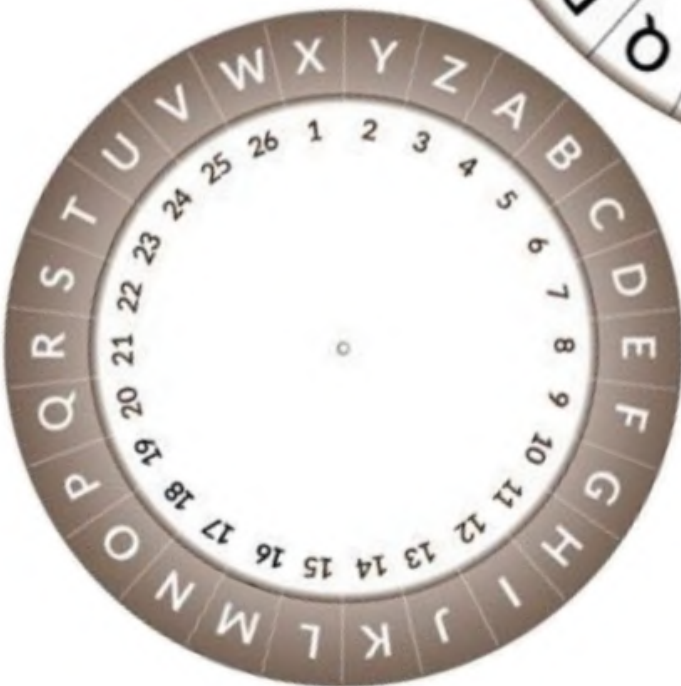
1. Pick a letter on the outer wheel and a number in the inner circle – this is your key (ex. M21). Turn the inner wheel so that the number (21 in our example) lines up with the out wheel letter (M in our example). On our wheel 21 also corresponds with R in the shaded section. Don't move the wheels now, keep them in place.
2. First, write your message. No numbers (write them out), and no punctuation.
3. For each letter of your message, find that character on the outer wheel, and write down the letter that is exactly beneath it on the inner wheel until your message is complete.
4. To read the encrypted message get the key from the message sender and align the wheel – keep the wheel in this position. For each letter of your message, find that character on the inner wheel, and write down the letter that is exactly above it on the outer wheel.

Print this page and make your own decoder

1



2



3





Peapa's Sweet & Smoky Brisket

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 pounds brisket
- 1 dash kosher salt
- 1 dash freshly ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 2 large onions, halved through the root and thinly sliced
- 6 garlic cloves, peeled and thinly sliced
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 (15-ounce) can Muir Glen tomato sauce
- 2 tablespoons Muir Glen tomato paste
- 1 1/4 cups beef stock
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 3 large carrots, peeled, halved if thick, and cut into 2-inch pieces



Keep reading
for some of our
Grace & Truth
Family Favorites...

DIRECTIONS:

- Preheat the oven to 325° F and generously season both sides of the brisket with salt and pepper.
- Heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a large Dutch oven or other ovenproof saucepan set over medium-high heat. Add the brisket and sear, turning once, until browned on both sides, about 8 to 10 minutes total. (If the brisket does not fit all at once, cut it in half and sear it in two batches.) Remove seared meat from the pan and set aside.
- Add the remaining 1 tablespoon of olive oil to the pan, followed by the onions, garlic, and bay leaves and cook, stirring often, until onions soften, about 10 minutes.
- Meanwhile, whisk together the tomato sauce, tomato paste, beef stock, vinegar, brown sugar, onion powder, smoked paprika, and 1 teaspoon salt in a bowl. Nestle the seared meat on top of the onions and pour the tomato sauce mixture over top. Bring liquid to a boil on the stovetop, then cover the saucepan and transfer to the oven.
- Cook, undisturbed, for 2 hours. Remove from oven, uncover, and carefully flip meat to the other side. Add the carrots, tucking them into the sauce. Cover the Dutch oven and continue cooking until vegetables are soft and meat is fork tender, 1 to 1 1/2 hours more.
- Remove from oven and transfer meat to a cutting board; cover loosely with aluminum foil and let rest 10 to 15 minutes before slicing against the grain. Arrange sliced meat on a serving platter. Remove and discard bay leaves from the sauce. Using a slotted spoon, remove onions and carrots and arrange around the brisket. Spoon desired amount of pan juices over the brisket before serving.

