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Mother's Day marks the start of **National Nursing Home Week**. Many of the men and women living in America's Care Centers today were a part of what has been called "The Greatest Generation." They need visitors - they need friends - they need the Lord. Do you have a friend or a loved one in a Nursing Home? A visit from you is to the Nursing Home Resident as a cup of cold water is to a weary traveler. Our Fairview Ministry Team will be holding a service at Fairview Transitional Rehabilitation Center in Grants Pass on May 9, Mother's Day. What a great opportunity to celebrate the many 'forgotten' mothers! Our team visits Fairview on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. If you are interested in joining them in this valuable ministry contact Lynn Wason or Steve or Carol West.

## A Bit of "Sonshine"

(Author Unknown)

I see her in her tiny room, and taking notice of the gloom, I call her name, but she hears not; this lonely one who's been forgot by busy folks like you and me whose ears can hear, whose eyes can see.

She's dozing in her morning nap, one withered hand within her lap; her useless foot just drooping there, a lap robe tucked about her chair.

I hesitate this one to rouse, perhaps she's dreaming of her spouse, and days gone by with children young, when games were played and songs were sung, when back was strong - hands were able, mind was clear and limbs were stable.

But then she awakens—bless heart, and finding me, she gives a start, "It's you" she cries, "O friend of mine, you've brought sunshine--you are my friend!" We chat a bit and reminisce. (Why do I slight such times as this?) She's so delighted by my call and shows me pictures on her wall, of sons and daughters far away; like me, they're thoughtless day by day, forgetting how the minutes drag, the helplessness and sorrows nag.

We speak of heaven, then we pray, I rise to be upon my way. She begs me soon to come again. "You've brought sunshine-you are my friend!" I cringe with shame, it cost me not to cheer a lonely soul forgot. In fact the benefit was mine, 'Twas I who needed her SONShine!

## Why We Do What We Do -----

Many times important aspects of ministry to the disabled and elderly are not fully understood. Years ago Judy, my wife, and I had one of those high impact experiences where every detail still stands out. We were doing a worship service at Kirkhaven Nursing Home in 1999 with about 25 Residents in attendance. Just before we started a woman wheeled in a man on a gurney; we could see he was unresponsive. Suddenly, I recognized his wife; then realized the man was an old friend I had lost track of long ago. We immediately went over to them. She told us he was in the last stages of advanced dementia and not expected to live long. As we were talking, he suddenly sat up; his face lit up with a big smile and eyes opened wide. Then he sank back down, his last effort of strength. His wife became, literally, delirious with joy. She said he had not responded to anyone for months. It must have been the sound of a familiar voice from the past that awakened something in him. Our friend passed away 5 days later. It is important to address this issue for the following reasons; there is a tendency to not minister to people experiencing dementia because a commonly held belief is that "They are not getting it, why bother, it's a waste of time." This is a shallow opinion, because the Word of GOD may very well be reaching their hearts, their souls-apart from their cognitive understanding. Also, in a group setting, even if most do not seem receptive, there may be ONE that may be receiving the message (and probably more than one). We must trust the LORD that His purposes are being accomplished. We are called TO GO and SHARE the Word in leading a service and/or visitation fellowship. They will receive it as the LORD wills. It is for us simply to hear His call—His Voice and go to those Nursing Home Residents, families and staff, in FAITH.

(This is an article written by Robert Berray of Fairport, New York)



A Note from  
Pastor Bill

In one of the most powerful and poetic paragraphs I've ever read on human yearning and the hope of the gospel, Cornelius Plantinga (President of Calvin Theological Seminary) writes: The truth is that nothing in this earth can finally satisfy us. Much can make us content for a time but nothing can fill us to the brim. The reason is that our final joy lies "beyond the walls of this world," as J.R. Tolkien put it. Ultimate beauty comes not from a lover or a landscape or a home, but only through them. These earthly things are solid goods, and we naturally relish them. But they are not our final good. They point to what is higher up and further back...Even if we fall deeply in love and marry another human being, we discover that our spiritual and sexual oneness isn't final. It's wonderful, but not final. It might even be as good as human oneness can be, but something in us keeps saying "not this" or "still beyond" ... What Augustine knew is that human beings want God...God has made us for himself. Our sense of God runs in us like a stream, even though, because of sin, we divert it toward other objects. We human beings want God even when we think that what we really want is a green valley, or a good time from our past, or a loved one. Of course we do want these things and persons, but we also want what's behind them. Our inconsolable secret, says C.S. Lewis, is that we are full of yearnings, sometimes shy and sometimes passionate, that point us beyond the things of earth to the ultimate reality of God.



