# A Periodical for Christian Young Ladies



**October-December 2017** 



# We are in for some changes!

I don't know about you, but I am getting a little bored with our format. It just looks to me like we could do some things a little different so if you will bare with me in this issue, I will do my best to make some changes in our next issue. What better time of the year to start a new project than at the beginning of the year. "It's the very best place to start!" I would love your ideas, if you would have time to send them to me. In fact, it would just be good to hear from some of you, let me know what you like about "Jewels" and what you would like to see different. I am open for suggestions. Do you like the updates on our family? Are the crafts and recipes acceptable? What about the devotions? Are there other subjects that you would like to see discussed? In the past, I have brought you song stories, short biographies of missionaries and authors, and other things that I hoped would be of interest to you. I would love to know what YOU would like to see the next time you pick up a "Jewels" paper. I want it to be a blessing to you, always!

~Teresa Miller



Lucas Isaiah Wright Born July 18, 2017 at 8:46 a.m. 6 pounds 15 ounces 19 inches long Editor Teresa Miller

Managing Editor Bro. Mike Miller

Subscription is free. Donations for publication are appreciated.

### **Our Book Store**

We still have two books available, "As The Days Go By", a collection of poems by Teresa S. Miller. The book is a 68-page paperback edition of original poetry. The cost is \$5 shipped free. Also available, "While I Was Musing, The Fire Burned", a book of devotions written by K. Michael Miller, which many have already found a great blessing. The cost is \$5 plus free shipping.





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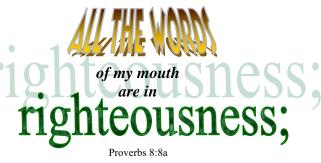
(Note: These are now also available through Amazon to order or to download on your Kindle device. When searching, type in book name and author, please.)

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is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer. Psalms 19:14 Good, sound preaching is hard to find these days, but here are some CDs and MP3s that will definately bless your heart and life when you listen to them. They are food for your soul and help for your understanding of God's Word. The messages are all

from the pulpit of Straight Paths Bible Church in Ellsinore, Missouri;

Pastor Mike Miller.

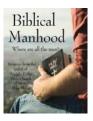


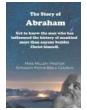
# The Ten Commandments

Ten simple commandments but so much more! This study is far from the ordinary and will help you to understand things about the commandents that you never thought about before. These messages are rich with the Word of God and spiritual understanding.

Biblical Manhood

Our most popular downloaded set of sermons on "Sermon Audio". What makes a man? Where are all the men? What can destroy a man? These sermons are certain to bless your life and encourage you and the young men in your family to step up and "be the man" in this ungodly world system.

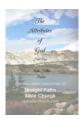




# The Story of Abraham

Fourteen messages on twelve seperate CDs in a convient album case that covers the life of Abraham (Genesis 12-Genesis 24). Precious insight into the life of the man that everyone knew as the "friend of God".

The Attributes of God Sixteen messages are gathered into two seperate albums in this wonderful study of the attributes and character of our blessed Creator, such as "God is Holy," "God is Patient," and "God is Omnipotent."





### Setting Things in Order

This set of sixteen messages is taken from the book of

Titus. Our God is a God of order which is clearly seen in all of his creation. There is nothing left to question in the way that he expects us to live in this present day, and God blesses those who seek to live according to his statutes.

There is no charge for these sermon collections. Any contribution for postage or processing will be appreciated but is not necessary. If you are interested in any of these sets, please contact me at

teresa3@vamex.com or phone me at 573-223-3308. Thank you and God's Blessings to you!

# You Said A Mouth Full

#### Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3

It is one of the first real accomplishments of our life: communication. Baby says, "Dah" and we all get excited because he is learning to talk. Soon baby is jabbering whole sentences worth of blabber, thinking he is talking like you and me and we think it is wonderful. It is not long, however, until you can make some sense out of what he is saying and then you begin to wonder where he gets so much to talk about. That is when we generally wonder why we were so quick to teach him how to talk in the first place.