Mum's Potato Salad



By: Jessica Stern Foster

INGREDIENTS:

**3½ pounds baking potatoes
(peeled & halved)**
**1 large yellow onion
(cut into 8 wedges)**
1/2 cup Stone Ground Flour
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tablespoons chopped parsley
2 tablespoons Hungarian Paprika
1 1/2 teaspoons Himalayan salt
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
EVOO for frying
**Applesauce and sour cream,
for serving**

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Set a large strainer over a bowl. In a food processor fitted with the shredding disk, shred the potatoes and onion in batches. Add each batch to the strainer and let stand for 5 minutes, then squeeze dry. Pour off all of the liquid in the bowl and add the shredded potatoes. Stir in the flour, eggs, parsley, Hungarian Paprika, salt and baking powder. Scrape the mixture back into the strainer and set it over a bowl; let stand for 5 minutes.**
- 2. In a very large skillet, heat 1/4 inch of canola oil until shimmering. Spoon 2 tablespoons of the potato mixture into the canola oil for each latke, pressing slightly to flatten. Fry over moderate heat, turning once, until the latkes are golden and crisp on both sides, about 7 minutes. Drain the latkes on a paper towel-lined baking sheet. Serve the latkes hot with Applesauce and sour cream.**

Easy Peasy Chicken Casserole

By: Heather Speck

INGREDIENTS:

2 boxes of instant stuffing mix
2 large cans chicken (12.5 oz each)
1 can cream of mushroom
1 cup shredded cheese, I use cheddar
½ clove garlic
1 tablespoon of creole seasoning
Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350* F

Combine chicken, garlic, cream of mushroom, and seasonings in bowl. Mix together thoroughly. Prepare instant stuffing according to box directions. In a 9x13 casserole dish layer chicken, stuffing, and top with cheese. Bake for 20 minutes until golden bubbly and serve immediately. Pair with a side salad for an easy weeknight meal with your family.



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Breakfast Danishes

By: Jocelyn LaFavers

INGREDIENTS:

Puff pastry--can be homemade, found in the freezer section, or or a crescent roll package

4 oz cream cheese, softened

4 Tbsp powdered sugar

Seedless jam, I prefer raspberry or blackberry



DIRECTIONS:

In your mixer, combine the cream cheese and powdered sugar until smooth. Cut the pastry into squares and spoon the cream cheese mixture into the center, then top with a dollop of the jam. Bring two corners of the pastry square together as shown in the image, or bring all four together and pinch to make a pouch.

Bake at 350* F for 8-10 minutes until golden and bubbly. Serve warm while you open gifts around the tree!

Bubbie's Latkes

By: Jessica Stern Foster

INGREDIENTS:

**3½ pounds baking potatoes
(peeled & halved)**
**1 large yellow onion
(cut into 8 wedges)**
1/2 cup Stone Ground Flour
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tablespoons chopped parsley
2 tablespoons Hungarian Paprika
1 1/2 teaspoons Himalayan salt
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
EVOO for frying
Applesauce and sour cream, for serving



DIRECTIONS:

1. Set a large strainer over a bowl. In a food processor fitted with the shredding disk, shred the potatoes and onion in batches. Add each batch to the strainer and let stand for 5 minutes, then squeeze dry. Pour off all of the liquid in the bowl and add the shredded potatoes. Stir in the flour, eggs, parsley, Hungarian Paprika, salt and baking powder. Scrape the mixture back into the strainer and set it over a bowl; let stand for 5 minutes.
2. In a very large skillet, heat 1/4 inch of canola oil until shimmering. Spoon 2 tablespoons of the potato mixture into the canola oil for each latke, pressing slightly to flatten. Fry over moderate heat, turning once, until the latkes are golden and crisp on both sides, about 7 minutes. Drain the latkes on a paper towel-lined baking sheet. Serve the latkes hot with Applesauce and sour cream.

