

A Periodical for Christian Young Ladies

Jewels



For His Crown

January - March 201

What's Happening!



The Lord is blessing us with another new grandchild this year! Dakota and Esther Lahmann, our daughter and her husband, have informed us that we will be welcoming a new baby girl into our family sometime in June, Lord willing. This will be the first for this dear couple! We are looking forward to posting some sweet pictures in the near future!

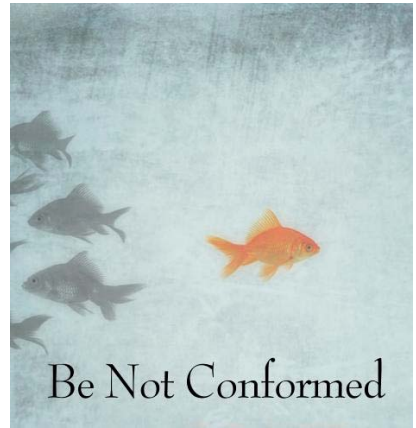
Straight Paths Bible Church 10th Anniversary!

It is hard to believe that ten years have went by so very fast! The Lord has been very gracious to us at Straight Paths. We have come from meeting in our member's homes to reviving an abandoned building in the Ozark woods to the great building that we meet in now that was given to us! The Lord has shown us over and over how he can care for those who will follow him with a pure heart. We seek to follow the word of God according to the King James Bible and Bro. Mike preaches some wonderful sermons that are not only enjoyed by us but by many that we have never met through Sermon Audio.com. Folks from all over the world are listening to the messages through downloads from this site! It is exciting to think what the Lord is doing with his word through this small ministry! Please pray for us as we continue to serve Jesus Christ as long as he has a ministry for us.



That ye may be
blameless
and
harmless,
the sons of God,
without rebuke,
in the midst
of a crooked
and perverse nation,
among whom ye shine
as lights in the world;
Philippians 2:15

I would sooner be holy
than happy if the two
things could be divorced.
Were it possible for a
man always to sorrow
and yet to be pure, I
would choose the sorrow
if I might win the purity,
for to be free from the
power of sin, to be made
to love holiness, is true
happiness.
C.H. Spurgeon



Be Not Conformed
Of late God has been
pleased to keep my soul
hungry almost continually,
so that I have been filled
with a kind of pleasing
pain. When I really enjoy
God, I feel my desires of
Him the more insatiable
and my thirstings after
holiness more
unquenchable.
David Brainerd



How Clean Do You
Want To Be?

Keep Thyself Pure!

Does the judge know the story of the spotless fur that lines his robes of State? Does the society leader realize the sacrifice which makes possible the lovely ermine wrap which lies so gracefully about her shoulders? Do they know that the little animal whose coat they now wear, as he roamed the forest of Asia was as proud as they—aye, inordinately proud of his beautiful snowy coat? And we do not wonder, for it is the most beautiful fur to be found in all the markets of the world!

Such pride does the little carnivore take in his spotless coat, that nothing is permitted to soil it in the slightest degree. Hunters are well acquainted with this fact and take very unsportsmanlike advantage of this knowledge. No traps are set for him. No, indeed! Instead, they seek out his home—a tree stump, or rocky cleft, and then—be it said to their everlasting shame, they daub filth within and around the entrance. As the dogs are loosed and the chase begins the little animal naturally turns to him one place of refuge. Reaching it, rather than enter



such a place of uncleaness, he turns to face the yelping dogs.

Better to be stained by blood than sully his white coat!

Only a white *coat*, little ermine, but how your act condemns *us*! “*Made in the image and likeness of God,*” with minds and immortal spirits; and yet, how often in order to obtain something we desire, our character is sacrificed on the altars of worldly pleasure, greed, selfishness! *Everything is lost when purity is gone—purity, which has been called the soul of character. Keep thyself pure: every thought, every word, every deed, even the motive behind the deed - all, ermine pure!*

*I ask this gift of thee—
A life all lily fair,
And fragrant as the garden be
Where seraphs are.*



Let Me Wash Your Feet

"He (Jesus) riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded."

John 13:5

I am a country girl from the Ozark hills of Missouri and like most little girls in the country, you could not keep my shoes on in good weather. About the first thing I would do in the Spring would be to run outside barefoot and wriggle my toes down into the smooth green grass that grew beside our house. I loved it! I could run like a little goat everywhere and never feel uncomfortable at all. By the end of the day when Mom would put me in the bathtub, my feet were so dirty that they would make the bath water brown before I even sat down. Mom would take my feet and, with much soap and a rough washcloth, would scrub them until they were clean again. The day's play had made her little girl dirty but with a little effort and a caring heart, she made me clean again for a good night's sleep that would prepare me for another day.

Jesus used many parables and illustrations in his teaching to help everyone remember the concepts of what he was trying help us understand. He used a little child to illustrate the simplicity of faith that we are to have in God; without fretting or worry, in total surrender. He used the beauty of a simple lily and a humble sparrow to give us confidence in the provision of our Father. He gave the parable of the sower to encourage preachers to not give up when most would not listen and come to the knowledge of the truth, showing him that there are a few who would get it! Everything he did and every word he said is to be considered for there is much more in it than we can see with our eyes.

