



Times Remembered Betty A. Young
BYoung505@Windstream.Net

I've been lazy since Thanksgiving; I guess I ate too much turkey. We had Thanksgiving leftovers that night and for lunch on Friday. I gave Tara enough for lunch the next day but by Saturday I was finished with the Thanksgiving food; I was sick of turkey; all the

Happy Thanksgiving!

leftovers were poured out on Saturday morning and I was ready for a steak or some different.

By Saturday I decided I wanted to go shopping; I wasn't brave enough to go shopping on Black Friday. There are just too many people and too much confusion. I don't like getting pushed and shoved.

A friend of mine at church was talking about some women scuffling over boots at Belk's in Richmond; one lady turned the table of boots over just trying to get a pair that was on sale.

They said on TV in some stores people got hurt and others got into fights over items. That is absurd! I'd rather pay more for an item that go through all that turmoil.

I'm ready to decorate

for Christmas; I've taken down all the orange ribbons, pumpkins, fodder and fall leaves from the porch and the yard. I've put away my fall arrangements and fall décor that I had on the tables.

Today I'm officially starting my Christmas decorating; Bob's not too happy about decorating for Christmas, but he will just have to get over it.

After all, he's the main character. I told him he could be my "roady;" he wasn't too excited.

We went to the barn to check out all the boxes of Christmas items stored in the loft and he brought those down to the porch for me. Next, we have to get in the attic to get those decorations which is always a fun experience.

Decorating for Christmas always is stressful; it's a good time to get into an argument with your spouse; we never can agree on what we are going to do next. Bob likes to work alone and not even talk when he works; on the other hand I like to talk while I work and suggest what we do next and ask lots of questions. If I suggest we do another task while we are working one task, it blows his mind. He's not a multitasker; I suppose that's why God made women. We have to be quadruple-tasked and more lots of times.

I like to work until we get finished, but Bob likes to take lots of breaks; especially smoke breaks that I hate. I told him he worked for the government too long; wanting breaks all the time. Most of the time I didn't even take breaks when I worked; I always had so much to do in my EEO Office.

Decorating for Christmas is hard work and demanding but the month of December is full of treats. It's the season when family and friends have get-togethers such as: Christmas plays and parades, Christmas parties and dinners, cookie exchanges,

choral cantatas, and much more.

I put evergreen wreaths with red ribbons on the windows and doors, and on the porch posts. Next, I put lights on the porch railing and gates, and then I decorate the antique diner bell with lights, greenery and ribbons. I also decorate the area where we turn into our drive with reindeer and greenery.

I wrap gifts when the weather outside is cold and snowing. I like to sit around the fire and wrap while enjoying a cup of Chamomile tea.

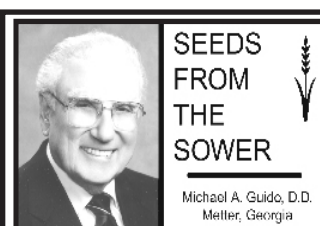
Now is the time when those hours I spent in the kitchen last summer seem very worthwhile. A jar of dill pickles, blackberry jam or peach preserves becomes a delightful gift to give to friends.

Decorating the Christmas tree and filling the house with evergreens is surely one of the season's special delights. I like to go out to my Mom and Dad's farm and collect evergreens, pinecones, holly and magnolia leaves to place on mantels and tables.

The tree will soon be laden with ornaments collected through the years, each with its own story to tell. I like lots of different lights to illuminate the tree. When we are finished decorating, it seems to just create a magic that we are never too old to enjoy.

Then we enjoy candlelight church service on Christmas Eve, where Christmas music and singing voices rise up in an Old World sound. Later in the evening maybe we might have a lovely snowfall.

We will return home from church with the strains of Christmas music still in our head, we open the front door, where a gust of cold air blows in, but inside the glow of the fire, the twinkling tree, and a variety of baked goodies awaits us. But we pause to breathe deeply and count our blessings and remember the reason for the season.



SEEDS FROM THE SOWER
Michael A. Guido, D.D. Miller, Georgia

Some folk were called "Quakers" because they quaked at the presence of sin and the preaching of the Scriptures. David must have wished for a congregation of "quakers." He said in Psalm 4:4, "Stand in awe, and sin not." It means, "Tremble and sin not." But many have reversed the verse. They say, "Sin and tremble not." Perhaps the greatest mistake in the world today is that men and women have lost their fear of sin. If you want to play with something

dangerous reach into the heavens and play with forked lightning, or reach into the fireplace and play with fire, or reach into the forest and play with a rattlesnake, but don't play with sin.

Two boys poked a piece of copper wire around a live rail on the subway tracks. There was a bright flash and a loud cry as ten thousand volts of electricity passed through their bodies. Was that dangerous? Yes, but not as dangerous as playing with sin. So pay attention to Psalm 4:4, "Tremble, and sin not!" And remember, where sin is mighty, the Savior is almighty.