Instant Pot Applesauce

INGREDIENTS

- 3 lb apples approx. 6 medium apples, peeled, cored, quartered and chopped into
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup coconut sugar (optional)
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground cardamom
- 1/4 tsp pink Himalayan salt

DIRECTIONS

1. Place the peeled, cored, quartered and chopped apples in a large pot. Stir in the 1/2 cup of water, lemon juice, coconut sugar (if using), 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon & cardamom, and salt. Bring to a boil over high heat. Once simmering, reduce heat to low and cover pot with a tight-fitting lid. Maintain a low simmer for 30 minutes or until the apples are completely soft and cooked through.
2. Once fully cooked, remove from heat. For chunky applesauce, mash the apples directly in the pot using a potato masher. For smooth applesauce, add the apples to a food processor or blender and blend until smooth (if using a blender, work in batches and allow time to cool), or use a hand-held immersion blender and blend directly in the pot.
3. This applesauce is delicious served warm or cold.

NOTES

I used Pink Lady apples for this recipe because that is what I had laying around. Other recommended apples are Granny Smith, McIntosh, Fuji, Gravenstein, Jonagold, and Golden Delicious. Or, even better, you can always mix and match!

Easily turn this easy recipe into unsweetened applesauce by adjusting the sugar amount according to personal preference. As I don't usually love lots of added sugar (unless we're talking cookies or cake), I will probably cut the sugar in half next time I make this recipe. Of course, Pink Lady apples are known for being tart and sweet, so perhaps my opinion will change with a different apple.

Feel free to add additional cinnamon or even a pinch of nutmeg, if desired.