The Bible says very much about what we say. In searching out scripture for this study I have found that the list is nearly endless. We need to realize that what we say makes much more of an impact on our lives and on the lives of others than we can even imagine. Do you know that we will be held accountable for every word that we say? Jesus says in Matthew 12:36-37: "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." According to Webster, "give account" means that we will have to explain to God why we said the things that we said, to explain and give reasons for our words. Wow! Think about that for a little while. Think about all the words that you say in just one day. If everyone knew all the words that you said just yesterday, how would you feel about that? Yet we are going to be accountable for the words that we say in a lifetime.

I am sure that the kind of words that we say will make a difference. You will notice that in the passage above it says, "every idle word". The definition for "idle" is useless, vain, of no importance, and unprofitable. We may call it "small talk" or "shooting the breeze". Just so many words without anything really said that is of any importance or benefit.

King David knew the importance of words when he wrote, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer." (Ps. 19:14) He knew that your tongue can get you into a lot of trouble, "Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue." (Ps. 52:4) Words are more powerful than we realize. With just a few words we can encourage someone to be strong and respectable, and with just a few words we can destroy the very heart and spirit of another.

There are many reasons why people talk so much. Some want to show others just how much they know. They read books and listen to documentaries and really do know a lot of things, which is not bad, but they want to tell everyone they meet about everything that they have learned. To them, all this wonderful information is interesting and they can go on for an hour or more without stopping. "Knowledge puffeth up." (1 Cor. 8:1b) "A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in

*till afterwards." (Prov. 29:11)* It is not bad to share information about something when it is needed, but the harm comes when you chatter on about things that do not apply to the moment just so you can show how much you know about things. If you keep it until it is needed, your knowledge about something can really come in handy and be a blessing instead of an aggravation. "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with <u>meekness</u> of wisdom." (James 3:13)

Some people like to talk a lot so that they can be noticed. "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking." Jesus was instructing his disciples not to be like the Pharisees who made long, loud prayers in front of everyone so that they would appear more spiritual. They were doing so to get attention and the praise of men. "The LORD will destroy the house of the proud:" (Prov. 15:25a)

There are those who must out-do everyone else in the crowd. Whatever has been done, they have done something better. Whoever someone mentions, they have met them and know them personally. They think that bragging and making themselves appear better than everyone else will make them more popular and admired, but normally it only makes others want to shun them. These sort of talkers have much worse problems, such as being talebearers (gossips) and liars.

The devil sets all sorts of traps along our way to entice us to think and talk about things that do not matter. The best trick he has is that these things are not bad things singularly but that your mind can be taken up with the world in such a way that you do not think on the things of God at all. For example, it is not bad for you to want your hair to be healthy and look nice but you can become so obsessed with hairstyles and treatments that you forget that your hair is suppose to honor God and be your covering. It can eventually become a source of flirtation and vanity, and it is all you can talk about. The same is true with anything that you would want to mention; clothes, music, boys, sports, computer games, movies, just to name a few.

The things that we talk about are a perfect reflection of what is in our heart. What do you like to talk about when you get with your friends? If it is not your habit to talk about the things of God and church is the farthest thing that you would want to discuss with your friends, it could mean that your heart has never been given to the Lord in the first place. When there is something that you really love, you talk about it freely and to everyone that you meet, right? Do you not think that if you loved the Lord Jesus the way that you should when you are His bride that you would want to talk about Him, that He would be a part of your conversation, that the things you said would at least not be offensive to Him? I am not saying that you should go around quoting scripture all the time or that you should never talk about anything but the Bible. But if you are ashamed to talk about the things of God for fear of what others will think of or say about you, then He will be ashamed of you before His Father. "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." (Mark 8:38)