# Library Corner

## June Bug

By Chris Fabry

For as long as she can remember, June Bug and her father have traveled the back roads of the country in their beat-up RV, spending many nights parked at Walmart. One day, as she walks past the greeter at the front of the store, her eyes are drawn to the pictures of missing children, where she is shocked to see herself.

This discovery begins a quest for the truth about her father, the mother he rarely speaks of, and ultimately herself. But when her father's past catches up with them, forces beyond his control draw them back to Dogwood, West Virginia, down a winding path that will change their lives forever.

## NEW THIS MONTH

**The Missing** by Beverly Lewis  
**Gone to Green** by Judy Christie  
**Every Now and Then** by Karen Kingsbury

## MY LORD AND I

by Mrs. L. Shorey

I have a friend so precious, so very dear to me. He loves me with such tender love,  
He loves so faithfully. I could not live apart from Him, I love to feel Him nigh,  
and so we dwell together, My LORD and I.

Sometimes I'm faint and weary, He knows that I am weak and as He bids me lean on Him,  
His help I gladly seek. He leads me in the paths of light beneath a sunny sky,  
and so we walk together, My LORD and I.

He knows how I am longing some weary soul to win,  
and so He bids me go and speak a loving word for Him.  
He bids me tell His wondrous love and why He came to die,  
and so we work together, My LORD and I.

I have His yoke upon me, and easy 'tis to bear,  
in the burden which He carries I gladly take a share;  
For then it is my happiness to have Him always nigh, We bear the yoke together,  
My LORD and I.



Coffee Break, a ladies Community Bible study ministry has come to a close until September, except for our traditional salad potluck on Thursday May 6 from 11am to 1pm. We invite you to attend.

Our mission is to draw us closer to God and each other through our time in God's Word, prayer, and fellowship.

Our year began with an Apron Memory Brunch last September, and over the weeks there have been other get to know each other activities; brown bag lunches, a soup meal, Christmas and Valentines Potlucks, Easter Potluck breakfast with a special music program honoring Jesus, Movie Day (The Time Changer) and lunch at Bacci's and some share feasts.

Our Bible studies have been Ruth, Mark, and James. We use the Discover Your Bible Series from Faith Alive Christian Resources, and they have proved to be very challenging in-depth studies.

Coffee Break has six leaders who are dedicated to leading lessons for the seven months we meet. In addition to their ministry, there are many ladies behind the scenes faithfully serving also; making coffee (we know how important that is), providing refreshments, setting up the furniture, keyboard, sound equipment, sending out cards, greeting, song leading, piano playing, phone lists and other needed tasks. All these ladies are unsung heroes, and we are so grateful they serve from their love of the Lord.

At the May 6th closing event, we are saying a farewell to Marilyn Amorde who has so faithfully served at Coffee Break for 21 years both as a group leader, director, piano player, card sender and encourager and anything else the Lord called her to do. Marilyn has another calling from God to extend her hours in the Foster Grand parenting program at our local schools here. She will be missed during the Coffee Break times, but she will still be closely connected to us. We love and thank her for everything.

Call Ginny (541-582-4319) if you want to know more about being part of this great group of ladies and learning more about the Great God we serve through the study of His Word.



**May 7<sup>th</sup>** Hoe Down (come dressed as cowboys/cowgirls)

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** Carnival Night (last club until the fall) Volunteers are needed to help for this final event. Donations of candy and two liter sodas are appreciated as well.

### Double F's

Unscramble the following words, each of which contains two consecutive F's somewhere inside it.  
Ex. ORE + FF = OFFER

1. SIN+FF \_\_\_\_\_
2. AGE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
3. ROAD+FF \_\_\_\_\_
4. ABLE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
5. RITA+FF \_\_\_\_\_
6. TUBE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
7. TORE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
8. LURE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
9. ARIA+FF \_\_\_\_\_
10. INSET+FF \_\_\_\_\_
11. LEMUR+FF \_\_\_\_\_
12. POINT+FF \_\_\_\_\_
13. CLUES+FF \_\_\_\_\_
14. HIRES+FF \_\_\_\_\_
15. LOUSE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
16. TULANE+FF \_\_\_\_\_
17. ARGUES+FF \_\_\_\_\_
18. ORATED+FF \_\_\_\_\_