Makes approx. 1.5 quarts



Scalloped Carrots

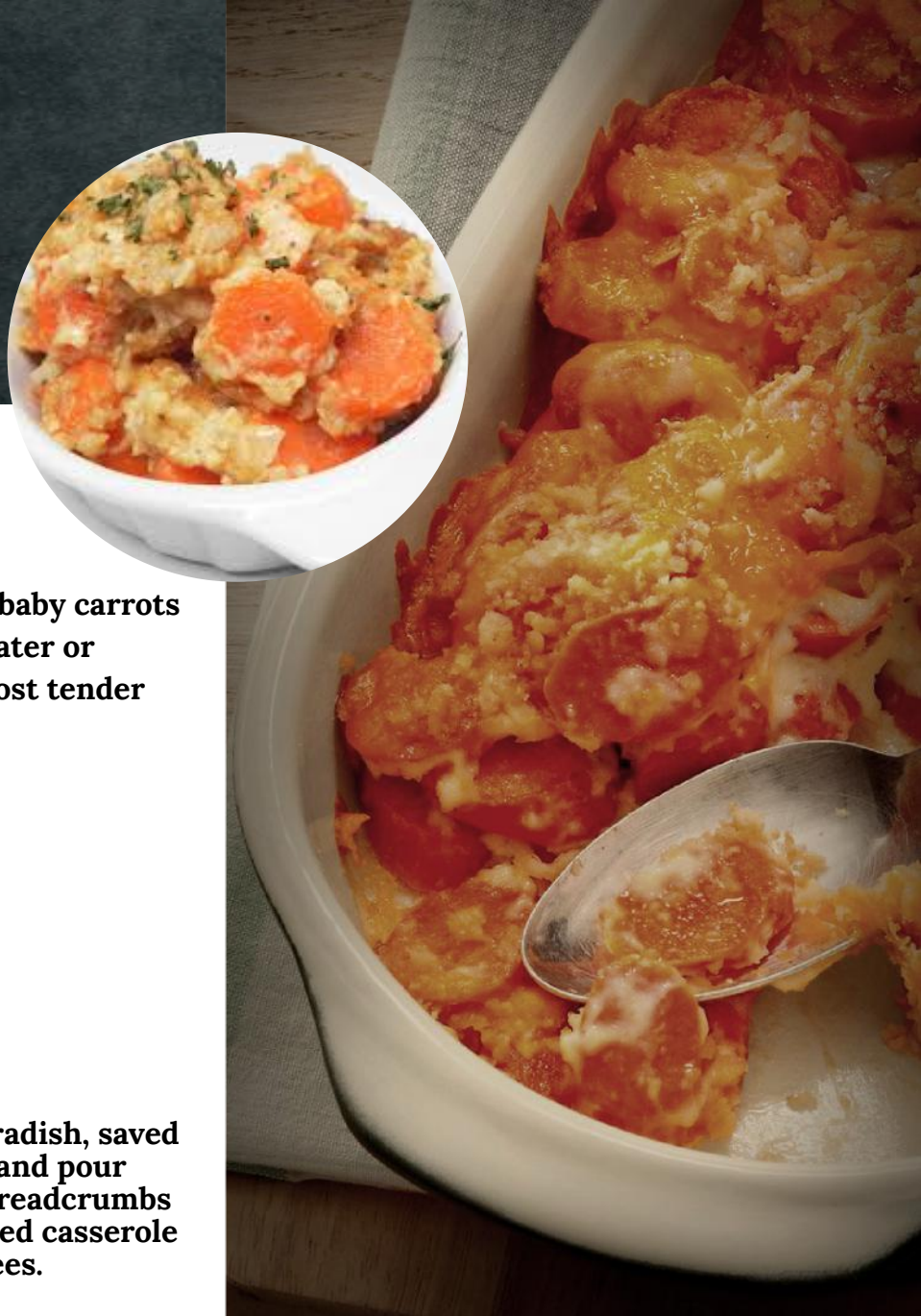
By: Alex Perkins

INGREDIENTS

8 medium carrots or package of baby carrots
Partially boil carrots in salted water or
microwave with water until almost tender
Save 2 tablespoons of the water
½ cup Mayonnaise
2 tablespoons grated onion
2 tablespoons horseradish
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper

DIRECTIONS

Stir (Mayo, grated onion, horseradish, saved water, salt and pepper) slightly and pour over cooked carrots. Top with breadcrumbs with paprika and bake in buttered casserole dish for 15 minutes at 350 degrees.



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BAKED MACARONI

By: Kendra Nelson

INGREDIENTS

16oz Macaroni Shells, cooked
2 cups Almond Milk
2tbsp Egg Replacer or 2 eggs
Earth Balnce Butter Spread
8oz Sargento Sharp Cheese
8oz Sargento 4 State Cheese
8oz Sargento Mexican Blend Cheese
Ground White Pepper
Salt



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. . Adding salt
4. Cook rinsed macaroni shells according to pkg directions until tender.
5. Prepare egg replacer according to the directions and place aside.
6. Spray nonstick spray in your 9x12 dish.
7. Drain shells and transfer cooked pasta into a mixing bowl.
8. 2 bags of Sargento cheese, 2 tablespoons of butter and mix into the shells.
9. Add almond milk & Egg Replacer. Mix well. Add salt & pepper to taste.
10. Transfer to your dish. Pour remaining cheese on top of macaroni mixture.
11. Take 3-4 tablespoons of butter and place in different areas on top of cheese.
12. Cook for 45 minutes uncovered.

NOTE: The ingredients above can be substituted. Because of allergies this recipe contains plant-based egg, butter, and milk. The cheese used in this recipe is lactose free.

To make completely vegan choose plant-based cheese & ENJOY!!!





If you are still quaranteened, try creating a Charboard for your family to snack on throughout the day!



What is Charcuterie?

with Jessica Stern Foster



There is no appetizer more impressive than a charcuterie board. Loaded with a variety of cured meats, cheeses, nuts, fruit, crackers, and spreads... there is something for everyone.

What Is Charcuterie?

Charcuterie (pronounced [shar-koo-tuh-ree] boards are the art of preparing cured or smoked meats. The amazing thing about these boards is that there is no end to the possible variations. Additionally, while the name gets itself from meats, it is okay to have a meatless board!

The first thing you will need to do is to have your board or tray. Next, you will want to take your jams, sauces, dips, and condiments and place them in jars or dishes to fit on the tray. Make sure you have small spoons and spreading utensils.

Add your meats in various spots on the board, then cheeses. Next you will want to use seasonal veggies and fruits then fill in with crackers, nuts, and dries fruits. You can also add sprigs of rosemary or thyme or even mint to future decorate. Make sure these foods are something you, your family and your guests will enjoy!

Enjoy your charcuterie all year long!



Winter HOT CHOCOLATE BAR

By: Amanda Bishop

OH, the Christmas cookies and candies, I love them all! Christmas in 2020 is different for most of us this year. I have been thinking of ways to still make it special for us. The truth is we love sticking to traditions and sometimes it's okay to start new ones. Some of us won't be baking a ton of cookies and candies so I thought maybe we could incorporate those tastes in another way. Welcome the Christmas Hot Chocolate Bar! Put the Kettle on and let's take a look at how to throw one together.

