



by Dawn Reed
Eastern Ky. Columnist

Walking through the wrapping paper aisle in Hobby Lobby, tears filled my eyes. Surrounded by the sights and smells of Christmas, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the loss of my mom-friend of friends, my best cheerleader. While it has only been 10 months, it seems like forever!

My brothers, sisters, and I find comfort in the assurance that she is with Jesus. At the appointed time, we know we will see her again. Meanwhile, she is enjoying her first Christmas in heaven-BEST ONE EVER. We ponder what she is experiencing.

Most of us talked to her often, some every day. The ab-

Hearing God's Voice

sence of that precious voice, those encouraging words, texts, and emails is sorely felt. I would love to be able to call her now! I l-o-n-g to hear her sweet voice!

How desperate the people of God must have felt centuries ago! According to many sources, there was a 400 year span between the Old and New Testaments. During those years (sometimes called the "400 Silent Years"), no one had heard the voice of God, no prophets were raised up, there were no visions, no dreams. Nothing. Nada. What a dark time that must have been!

The year 2020 seems like it has been one of those in-between-years. Yet, thankfully, we don't have to experience it with no word from God! He speaks through many ways today-if we are paying attention. Years ago, through his study Experiencing God, Henry Blackaby alerted me to the ways God speaks: through the Holy Spirit, through the Bible, through prayer, through the church, and through our circumstances.

If we haven't heard from God lately, we may need to make ourselves available to hear Him!

- There has never been a more important time for us to be immersed in His Word. It applies to every single day!

- Spending time in prayer is crucial. (FIND THE TIME!) We all need wisdom and direction!

- It's vital for us to be involved in a church-virtually, if personally is not a current option.

- And watch what He is doing in our circumstances. I really do want to hear God's voice, but sometimes I want to do all the talking. I NEED TO GIVE HIM TIME TO SPEAK AND LISTEN!

Since my mom went to heaven, I found an invaluable treasure. Somehow, some inexplicable way, an icon with a blue folder appeared on my phone. It held a video of her making cornbread. My brother was filming and could be heard coaxing information from her as she measured and stirred. Now I can hear her voice any time I want!

OBITUARIES

Continued from Page 6

Friday, November 27, 2020

Michael Bradley Walters, 50

Michael Bradley "Mike" Walters, age 50, Mount Carmel, Tennessee, died Friday, November 27, 2020.

He was born January 25, 1970 in Irvine, Kentucky. Mike was a member of Rejoice Worship Center in Castlewood, Virginia. His love for God was undeniable. He was a supporter of Breast Cancer Awareness, loved golfing, woodworking, handmade gifts, and sports.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Ann Walters; one son, Christopher Tyler Walters; one daughter, Brianna Colleen Walters Palmer; one grandson, Lyndon Mahoney; his mother and father, David A. and Louise Hunt Walters; two brothers, David Wayne Walters and Steven Walters; one sister, Debbie Smalley; three nieces; one nephew; and several great-nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life Ser-



Michael Walters

vice for Michael "Mike" Bradley Walters was conducted at 1:00 p.m., Friday, December 11, 2020, in Castlewood Funeral Home Chapel in Castlewood, Virginia with Brother Bobby Ramey officiating. The family received friends from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 11, 2020, at the funeral home.

<CastlewoodFuneralHome.com>

Friday, December 11, 2020

Jill Carroll White, 57

Jill Carroll White, age 57, of Eades Drive in Irvine, Kentucky, passed away Friday, December 11, 2020, at her home following a long illness.

She was born February 19, 1963 in Estill County and was the daughter of the late Howard and Lillian Estes Witt. She was a dog breeder and groomer and a member of the AKC. She was a member of the Christian Worship Center and had lived in Estill County all her life.

Mrs. White is survived by her husband, Ricky Allen White; two daughters: Deanna Carroll of Ohio,

and Kayla Albright (Justin) of Estill County; one sister, Norma Sparks, Madison County; one brother, Bill Marcum (Carolyn), Estill County; and her granddogs.

Visitation for the public will be held Monday, December 14, 2020, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Warren F. Toler Funeral Home. Private funeral services will be held by Bro. Jimmy Bonny with burial at the South Irvine Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Doug Dooley, Dustin Dooley, Wesley Harrison, Nick Edmonson, Tim Harrison and Greg Hardy.