So why did he wash the disciples' feet? Peter was wondering the same thing. *"Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?" John 13:6* Have you ever went shopping for a long day wearing sandals? Did you notice how dirty your feet became after walking around all day? Consider how much more dirty they would be if you were walking dirty pathways and streets in Jesus' day. When someone came into your house as a guest back then, it was customary that a servant have a basin of water handy to wash the guest's feet as they entered. This was not only refreshing but also more sanitary for the household. If you have ever been

in a third world country, you will understand this concept better. Their floors are mostly tile and it is a big job to keep them clean so shoes are mainly left by the front door. Walking on the streets, you pick up more filth than you can even imagine, so you do not want to track that in on the floors on which the children run and play.

Jesus tried to reassure Peter, *"Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter."* John 13:7 Peter must have felt pretty awkward to have the Lord Jesus wash his feet. He just could not bear to have Jesus serve him when he should be serving Jesus! It was just more than Peter could stand. *"Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me."* John 13:8 Whoa! Wait, Peter had no desire to be disassociated with the Lord! Of course, he wanted to have a part with Jesus, his beloved Master and Savior! *"Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head."* John 13:9 Poor Peter! He seemed to always go about things in the wrong way. (The life of Peter makes a great character study! I encourage you all to find a concordance of some kind and seek out and study the lives of the disciples.) But Jesus knew Peter as well as he knows us and patiently dealt with his anxious child. *"Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all."* John 13:10 The "not all" happened to be Judas Iscariot, by the way. So, why did Jesus want to wash the disciples' feet? What message was he trying to convey?

Would you agree that this is a dirty world that we live in? Every day I see it, hear it, sense it in everything that I do that makes me involved with this world. I have a Facebook account to be able to keep up with friends and family, but there are others on there that will put up posts that are not good or have bad language in them. I can hide them, even delete them, but tomorrow it will come from someone else. When I am shopping, I see immorality in the people I meet, in the magazines on the shelves in the checkout, I hear it from the people who are passing by me and even on the billboards that line the road sides! Brother Mike checks on the news during the day and there is more ungodly things going on in this world than ever before. There are ways of staying away from most of it, but we live in this poor sick world and we cannot escape walking through it every day. So, by the end of the day our spiritual feet are dirty! They have been soiled by the garbage of this world, its pervertedness and concepts, and we must be cleaned up. Jesus knew this, and that is what he was trying to teach his followers.

But why just their feet? Why not a full bath, like Peter was trying to get across in verse 9? When a person gives their life to Christ, he must be made clean from his sin. He must confess his sin to God and to those whom he has wronged and ask forgiveness. Only when a person is humbled in his heart enough to know what a wretched person he is can he have true repentance and come to Jesus for salvation. But when he does, Jesus cleanses him from sin, washing him clean! There is no need for him to do that again; once is enough. But because we walk in an unclean world among unclean people with unclean manners and philosophies, we must "wash our feet" daily. Now, I am speaking figuratively, just like Jesus did. How do we "wash our feet"? *"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word," Ephesians 5:26* It is through the word of God that we cleanse our hearts and minds. When we read or hear the word of God, it feeds our soul and purifies our mind. When you listen to a good sermon, does it not make you feel good inside and clean in your heart? When I study the Bible and read from it in the morning and evening, it gives my soul some much needed "food" and cleansing.

But Jesus did not hand them a basin of water and a towel so they could wash their own feet, he knelt down before them and washed their feet for them. We must come to Jesus to have our feet cleaned from the filth of this world. We cannot do it ourselves alone but he wants to do it for us. No one loves you more than Jesus does and his greatest desire is that you walk circumspectly in this perverse world, standing strong in a battle for your mind and heart, giving him your youth, your strength and your time. In return he gives us peace, joy, love, goodness, blessings, and all for the little that we do for him.

We live in this world and there is no getting around that. But just because we are in the world does not mean we are to be of the world, *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."* *1 John 2:15-16* There is much to think about from these two verses but I will cover some of that later. For now, it is enough to know that the Lord wants us to be different, to come out from among them, to not want to be like worldly people. And we can help each other daily to keep our feet clean!

Ask Granny!

Have you ever had questions that you wish you could ask someone but you just did not know who to ask?

Now is your opportunity!

Granny is a listener, a Godly counsel
that can help you in time of need.

She is not a gossip for she hates
and despises talebearing!

She loves you unconditionally and will do all she can to help
you understand God's Word and way.

She wants you to succeed in your life
according to the Bible.

She will pray for you and will write back to you.

(And if you wish to remain anonymous, Granny will address your
question in the next issue of Jewels, no names added.)

So grab a pencil and a piece of paper!

Write today!!