### RATING

GOOD: 9 EXCELLENT: 14 ACE: 17

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 7)

## Don't Leave It On The Desk

Author Unknown

There was a certain Professor of Religion named Dr. Christianson, a studious man who taught at a small college in the western United States. Dr. Christianson taught the required survey course in Christianity at this particular institution. Every student was required to take this course their freshman year, regardless of his or her major. Although Dr. Christianson tried hard to communicate the essence of the gospel in his class, he found that most of his students looked upon the course as nothing but required drudgery. Despite his best efforts, most students refused to take Christianity seriously.

This year, Dr. Christianson had a special student named Steve. Steve was only a freshman, but was studying with the intent of going onto seminary for the ministry. Steve was popular, he was well liked, and he was an imposing physical specimen. He was now the starting center on the school football team, and was the best student in the professor's class. One day, Dr. Christianson asked Steve to stay after class so he could talk with him. 'How many push-ups can you do?' Steve said, 'I do about 200 every night.' '200? That's pretty good, Steve,' Dr. Christianson said. 'Do you think you could do 300?' Steve replied, 'I don't know.... I've never done 300 at a time' 'Do you think you could?' again asked Dr. Christianson. 'Well, I can try,' said Steve. 'Can you do 300 in sets of 10? I have a class project in mind and I need you to do about 300 push-ups in sets of ten for this to work. Can you do it? I need you to tell me you can do it,' said the professor. Steve said, 'Well... I think I can...yeah, I can do it.' Dr. Christianson said, 'Good! I need you to do this on Friday. Let me explain what I have in mind.'

Friday came and Steve got to class early and sat in the front of the room. When class started, the professor pulled out a big box of donuts. No, these weren't the normal kinds of donuts, they were the extra fancy BIG kind, with cream centers and frosting swirls. Everyone was pretty excited it was Friday, the last class of the day, and they were going to get an early start on the weekend with a party in Dr. Christianson's class. Dr. Christianson went to the first girl in the first row and asked, 'Cynthia, do you want to have one of these donuts?' Cynthia said, 'Yes.' Dr. Christianson then turned to Steve and asked, 'Steve, would you do ten push-ups so that Cynthia can have a donut?' 'Sure!' Steve jumped down from his desk to do a quick ten. Then Steve again sat in his desk. Dr. Christianson put a donut on Cynthia's desk. Dr. Christianson then went to Joe, the next person, and asked, 'Joe, do you want a donut?' Joe said, 'Yes.' Dr. Christianson asked, 'Steve would you do ten push-ups so Joe can have a donut?' Steve did ten push-ups, Joe got a donut. And so it went, down the first aisle, Steve did ten push-ups for every person before they got their donut.

Walking down the second aisle, Dr. Christianson came to Scott. Scott was on the basketball team, and in as good condition as Steve. He was very popular and never lacking for female companionship. When the professor asked, 'Scott do you want a donut?' Scott's reply was, 'Well, can I do my own push-ups?' Dr. Christianson said, 'No, Steve has to do them.' Then Scott said, 'Well, I don't want one then.' Dr. Christianson shrugged and then turned to Steve and asked, 'Steve, would you do ten push-ups so Scott can have a donut he doesn't want?'

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With perfect obedience Steve started to do ten push-ups. Scott said, 'HEY! I said I didn't want one!' Dr. Christianson said, 'Look! This is my classroom, my class, my desks, and these are my donuts. Just leave it on the desk if you don't want it.' And he put a donut on Scott's desk. Now by this time, Steve had begun to slow down a little. He just stayed on the floor between sets because it took too much effort to be getting up and down. You could start to see a little perspiration coming out around his brow. Dr. Christianson started down the third row. Now the students were beginning to get a little angry. Dr. Christianson asked Jenny, 'Jenny, do you want a donut?' Sternly, Jenny said, 'No.' Then Dr. Christianson asked Steve, 'Steve, would you do ten more push-ups so Jenny can have a donut that she doesn't want?' Steve did ten...Jenny got a donut. By now, a growing sense of uneasiness filled the room. The students were beginning to say, 'No!' and there were all these uneaten donuts on the desks. Steve also had to really put forth a lot of extra effort to get these push-ups done for each donut. There began to be a small pool of sweat on the floor beneath his face, his arms and brow were beginning to get red because of the physical effort involved.