<TolerFuneralHome.com>

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Cheryl "Kathy" Wilson, 53

Cheryl Kathleen "Kathy" Wilson, age 53, of Irvine, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at the University Of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington.

She was born in Irvine; May 2, 1967 to James and Myrtle Willis Neal. She was a homemaker and a member of the Holiness Church.

Kathy is survived by her mother, Myrtle Willis Neal; a son, Bryce Tyler Neal (Nicole); two grandchildren; a sister, Cynthia McDowell; two special nephews, Thomas McDowell and Joshua McDowell; and a special niece, Katelynn Puckett.

She was preceded in death by her father, James Neal; a son, James Michael Neal; and a brother, James Russell Neal.



Kathy Wilson

Funeral services were held at 12:00 Noon, Friday, December 11, 2020 at the Grayson Funeral Home Chapel in Irvine. Friends visited Friday from 10:00 a.m. until time of the service. Burial was in the Hardy Cemetery.

<GraysonFuneral.net>

Seeds of Hope



"Wow!" said an associate as a group of us left a restaurant after a dinner meeting. "That was a really good meal!"

"Good?" questioned another. "What do you mean good? That's one of the worst meals I've ever paid for. It was horrible!"

"Not so fast," said another. "Part of it was really bad and part was fairly good. At least, that's my opinion."

"Good" is in the eye of the beholder. You and I might experience the same event together - as the meal mentioned above - but have entirely different opinions about it. But when the author of Psalm 100 was ending his thoughts about God, he said, "For the Lord is good and His love en-

dures forever." He was convinced that "God was good." In fact, this entire Psalm is written as a Psalm that expresses his reasons to give thanks to God.

Years ago when the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christ they searched for a word in their language that they could all agree upon that expressed the character of the divine Being of the Bible.

They described stories of His faithfulness, His grace, His holiness, His mercy, His power, His love, His salvation and asked, "What one word will express all of these words?" After a discussion they all agreed: "The good!" And "good" is the old English word for "God."

When we look at the "big picture" of all that God has done for us, to us and in us, it is certainly appropriate for us to describe Him, as they did, as "The Good."

Sower Ministries.org
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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 89:1

I will sing of the **LORD's** great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

H	R	A	W	H	S	E	Q	D	I
R	G	Q	L	D	N	G	H	C	M
E	F	U	R	L	B	N	L	T	O
V	D	O	O	U	Q	I	Y	M	U
E	L	K	J	R	O	S	N	M	T
R	W	G	E	G	H	Y	J	N	H
O	I	R	H	K	Y	T	E	W	E
F	L	E	T	L	A	S	W	O	V
M	L	A	I	S	J	M	U	N	O
C	Q	T	W	F	Y	H	X	K	L

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Immanuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who visited Jesus on the night of His birth and found Mary, Joseph and the babe lying in a manger? Innkeeper, Shepherds, Herod, Magi
3. By biblical accounts, what animals were present and around the manger at Jesus' birth? Lions and bears, Sheep and

goats, Donkeys and chickens, No mention of animals

4. When the wise men (Magi) arrived in the Holy Land, where did they go first? Jerusalem, Beersheba, Haifa, Tel Aviv

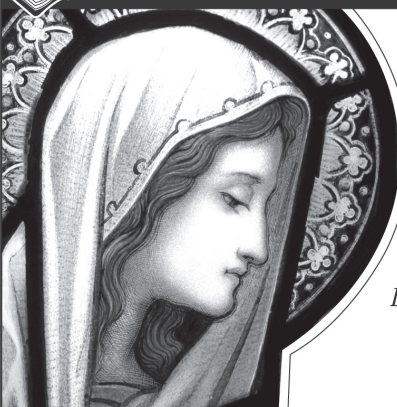
5. Which of these wasn't biblically stated as a gift from the Magi? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense

6. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah

Answers on bottom of Page 12

"Test Your Bible knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.
LUKE 1: 26,27

Americanisms



"You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance."

— Franklin P. Jones

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Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS (sic)
by Terry Stickels

Unscramble this common 17-letter word. The letter "D" starts the word.

D			
S	R	O	P
T	A	L	I
O	P	O	N
R	L	Y	I

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 12