T493 - Dec. 4, 2013
Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org

Thanksgiving, "A Way of Life"

by BOB CASEY, Preacher
Church of Christ 262 Broadway, Irvine

We have just completed another week of National Thanksgiving according to the congressional law. Most know that Abraham Lincoln presented this reference to the nation many years ago, which was later signed into law by President Roosevelt. So all ought to pause and reflect upon just how blest we have been the past year. But I was just thinking: why should not Thanksgiving be a way and manner of life? We have so much to be thankful for, considering all things. What about our personal health? We may take this for granted until it may begin to fail. What about the freedoms we enjoy as a nation? These were not gained without extreme sacrifices by the lives of so many. We should always be thankful for one freedom. Then there is the physical, material things we have access to, housing, good food, clothing that seems to always be in super abundance. We should never take these for granted because a great many nations and people do not have even the barest necessities that we thank little about. This much I do know, that perhaps there is a reason for the hunger that does exist. Did you ever think that the reason is: that the people do not enjoy the provision that God promises to His followers?

A great deal of the time when households, or nations, are suffering, it is because they have left God and Christ out of the equation. Our Lord plainly says in **Matthew 6:33**, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." This he said because they were so involved with earthly things, they were worried to death about the acquisition of food, clothing, shelter. He said: "Don't worry, because the Gentiles live this way." Don't be like this. Nearly every distressed nation is following a religion of man. No wonder they are struggling. Again many are struggling here because they are not trusting in the Lord in any way. This will be a lifelong battle, unless they repent and obey the gospel. Now you know that in the Old Testament, sacrifices and thanksgiving are many times linked together. It takes time, forethought, and efforts on our part to become a person with a thankful heart. Again in **II Corinthians 9:8-15**, Paul tells us that when we are thankful for everything and even reach out to others without blessings, he not only will continue to bless us, but will consistently supply us with the ability to do so. Also in clothing. I ask: "How can we show our Lord we are thankful? Simply by living a life of sacrifice in our devotion unto him. I begin by giving him our hearts, our bodies, our abilities. This is done by surrendering one's self unto His will. **Matthew 7:21**, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my father which is in Heaven." Are you thankful unto God? Then give Him yourself in sacrificial surrender. This will be the best move you will ever make.

Sincerely, Bob Casey, Waco 1-859-369-4165

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of A Group of People by Marc Chagall, 1914

...from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 TIMOTHY 3:15

© 2013 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Matthew in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who was Herod's information source as to where the Christ Child was to be born? Joseph, Reuben, Micah, Matthew
3. From Luke 2:13, what term describes an army of angels praising God? Heavenly host,

Covenant, Spirit multitude, Manoah

4. What group received the angels' announcement of the birth of Jesus? Carpenters, Shepherds, Tentmakers, Masons
5. Where was the young child when the Magi came to visit Him to present gifts? Manger, Under the stars, House, Temple
6. From Matthew 2, to what country did Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus flee? Jordan, Syria, Oman, Egypt

Bible Trivia answers are at the bottom of Page 12

True Vine Ministries
102 River Drive, Irvine
Sunday Services
10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Terry Barnes, Pastor
Everyone Is Welcome!

The Old Crow's Nest
99 River Drive, Irvine
Stop By And See Us for Variety and Great Prices

- Several Booths
- Full Service Florist
- Large Selection
- Antiques & More

Find us on Facebook
Open Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(606) 726-0321 or (606) 726-9892

Card of Thanks

The family of Lillian Alcorn would like to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, the food, flowers, and other acts of kindness shown to us during her death.

We also want to thank Lewis Funeral Home.

A special thanks is extended to South Irvine Christian Church for the bereavement dinner.

Shop Here! Where Santa Shops!

IRVINE 606-726-9512

FLEA MARKET

1197 Winchester Road Irvine, Kentucky
Several Booths to Choose From
Primitives And Much More!
Stop by and look around!
Antiques, Glassware & Much More
We • Buy • Sell • Trade
Always Looking for Good Furniture
Irvine Flea Market
1197 Winchester Road Irvine, KY
Call 726-9512 Ask for Tammy

TAX & ACCOUNTING SEMINAR FOR MINISTERS, CHURCHES & CLERGY

Tax laws have become increasingly complex, making it hard for the average taxpayer to understand them. When it comes to ministerial laws, another layer of complexity is added as there are many special rules that apply to ministers and churches. Our seminar is designed to help educate people involved with the financial aspects of a church or congregation and give them tools to navigate these complex rules and regulations.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2013
10AM—3PM

LOCATION: **EASTERN KENTUCKY ACCOUNTING & TAX**
1228 RICHMOND RD (WEST IRVINE PLAZA) IRVINE, KY 40336

Cost: \$50.00 (discounts available for additional persons attending from same congregation) includes LUNCH
Register and pay by December 4, 2013 and receive a 10% discount.

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION
CALL:606-723-3528 OR EMAIL: ekat1@irvineonline.net