Dr. Christianson asked Robert, who was the most vocal unbeliever in the class, to watch Steve do each push up to make sure he did the full ten push-ups in a set because he couldn't bear to watch all of Steve's work for all of those uneaten donuts. He sent Robert over to where Steve was so Robert could count the set and watch Steve closely. Dr. Christianson started down the fourth row. During his class, however, some students from other classes had wandered in and sat down on the steps along the radiators that ran down the sides of the room. When the professor realized this, he did a quick count and saw that now there were 34 students in the room. He started to worry if Steve would be able to make it. Dr. Christianson went on to the next person and the next and the next. Near the end of that row, Steve was really having a rough time. He was taking a lot more time to complete each set. Steve asked Dr. Christianson, 'Do I have to make my nose touch on each one?' Dr. Christianson thought for a moment, 'Well, they're your push-ups. You are in charge now. You can do them any way that you want.'

And Dr. Christianson went on. A few moments later, Jason, a recent transfer student, came to the room and was about to come in when all the students yelled in one voice, 'NO! Don't come in! Stay out!' Jason didn't know what was going on. Steve picked up his head and said, 'No, let him come.' Professor Christianson said, 'You realize that if Jason comes in you will have to do ten push-ups for him?' Steve said, 'Yes, let him come in. Give him a donut.' Dr. Christianson said, 'Okay, Steve, I'll let you get Jason's out of the way right now. Jason, do you want a donut?' Jason, new to the room, hardly knew what was going on. 'Yes,' he said, 'give me a donut.' 'Steve, will you do ten push-ups so that Jason can have a donut?' Steve did ten push-ups very slowly and with great effort. Jason, bewildered, was handed a donut and sat down.

Dr Christianson finished the fourth row, and then started on those visitors seated by the heaters. Steve's arms were now shaking with each push-up in a struggle to lift himself against the force of gravity. By this time sweat was profusely dropping off of his face, there was no sound except his heavy breathing; there was not a dry eye in the room.

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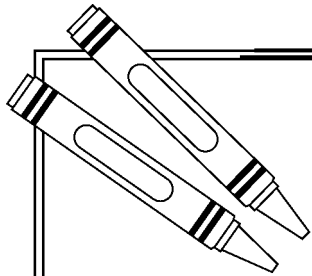
The very last two students in the room were two young women, both cheerleaders, and very popular. Dr. Christianson went to Linda, the second to last, and asked, 'Linda, do you want a doughnut?' Linda said, very sadly, 'No, thank you.' Professor Christianson quietly asked, 'Steve, would you do ten push-ups so that Linda can have a donut. Grunting from the effort, Steve did ten very slow push-ups for Linda.

Then Dr. Christianson turned to the last girl, Susan. 'Susan, do you want a donut?' Susan, with tears flowing down her face, began to cry. 'Dr. Christianson, why can't I help him?' Dr. Christianson, with tears of his own, said, 'No, Steve has to do it alone; I have given him this task and he is in charge of seeing that everyone has an opportunity for a donut whether they want it or not. When I decided to have a party this last day of class, I looked at my grade book. Steve here is the only student with a perfect grade. Everyone else has failed a test, skipped class, or offered me inferior work. Steve told me that in football practice, when a player messes up he must do push-ups. I told Steve that none of you could come to my party unless he paid the price by doing your push-ups. He and I made a deal for your sakes.' 'Steve, would you do ten push-ups so Susan can have a donut?' As Steve very slowly finished his last push-up, with the understanding that he had accomplished all that was required of him, having done 350 push-ups, his arms buckled beneath him and he fell to the floor.

Dr. Christianson turned to the room and said, 'And so it was, that our Savior, Jesus Christ, on the cross, plead to the Father, 'Into thy hands I commend my spirit.' With the understanding that He had done everything that was required of Him, He yielded up His life. And like some of those in this room, many of us leave the gift on the desk, uneaten.' Two students helped Steve up off the floor and to a seat, physically exhausted, but wearing a thin smile. 'Well done, good and faithful servant,' said the professor, adding, 'Not all sermons are preached in words.' Turning to his class, the professor said, 'My wish is that you might understand and fully comprehend all the riches of grace and mercy that have been given to you through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He spared not only His Begotten Son, but gave Him up for us all, for the whole Church, now and forever. Whether or not we choose to accept His gift to us, the price has been paid.' 'Wouldn't you be foolish and ungrateful to leave it lying on the desk?'

