

July/*A*ugust 2008

Thirty-third Issue



I said a prayer for you today, I know God must have heard, I felt the answer in my heart Although He spoke no word. I did not ask for wealth or fame (I knew you would not mind), Tasked Him to send treasures Of a far more lasting kind. I asked that He be near you At the start of each new day, To grant you health and blessings And friends to share your way. I asked for happiness for you In all things great and small, But it was for His loving care I prayed for most of all! ~Author Unknown



Four Ways God Answers

Opensor

If the request is wrong, God says, *No*.

If the timing is wrong, God says, *Slow*.

If *you* are wrong, God says, *Grow*.

But if the request is right, The timing is right And you are right, God says, *Go*.



Bloom where God planted you and have this assurance, Though your name unknown may be, God planted you there and

He smells your fragrance, Bloom where you are planted For God's glory!

Funny Defi-Nitions



Avoidable: What a bullfighter tries to do. **Baloney:** Where some hemlines fall.

Counterfeiters: Workers who put together kitchen cabinets.

Eclipse: What an English barber does for a living.

Heroes: What a guy in a boat does.

Paradox: Two physicians.

Pharmacist: A helper on the farm.
Polarize: What penguins see with.
Relief: What trees do in the spring.

Seamstress: Describes 250 pounds in a size

twelve.

Selfish: What the owner of a seafood store



Mom's Page



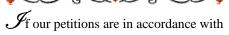
I met God in the morning When the day was at its best, And His presence came like glory Of the sunrise in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered, All day long He stayed with me, And we sailed in perfect calmness O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed.
But the winds that seemed to drive them,
Brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings, With a keen remorse of mind. When I too, had loosed the moorings With the Presence lift behind.

And I think I know the secret, Learned from many a troubled way; You must seek God in the morning If you want Him through the day. ~Ralph Cushman



His will, and if we seek His glory in the asking, the answers will come in ways that will astonish us and fill our hearts with songs of thanksgiving.

~J.K. Maclean



Please pray for us as we strive to help people everywhere. We are currently looking for a place to meet besides our homes. There are a few possibilities of which we are seeking God's guidance. In the meantime, the web site has been a wonderful outreach tool. We thank each of you for your prayers and support. God's Blessings!

www.straightpathsbiblechurch.com
P.S. Please visit us if you can and

Sign our guestbook!

Mommy, Please Don't Yell!

There are many things that can cause us to raise our voices to our children. When my older children were little, I had a very bad habit of yelling at them. I found that it did not work in keeping peace in my home or with the children's discipline, either. Below are facts of what damage yelling can do and suggestions on how to break the old habit of yelling. May God bless your efforts.

- Remember that children follow your example. If you do not want them to yell, you can not either.
- 2. Yelling causes children to be scared or more excited and they behave worse. Children with anger issues are usually children who get yelled at.
- 3. If at all possible, stop and take a few deep breathes before correcting your child. Talk to them in the same tone of voice you would someone else's child.
- 4. Realize that you have a problem! Accept that the problem is yours, not theirs. With this in mind, go to Jesus with your problem, asking His forgiveness and help. Sincerity and genuine repentance can make all the difference.
- Above all, show your children you love them. When things are going well, tell them how proud you are of them. Show them how to be patient and Kind.

For some really good reading on this subject, go to

www.nogreaterjoy.org,

Type in "parent/child relationships" in the search, scroll down to the article on "Bad Attitude" and click. It is a real eye opener! I sincerely pray that it is a blessing and a help to you.



Sweet Hour of Prayer William B. Bradbury

The churchgoing people of to-day are generally familiar with the name Wm. B. Bradbury. Many have cherished that name from childhood. Most of us began our musical experiences by singing his songs, and as early experiences are the most lasting, we will carry these melodies, with their happy associations, through life.