Let's make our hot chocolate mix first, so it's ready when the kettle is hot.

DIRECTIONS

Hot Chocolate Mix

1c cocoa 11c powdered milk

1 to 1 ½ c powdered sugar 6 oz powdered creamer

Mix dry ingredients and store in a large, airtight container. To use, mix 3 tablespoons of mix per cup of hot water.

I am thinking of all the smells and tastes I love about candy making day with my friend Bobbie Jo. This brings ideas of all the toppings and stir ins for my hot chocolate.

Brown sugar & Maple Syrup Cinnamon Cloves Allspice

Crushed peanuts Graham Cracker crumbs Whipped Cream Marshmallows

Maraschino Cherries Crushed peppermints Carmel chips Butterscotch chips

The list could go on forever. Put all your ingredients in matching containers on a tray, lazy susan, flat basket, or even a cookie sheet for easy access.

An example of chocolate covered cherry would be to mix:

1 c hot water Whip Cream & Cherry on top

3 tbsp hot choc mix

2 tsp Maraschino Cherry Juice

You could garnish the rim of your cup with pretty colored sugars or apple, or orange slices. The possibilities are endless. Let us know what you come up with!



INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups milk

1 cup evaporated milk

3 eggs

½ cup sugar

Speck salt

1 tsp Vanilla

Pre-prepared pie crust

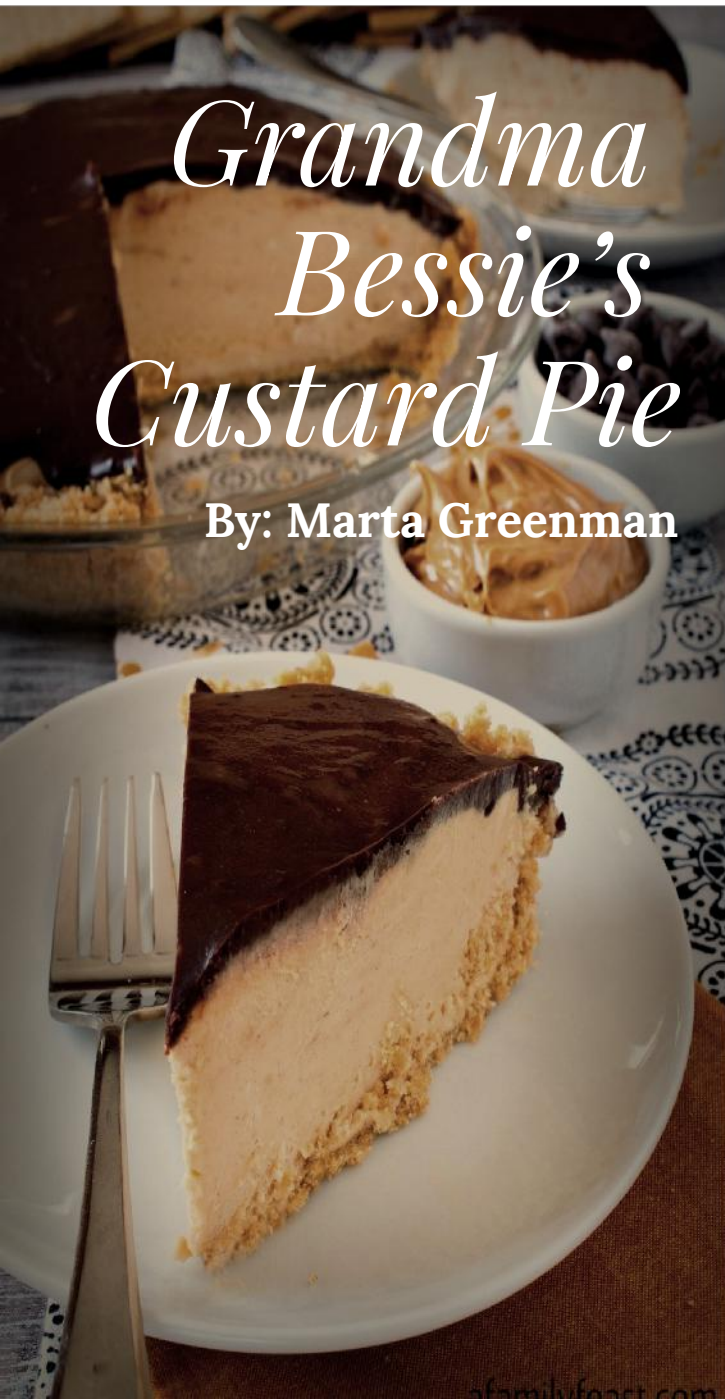


DIRECTIONS

- To prepare the crust, blend graham cracker crumbs, granulated sugar, brown sugar and melted butter in a bowl until fully combined. Press mixture into a 9" pie plate, covering bottom completely and pushing the crumbs about 1-2 inches up the side of the pie plate. Put the pie crust into the freezer while preparing the filling.
- Whip the 1 1/2 cups heavy cream until it holds peaks. Set aside in refrigerator while preparing the rest of the filling.
- In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Add sugar and mix until blended. Add peanut butter and vanilla, mixing well. (Scrape the sides of the bowl as needed to ensure that the ingredients are fully blended.)
- Fold whipped cream into the peanut butter mixture, blending well. Pour filling into the prepared pie crust. Place filled pie into the freezer.
- To prepare the ganache, in a small saucepan (use one with a lid), slowly bring the remaining 1/2 cup of heavy cream to a boil (be careful not to scald the cream). Turn off the heat and add chocolate chips, pushing the chips into the cream until almost completely covered. Put the lid on the pan and let sit on the stove.