Send your letters to:

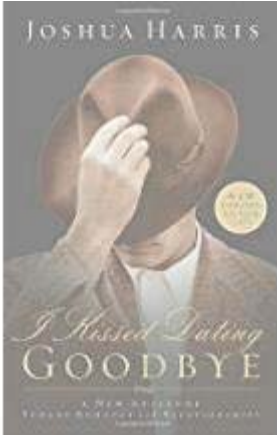
Ask Granny

RR1 Box 1436

Mill Spring, MO 63952

Book Review

In the next few issues we will promote a few of the books that we know would be good reads for you. A good book is like an old friend, especially when it gives you good advice and counsel.

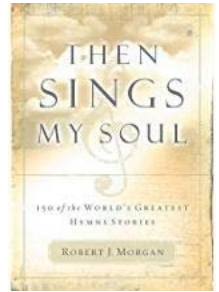


I Kissed Dating Goodbye - Joshua Harris: Tired of the Game? Kiss dating goodbye. Going out? Been dumped? Waiting for a call that doesn't come? Have you tasted pain in dating, drifted through one romance or, possibly, several of them? Ever wondered, "Isn't there a better way?" *I Kissed Dating Goodbye* shows what it means to entrust your love life to God. Joshua Harris shares his story of giving up dating and discovering that God has something even better--a life of sincere love, true purity, and purposeful singleness. (Note: This book is not a

blueprint to perfection. It is practical advice from a godly source. Make the Bible your final authority as you read and consider any book.)

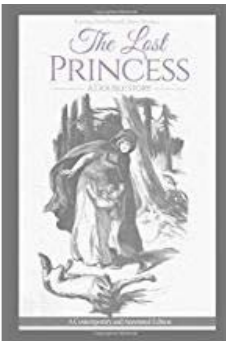
Then Sings My Soul - Robert Morgan

If you are looking for a book that will give you a blessing, this one certainly will. The book features 150 hymn stories. These devotional-style stories show the emotion and drama behind the hymns of faith that have changed many lives throughout history. These stories speak to your soul and add depth and meaning as you worship God through song.



The Lost Princess or The Wise Woman - George MacDonald

This is an extraordinary book! It is full of wise counsel. Two little girls, so alike, brought up in very different circumstances and with very different outcomes. But do not let the title deceive you--this elegant fable is not for girls and women only. It captivates boys and men as well. Another good "aloud" read for the family discussion time.



Crafts



Spring-Time Welcome Sign - Flowers are always welcome in the spring, and a good way to freshen up the front doorway is a new Welcome sign with flowers! Just start with a scrap piece of board, 1"x 6" (or 8") and paint it a thin layer of white. With sandpaper, rough up the paint a little all over and especially on the edges. Paint "Welcome" off to one side and attach a pint jar with a hose clamp to the other side. Two screw eyes will hold a chain

at the top. The flowers can be real from your garden or you can purchase silk ones in about any store. If you use silk ones, you can also add some paint to the inside of the jar as well to hide the stems.

Pine Cone Flower Picture Frames - Do you have any pine cones left from your Christmas crafts? Here is something fun and pretty to do with them. Paint them in pretty spring time colors, adding a little spot of yellow in the center of each end. Find an old frame; either paint it a neutral color (gray or tan are good) or leave it natural. Insert black cardboard or poster board in the frame. Cut the colorful pine cones in half, giving you two flowers from each. Now, hot glue them randomly inside the frame. These can be hung individually or in a group with other pictures. They are really pretty!



Paper Butterflies - This is a fun and easy craft to do with smaller children. Choose bright colored standard weight paper and chenille wires. Simply cut out diamond shapes the size you want your butterfly. (The triangle in the picture is folded in half.) Fold them "accordion" style, two

for each butterfly. Fold the wire in half and position the fold in the bottom center of the "wings"; twist them three or four times at the top. Now, curl the ends of the wires to make the antennas! You can glue a little magnet on the back to put them on the refrigerator. You can also use old calendar pictures for the wings, which makes them very pretty.



Recipes

Easy Apple Dump Cake

- 1 box Yellow Cake Mix
- 2 cans Apple Pie Filling
- 1 1/2 sticks Butter
- 1/2 cup Brown Sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon Cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9"x13" baking dish with baking spray.

Dump both cans of pie filling in the dish. Evenly sprinkle dry cake mix over pie filling; sprinkle with brown sugar and



cinnamon. Cut butter in tabs and evenly space them on top of sugar. Bake for about 40 minutes. Serve warm with ice cream.

Roast Beef and Swiss Cheese Sliders

Sandwiches:

- 12 Hawaiian Rolls
- 12 slices of deli roast beef
- 12 slices of Swiss Cheese

Sauce:

- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 1 tsp. onion powder
- 1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 Tbsp. poppy seeds

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. Cut each roll in half.
3. Fold a slice of roast beef in half to fit on each roll and top with a slice of cheese. Return the top bun to the sandwich. Repeat with all the remaining sliders.
4. Place the sandwiches in a 9x9 square baking pan. Whisk the mustard, butter, onion powder and Worcestershire sauce. Drizzle the sauce over the tops of the buns. Sprinkle with poppy seeds.
5. Cover your pan loosely with tin foil and bake for 10-12 minutes. Remove the tin foil after 8 minutes.
6. Serve immediately.



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PDF downloadable version at:
www.spbiblechurch.com