If you try to just change a habit of talking too much and do not fix the problem at the source (a surrendered heart) then you will be no better than the Pharisees that we mentioned before. Jesus was pretty rough with them when He addressed that issue in Matthew 23:26-27, "Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." You can not make the outside clean if the inside is still full of worldly thoughts, ideas and desires. What is in your heart will eventually come out, no matter how you try to hide it. "for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." (Mat. 12:34b)

For the next few days, be aware of the things that you say and the subjects that you like to talk about. Just be yourself without purposefully changing anything that you would normally do and say, just so that you can take note of those things personally. If you have never done this before, the things you discover may surprise you. Look deep into your own heart and try to discern what your own motives are for saying and doing the things that you do. Too often we do not give enough thought to the state of our heart and mind. We get so caught up with the things that are going on every day that before we know what has happened we have let busyness pull us away from righteousness.

Talk less; listen more. A saying that I have adopted is, "Let your words we few and true." The more you say the easier it is for you to "put your foot in your mouth," or say something that you will wish that you had not said. Solomon put it this way, "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few." (Eccl. 5:2)

Below is a poem that was found in my mother-in-law's Bible after she went to be with the Lord. If we would but remember what are words can do it would help us eternally. May God bless you as you seek to honor Him.

Words
A careless word may kindle strife;
A cruel word may wreck a life;
A bitter word may hate instill;
A brutal word may smite and kill;
A gracious word may smooth the way;
A joyous word may light the day;
A timely word may lessen stress;
A loving word may heal and bless.
A bitter word may hate instill; A brutal word may smite and kill; A gracious word may smooth the way; A joyous word may light the day; A timely word may lessen stress;

## How To Stop Bickering In Your Home

#### EXAMINE YOURSELF FIRST

Example is the strongest influence. If you want to stop the discord in your home, the first one to have to change is you. "But if they would...I could!" The question is, if YOU do not, who will? It is not always easy to be patient. You have to practice.

#### HEAD 'EM OFF AT THE PASS

If you really want to reduce the bickering, start looking for what triggers problems between you and your siblings. If you see a problem arrising, think of ways of diverting the trouble and be the peace maker.

#### SPEAK WORDS OF LIFE

The Bible has plenty ot say about the destructive nature of the tongue. Talk less, but have something worthwhile to say when you do speak. Be careful not to use God's Word as a weapon against them, which will only make matters worse. Use Ephesians 4:29 as a guideline: "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

#### FOCUS ON THE FRUITS

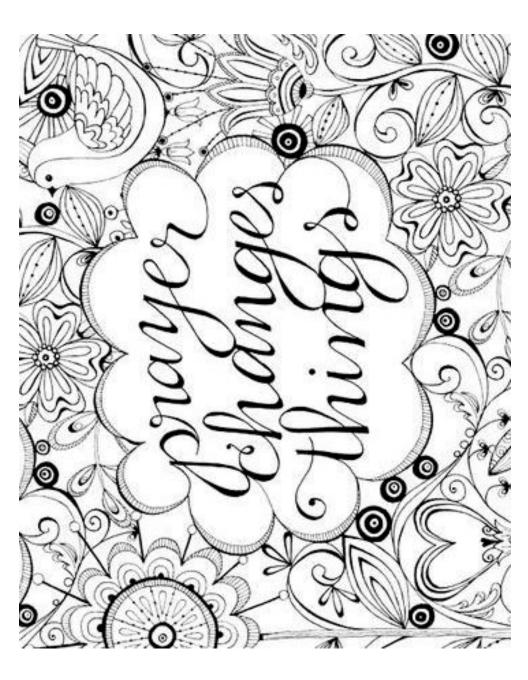
Bickering is not just an annoyance; it is a sign of selfishness in the heart. By recognizing this fault in ourselves, we will be aware of this attack of the devil to cause discord in our home and will therefore grow more in the Grace of our Lord Jesus. When others see a change in you, it will eventually make an impression on them.