William Batchelder Bradbury was born at York, York County, Maine, October 6, 1816. He loved music, and would spend his spare hours in studying and practicing such music as he could find. In 1830 his parents removed to Boston, where he saw and heard for the first time a piano and organ, as well as various other instruments. The effect was to lead him to devote his life to the service of music.

At the age of twenty he was still singing in Dr. Mason's choir, when one evening at recess, the Doctor laid his hand on his shoulder, and "William. have application for a teacher Machias, Maine, to teach three singing schools, private pupils, and I believe you are just the man for the place." He was overjoyed and delighted. He sent his terms, which were accepted, and achieved success.

After a year's work here the important era in his career began. He took charge of the choir and organ of the Baptist Tabernacle,

Sweet Hour Of Prayer

Wm. B. Benfusy

1. Sweet hour of prayer Isweethour of prayer That calls me from a world of care,
2. Sweet hour of prayer Isweethour of prayer Thy wings shall my
3. Sweet hour of prayer Isweethour of prayer.

And often case Isweethour of prayer Isweethour of pr

New York City, and in addition started a singing class for the young. The choir made quite an impression on the city. They were given the name, "Juvenile Musical Festivals", with a choir of around six hundred voices. In 1841, he began putting together a book of songs that he would write for the children's choir that was called, "The Young Choir". Being an inexperienced writer, he got Dr. Hastings to correct his music. The book was a success, and others followed.

Bradbury studied in England and Germany for a while. After his return to New York in 1849, he devoted his entire time to teaching, conducting conventions, composing, and editing music books. In 1854, in connection with his brother, E. G. Bradbury, he commenced the manufacture of the Bradbury pianos, which at one time were quite popular.

Professor Bradbury was an excellent conductor and teacher. He was always kind, patient, and full of sympathy for others. Mr. Bradbury died at his residence, Montclair, NJ, January 8, 1868, leaving a widow, four daughters and a son. He will always occupy a prominent place in American musical history.

Did You Think To Pray?

For the past couple of years I have sincerely sought to know about prayer. Almost a year ago now, I was asked to speak about prayer at a ladies meeting. The greatest blessing that I received from my study was to realize how very much I *did not* know about it. I say "blessing" because it has given me a hunger to know more. I do not say that I know all about it even now but I would like to share some things that the Lord has been showing me lately that may be of help to you.

George Muller, the man who built massive orphanages and fed hundreds of orphans in Bristol through prayer alone, wrote the following on his experience in prayer:

"It has pleased the Lord to teach me a truth, the benefit of which I have not lost for more than fourteen years. The point is this: I saw more clearly than ever that the first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was to have my soul happy in the Lord.

The first thing to be concerned about was not how much I might serve the Lord; but how I might get my soul in a happy state, and how my inner man might be nourished. For I might seek to set the truth before the unconverted, I might seek to benefit believers, I might seek to relieve the distressed, I might in other ways seek to behave myself as it becomes a child of God in this world; and yet, not being happy in the Lord and not being strengthened in my inner man day by day, all this might not be attended to in the right spirit. Before this time my practice had been, at least for ten years previously, as an habitual thing to give myself to prayer after having dressed myself in the morning. Now I saw that the most important thing I had to do was to give myself to the reading of the Word of God, and to meditate on it, that thus my heart might be comforted, encouraged, warmed, reproved, instructed; and that thus, by means of the Word of God, whilst meditating on it, my heart might be brought into experimental communion with the Lord.

I began therefore to meditate on the New Testament from the beginning, early in the morning. The first thing I did, after having asked in a few words the Lord's blessing upon His precious Word, was to begin to meditate on the Word of God, searching as it were every verse to get a blessing out of it, not for the sake of the public ministry of the Word, not for the sake of preaching upon what I had meditated upon, but *for obtaining food for my own soul.*

The result I have found to be almost invariably this, that after a few minutes my soul has been led to confession, or to thanksgiving, or to intercession, or to supplication; so that, though I did not as it were give myself to prayer, but to meditation, yet it turned almost immediately more or less into prayer. When thus I have been for a while making confession or intercession or supplication, or have given thanks, I go on to the next words or verse, turning all as I go on into prayer for myself or others as the Word may lead to it, but still continually keeping before me that food for my own soul is the object of my meditation.