- After 10 minutes, stir until the chocolate chips are melted and fully blended into the cream. Cool to room temperature, then pour sauce over pie. Place in freezer for 30 minutes before serving.
- Note: If serving pie more than 1/2 an hour after final preparation, store in the freezer. Thaw for 20 minutes before serving for a frozen, ice cream-like consistency. (If you are having difficulty cleanly removing the pie crust from your pie plate, submerge the very bottom of the dish in some hot tap water – about 1/2 inch water in your kitchen sink – to loosen the crust being careful not to get water in the pie itself.) Or thaw for longer in the refrigerator for a gooey, soft pie.

Grandma Bessie's Custard Pie

By: Marta Greenman





Bread Pudding

By Amanda Bishop via
Brenda Krohe

INGREDIENTS

Pudding Sauce

1 pound of loaf of white
bread 1 C packed brown
sugar
1 1/4 C
sugar
2 T corn starch
4 C
milk
1 stick oleo (margarine)
2 tsp
vanilla
2T vanilla
4
eggs

DIRECTIONS 1 C boiling water
cinnamon & sugar
butter

Grease 9x13 pan with butter. 1 pound loaf of white bread cut or torn into small pieces (1 in) lay on bottom of pan. Beat eggs well then add sugar, milk, and vanilla (I add lots of cinnamon). Pour over bread and press down. Cut butter chunks up on top. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar. Bake @ 350* 45 mins or until brown
Mix in sauce pan sugar and corn starch slowly add boiling water. Remove from heat add oleo and vanilla pour over baked bread.





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INSTANT POT PICADILLO

By Melody Bentfield

INGREDIENTS

- 2 lb 93% lean ground beef
- 1/2 large chopped onion
- 3 large cloves garlic, minced OR 2-3 tsp granulated garlic
- 1.5 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 red bell pepper, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp cilantro (fresh or dried)
- 1.5 tsp ground cumin
- 1-2 tsp adobo seasoning (Goya brand makes a lovely one)
- .5 tsp smoked paprika
- 2-3 bay leaf
- 2 tbsp green olives (pimento stuffed ok)
- 2 Tbsp brine juice of green olives
- 1 16oz can of fire roasted diced tomatoes, including liquid
- ½ cup water

INSTRUCTIONS

- Set Instant Pot to saute normal and add meat. Brown the meat thoroughly with no more pink, breaking up with a wooden spoon into small crumbles.
- Add everything else except for the canned tomatoes and water. Stir for 1-2 minutes and add canned tomatoes and extra water.
- Cook 15 minutes manual on high pressure. Quick release.

This can be enjoyed within homemade empanadas (drain the extra juices first), on top of rice or another grain, or as a filling to homemade meat pies. Delicious!