#### **KEEP YOUR PERSPECTIVE**

There will come a time in your life when these precious people that you live with will be gone, either left behind when you (or they) marry or leave for some other reason. You WILL miss them, trust me. Imagine life without them and learn to appreciate these few days that you still have together. You will never regret it.

#### PRAY, PRAY, PRAY

Never forget that we are imperfect people living in an ungodly world. The battle to live holy lives is more intense every day that we live and will get harder as the Lord's return nears. Learn to listen for the voice of the Shepherd, talk to Him often and read his Word. The closer you are to Jesus, the more you will love your family.





# Crafts

#### Jewelry Display Frame

This really turned out nice for me. I made it as a display for our local Fall festival. I bought an large frame from a thrift store and painted it pink with gold highlights. My son had an extra piece of what I call rabbit cage wire (it has the smaller squares) that was coated in black plastic and I stapled that to the back. Hobby Lobby had some beautiful glass knobs that I attached to the sides and with a simple set of black cafe rod holders and a dowel rod painted black,

the result was beautiful! I did not put the screw hooks on the bottom as we were using an easle to display, but if you want to use it in your room, it makes more places to hang things.

makes more places to hang things.

#### **Repurposed Spice Bottles**

Do you know someone who drinks a lot of Frappuccinos? Here is a way to repurpose all of those bottles! Clean them out well and remove all stickers and glue. Purchase Etching Cream from a craft store and a stensil to label the bottles with the different spices you like to use. The larger opening makes it



easier to insert a measuring spoon. Makes a great gift!



checkered fabric, starting with an "x" and "+" design on the dark squares. The other threads are worked by looping under the "star" designs. Here is a closer look. You can stitch a lovely border on an apron or put an extra design on a pillow for your grandmother. Try it! It is fun and pretty!

# Chicken Scratch

It is a funny name, I know, but this type of embroidery goes way back! It is also known as "teneriffe lace" or "snowflaking." It is made on



Recipes

# Crescent Roll Apple Dumplings

- 2 (8 each) cans refrigerated crescent roll dough
- 2 sticks of butter
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon or to taste
- 1 can (12oz) 7 Up (or Mountain Dew)
- 2 large Granny Smith apples, peeled and cored
- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- 2. Wash the apples, peel and cut into eight equal slices.
- 3. Unwrap the crescent roll and separate the triangles.
- 4. Place a piece of apple on each triangle of dough (on a wider side) and roll it in a croissant.
- 5. Butter a 13 x 9-inch baking dish.
- 6. In a separate bowl, combine the butter, cinnamon, sugar and vanilla, mix until you get a liquid mixture without lumps and pour over the rolls.
- 7. Pour soda (7up or Mountain Dew) between rolls (but not over) and bake for 35-45 minutes, or until they become golden brown.
- 8. Serve immediately with a scoop of vanilla ice cream, mmmmm ... Ah-mazing !



# Garlic Knot Chicken Alfredo Ring

13.8 oz pizza dough, 2 packages 2 cups chicken, cooked and shredded 1 cup bacon, cooked and chopped 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese 1 cup grated parmesan cheese 3 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped ½ teaspoon pepper 1 teaspoon garlic powder 2 tablespoons olive oil 1 cup alfredo sauce, plus extra for serving

- 1. Preheat oven to 375°F (190°C).
- 2. Cut pizza dough into 2-inch (5 cm) pieces and roll into balls.
- 3. In a bowl, add pizza dough balls, chicken, bacon, mozzarella, Parmesan,
- parsley, pepper, garlic powder, olive oil, and alfredo sauce and mix to combine.
- 4. Scoop mixture evenly into a greased bundt pan, or a 9-inch (23 cm) cake pan.
- 5. Bake for 20 minutes, until top is golden and bubbling.
- 6. Use a spatula help the ring out of the pan, then invert onto a plate.

Place small bowl of alfredo sauce in the ring hole. Serve immediately. Enjoy!





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