Formerly I often spent a quarter of an hour, or half an hour, or even an hour on my knees, before being conscious of having derived comfort, encouragement, humbling of soul, etceteras. And often, after having suffered much from wandering of mind for the first ten minutes, or a quarter of an hour, or even half an hour, I only then began to really pray. I scarcely ever suffer now in this way. For my heart being nourished by the truth, being brought into experimental fellowship with God, I speak to my Father and to my Friend (vile though I am and unworthy) about the things that He has brought before me in His precious Word. It often now astonishes me that I did not sooner see this point."

Prayer is not just a listing of requests that we make to God but the sweet conversation and communion that we have with our Heavenly Father. We talk to God through prayer and God has given us His Word and His Spirit through which He speaks to us.

A one-way conversation can get boring, to the listener as well as to the speaker. Conversation is a two-way street. It is not easy to have a conversation with someone that you never hear a word out of, is it? That is why it is so easy for your mind to wander when you begin to pray. I used to be very concerned about my devotion time because it did not seem that I was getting anything from it or being very pleasing to God, either. I had been told all my life that you should read and pray every day, and before I was truly saved I would try this with very poor

results. So naturally, after salvation I thought that now I would be able to spend abundant time in prayer and reading with blessings untold. My heart was very distressed when I still had trouble focusing while in prayer. I tried to make a set time every morning to kneel beside my bed and pray, but my mind would wander and most of my time would be spent thinking on the troubles of others or wondering what to do about a situation. But I would notice that when we would have devotions at night, I would get a blessing out of the reading, discussion, and prayer afterwards like I could not in personal prayer time. The answer finally became clear to me that I was not walking with God but was setting a time of meeting with Him and expected Him to bless me for the effort I put forth. The strict regimen that I was putting myself through was making my prayer time a bondage instead of a blessing.

Like everything lately, I compared it to my married life. What if I were to treat Bro. Mike that way; just set up a time that I can talk with him to tell him how much I love him, thank him for what he is to me, and bring him my requests? Although I may be sincere in wanting to speak with him and really do love him, the routine of doing something just because it is the thing to do at this time of day can become dry and more of a religious exercise than anything else. That is not the way that I treat my dear husband. I seek him out at every opportunity. I share with him my thoughts and joys as well as my concerns. We discuss things that are happening in our lives and share ideas. I "walk" with him. I seek to do things that will bring him comfort and pleasure, but most of all I am with him. I have plenty of things that I could be doing but when he is home I have no greater priority than to be with him. He has no doubt that I love him and we have a wonderful life together.

The secret to blessed fellowship with God is communion. Jesus is your friend (Jn. 15:15), your helper (Ps. 63:7), your confidant (Ps. 32:7), your councilor (Ps. 73:24) and so much more. There is so much that you can enjoy in simple fellowship with the Lord! The truth is that He wants to fellowship with you much more than your desire to fellowship with Him. "O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him." (Ps. 34:8)

Bible study and prayer do not have to be separate times. Reading your Bible a verse or phrase at a time, thinking and meditating on each thought as you read it and talking with the Lord about it, can help you to understand more about the Bible and the Lord than you have ever known before.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious." (1Pet. 2:2-3)

Just as babies need milk to help them grow physically, we need God's Word and prayer to help us grow spiritually. Someone who is weak can not fight battles that come against him and neither can we fight the temptations of this life without growing stronger day by day. Strength comes to our souls just as it comes to our physical bodies, with the food that we provide for it each day. If you fail to eat for a few days you get weak and irritable, and that is exactly what happens to you spiritually when you do not feed your soul each day.