BREAKFAST EGG BAKE

By Melody Benthfield

INGREDIENTS

Serves 6 - 8

Ingredients:

1 dozen large eggs

1/3 cup buttermilk

16 oz shredded cheese

4 oz goat cheese OR cream cheese, softened

1 bell pepper, finely diced

1-2 cups baby spinach

12-15 ritz crackers (or savory crackers of your choice, or pretzels)

2-3 Tbsp butter softened

Optional – diced cooked meat of your choosing

Optional – seasoning salt to make crust more savory

DIRECTIONS

· Preheat oven to 350 degrees

· In a plastic bag, crush crackers into a rough crumbly mixture. Add the butter and mush together so that it's fairly uniform in texture and size.

· Line an 8x8 or 9x9 brownie pan with parchment paper. Press the cracker/butter mixture into the bottom. If you are using seasoning salt, sprinkle a very light layer on top. Bake this for 5-10 minutes, just until you begin to smell it cooking, or until the crust is slightly golden, remove promptly to slightly cool.

· Whisk eggs and buttermilk in medium mixing bowl until everything is incorporated.

· Eyeball about 1/3 of each ingredient, and layer 1/3 of the egg mixture, shredded cheese, bell pepper, spinach, and meat. This is not a perfect science, just do your best!

· Evenly crumble remaining goat cheese or cream cheese on top.

· Bake for 35-45 minutes, until a knife comes out clean from the center.

· Let cool for 5-10 minutes, then use the parchment paper to lift out the egg bake. Cut into 6 - 8 generous portions and enjoy!

If you want to be fancy, add fresh guacamole, avocado or salsa or hot sauce on top of the egg bake. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Enjoy!

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS & INFORMATION

INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT



Everyone has the potential to discover a human trafficking situation. While the victims may sometimes be kept behind locked doors, they are often hidden right in front of us at, for example, construction sites, restaurants, elder care centers, nail salons, agricultural fields, and hotels. Traffickers' use of coercion – such as threats of deportation and harm to the victim or their family members – is so powerful that even if you reach out to victims, they may be too fearful to accept your help. Knowing indicators of human trafficking and some follow up questions will help you act on your gut feeling that something is wrong and report it.

Human Trafficking Indicators

While not an exhaustive list, these are some key red flags that could alert you to a potential trafficking situation that should be reported:

- Living with employer
- Poor living conditions
- Multiple people in cramped space
- Inability to speak to individual alone
- Answers appear to be scripted and rehearsed
- Employer is holding identity documents
- Signs of physical abuse
- Submissive or fearful
- Unpaid or paid very little
- Under 18 and in prostitution



Where to Get Help

If you believe you have identified someone still in the trafficking situation, alert law enforcement immediately at the numbers provided below. It may be unsafe to attempt to rescue a trafficking victim. You have no way of knowing how the trafficker may react and retaliate against the victim and you. If, however, you identify a victim who has escaped the trafficking situation, there are a number of organizations to whom the victim could be referred for help with shelter, medical care, legal assistance, and other critical services. In this case, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

911 Emergency

We at ROC do realize that there are good police officers and bad police officers. We know that there are many amazing police officers that go above and beyond. For urgent situations, notify local law enforcement immediately by calling 911. You may also want to alert the National Human Trafficking Hotline described below so that they can ensure response by law enforcement officials knowledgeable about human trafficking.

1-888-373-7888 National Human Trafficking Hotline

Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline, a national 24-hour, toll-free, multilingual anti-trafficking hotline. Call 1-888-373-7888 to report a tip; connect with anti-trafficking services in your area; or request training and technical assistance, general information, or specific anti-trafficking resources. The Hotline is equipped to handle calls from all regions of the United States from a wide range of callers including, but not limited to: potential trafficking victims, community members, law enforcement, medical professionals, legal professionals, service providers, researchers, students, and policymakers.

ROC Assistance

IF you do not feel as if the situation is being addressed, you can email Report@RedeemOurChildren.org and we will further assist in working to help resolve any situations. While we do work with Rescue Teams and have active members of ROC working on the Frontlines to combat Human Trafficking Globally, our primary focus is the aftercare, healing, and restoration of people through Biblical precepts and Redemption so Survivors can live a life worth living!

Help Trafficking Survivors
Rescue, Redeem and Restore
by giving today... click here
www.RedeemOurChildren.org



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