Share this with someone. It's bound to touch their heart and demonstrate Salvation in a very special way.

# Just for Kids

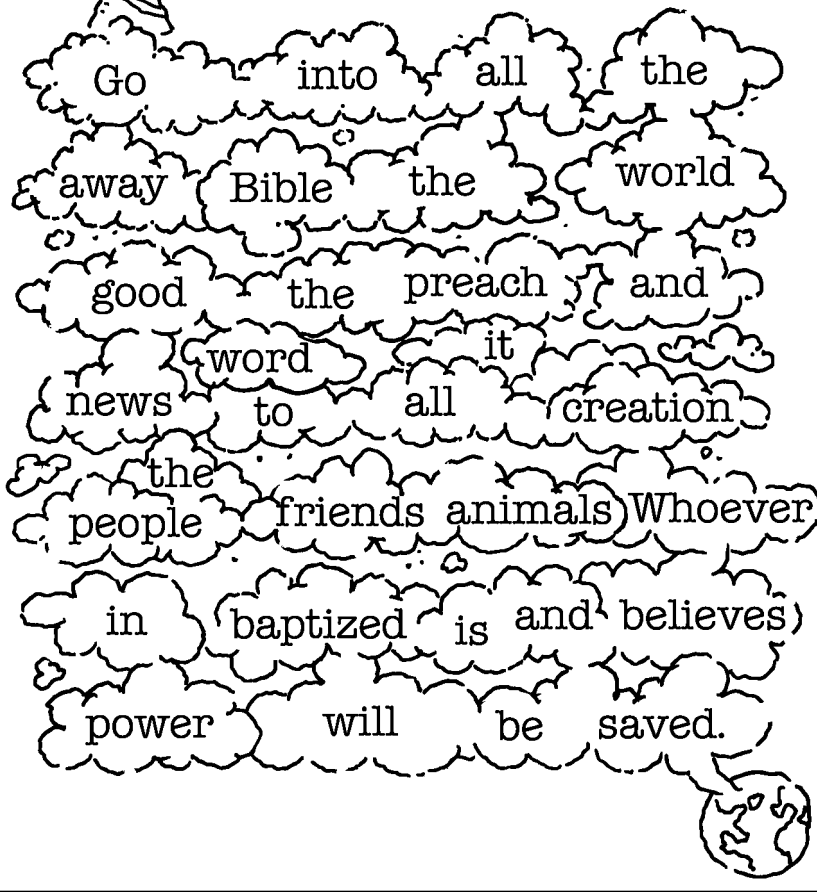


## “I am with you always.”

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he encouraged his disciples in the work they had to do. We, too, are Jesus’ disciples and should follow his same instructions.



Follow the words in the clouds to find Mark 16:15-16a, NIV.



Answer: “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” (Mark 16:15-16a, NIV)

## GOOD NEWS T-SHIRT

Jesus told his disciples — and us — to go into all the world and preach the good news. Wherever you go, this cool T-shirt will help spark conversations about your faith.

### What you need:

- Newspaper
- Cardboard
- Plain white, cotton T-shirt
- Permanent markers
- Goggles (optional)
- Eye dropper
- Rubbing alcohol
- Clothes hanger

### What you do:

1. Cover a table with newspaper. (Work outside or in a well-ventilated area.)
2. Place a piece of cardboard inside your T-shirt. (This keeps pen marks from going through to the other side.)
3. With permanent markers, draw a design of large circles, spirals, hearts, etc.
4. Wear goggles while dropping rubbing alcohol onto your designs with an eye dropper. As the alcohol permeates the permanent marker, the color will break up and spread in interesting ways.
5. Hang the shirt to dry.
6. When the shirt is dry, place cardboard inside it again. On the front, write “I have some good news to share with you.” You can also write a Bible verse.

- Answers:** 1. Sniff 2. Gaffe  
 3. Afford 4. Baffle 5. Tariff  
 6. Buffet 7. Effort 8. Ruffle  
 9. Affair 10. Stiffen  
 11. Muffler 12. Pontiff  
 13. Scuffle 14. Sheriff  
 15. Soufflé 16. Affluent  
 17. Suffrage 18. Tradeoff