The devil and this world system works on your mind and that is where sin begins. Be very careful what you put in your mind with the things that you read and see, that you listen to, or that others tell you. It is the devil's favorite battleground. How can you "gird up the loins of your mind" when you have not strengthened your soul and fed your heart and mind on the things of God? The Christian life is a daily battle that is not easily fought. The blessed truth that we rely on is that Jesus will be with us in those battles if we feed our hearts on His Word and ask Him for daily strength. It is like doing daily exercise to keep your body fit. If you miss a few days you begin to lose ground, right?

Jesus loves you and is waiting to hear from you.

Oh, how praying rests the weary, Prayer will change the night to day. So when life gets dark and dreary, Don't forget to pray!

God-Honored Women of the Bible







Life was not very simple for this little mother in her day. Israel was in bondage in the country where they had originally come for refuge from a terrible drought years ago when Joseph was in charge. But now Joseph was long dead and the new Pharaoh of Egypt was a hard task master. He worked the people hard, driving them to build his empire cities. But he began to fear the Jewish people. They were having so many children that he was afraid that they would soon have an army bigger than his that would overpower them.

So he came up with a plan. He called the two women who helped the Hebrew mothers when they had their babies and told them that when the babies were born, if it were a boy, to kill him. But the good little midwives would not do such a wicked thing and there continued to be many little Jewish boys born in the Hebrew town. So the next best thing was to order all Hebrew boy babies to be thrown into the Nile River.

One day a baby boy was born to a couple of the tribe of Levi. His mother knew the edict but as any good mother, she could not bear to think of killing the blessing that God had given to her and her husband. So she devised a plan to save the child's life. She knew how to weave a good basket that would float, lining it with pitch (which is a kind of pine resin that can seal ships) so that it would not take on water. Then she took him down to a place in the river where there were a lot of flags, which were very similar to cattails. To make sure he was safe, she had her older daughter to watch the baby from a distance so that nothing would happen to him. Then one day, Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river to bathe and saw the little ark. When her servants fetched it for her and she opened it, a dear little baby began to cry and touched her heart. His sister, watching all the while from a distance, ran to her then and asked if the lady would like for her to find a nurse for the baby and brought his own mother for the job. She was able then to care for her baby is safety and even got paid for doing it.

The most remarkable thing to me is knowing that this dear lady (of which the Bible does not even mention her name) only had her little son for about the first two years of his life. But that was enough time for her to instill into his little heart a love for God and God's people, Israel. Moses, which is the name that Pharaoh's daughter gave him, spent the rest of his young life in the palace of Egypt where they worshiped bugs and other false gods. So how was he not influenced to follow their ways? The only clue we have is that his mother had him for those few years and trusted God to help him from there.

Girls, remember if you have little ones that what they learn before they are even two years old affects them for the rest of their lives. The responsibility is yours.

Crafts

Altered Antique Book

1 old hardback book
1 strip of heavy cardboard, width and length of book
Spray Adhesive and craft glue
Gold spray paint, one or two shades
Greeting card or other image
Ribbon for marker and other embellishments
Verse, poem, wedding invitation, etc.
Purchased book stand or:

12" piece baseboard trim (smaller for smaller books)
2-5" pieces small dowel rod
Small amount of varnish



- Open your book to as close to the center as you can and place it face down on a hard surface and weight it down with something heavy. Leave overnight.
- Cut cardboard to fit into the binding of the book to hold it open and straight. Slip this into the binding hole at the back of the book.
- 3. Cover an area with newspapers to work on. Using the spray adhesive and working with one side of book at a time, flip the pages slowly while spraying into them. Check occasionally to make sure you are getting them all. As you glue, shape the book to have a beveled/curved look, curling the pages at the corners for a prettier affect.
- 4. When the glue is dry, spray with gold paint. I used two different shades of gold, one more green and the other bright, for a more aged look. Allow this to dry.
- 5. Carefully spread craft glue on the back of the pictures you want to use and place them on the open pages of the book. You may trim them with ribbon, cord, lace or leave them plain. There is even a way to cut a few pages and make a frame for a picture. This is described on the following site: http://www.craftbits.com/viewProject.do?projectID=904.
 - Insert a ribbon as a marker, gluing it deep into the binding and letting it drape loosely down the front. If using a purchased stand, you are done. If not:
 - 7. Have someone make a routered groove 1" from the top of trim, about ¼" deep. The dowels are positioned in drilled holes 1" from the bottom of trim, spacing them at the 3 ½" and 8 ½" marks on your ruler. After gluing them in place, varnish your stand and let dry. The book will rest in the groove and lean back on the dowels.



CD Box Photo Frames

Empty CD cases Scissors and glue Trims of choice

(note: Be careful not to use cases that belong to someone else. Please ask before using them.)

Empty out all papers from the case. Cut your photo to 4 3/4" high and 4" wide. Fix the photo against the

plastic with a few small pieces of sticky-tape. Find a nice piece of cardboard, gift wrap or fun foam which will complement your design and cut this to fit snugly behind the photo and to the edges of the frame (4 ¾ inches wide, 5 ¼ inches high). Fix with glue or sticky-tape with the pattern, if any, facing into the box. When your frame is finished you will open the box out to stand it up, so this backing protects your photo. Now all you need to do is draw a line of glue on the outside edges of the front of the CD box and start decorating! Use whatever you have on hand; ribbon, stickers, buttons, glass rocks, beads, anything! Your decorations can be to the theme of the picture, too. You may want to glue a small piece of ribbon inside the case to hold the frame at a certain place so it won't fall all the way open. Just glue one end to the inside front and the other end to the inside back.

Cooking Counter

HONEY-ROASTED CHEX MIX

3 c. Chex cereal
2 c. Cheerios cereal
1 ½ c. Bugles original corn snacks
1/2 cup honey-roasted peanuts or 1 cup pretzels
2 tablespoons light corn syrup
2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon butter or margarine
1/2 teaspoon vanilla



Preparation Directions:

- 1. Heat oven to 325°F. In very large bowl, mix cereals, snacks and peanuts.
- 2. In 1-quart saucepan, heat corn syrup, honey and butter to boiling over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; stir in vanilla. Pour over cereal mixture, stirring until evenly coated. Spread in ungreased 15x10x1-inch pan.*
- 3. Bake 20 minutes, stirring after 10 minutes. Spread on waxed paper or foil to cool, about 15 minutes. Break into bite-size pieces. Store in airtight container.
- *A 13x9-inch pan can be used instead. Bake 24 minutes, stirring after 12 minutes.



LAYERED MEXICAN DIP

1 can refried beans
1 container sour cream
1 lb ground beef
1 packet taco seasoning
1 pouch shredded taco cheese
1 container salsa

Brown beef and add taco seasoning. One thin layer at a time, alternate between the ingredients in an ovenproof round casserole, preferably clear glass. The last layer should be cheese.

Cover loosely and bake at 350* for 35 minutes, uncover and bake 10-15 more minutes or until bubbly and golden brown on top!

Serve with white corn chips.

SUMMER SALAD

2 medium cucumbers
2-3 medium tomatoes
1 each yellow, red and green bell peppers
1 small onion (optional)
2 cups zesty Italian salad dressing
Peel and thinly slice cucumbers, dice remaining ingredients. Combine all ingredients with salad dressing. Chill and serve.





FROZEN STRAWBERRY LEMONADE

2 cups frozen strawberries - ½ cup crushed ice
½ cup lemon juice - 2 tablespoons sugar
¾ cup water - Optional: sprinkle of ginger
Whiz it all in a blender, adding a little more water if it looks like it needs it.

Serve immediately!



The Miller Sirls RR 1 Box 1436 Mill Spring, MO 63952