

America's Heartland **Roger Alford** RogerAlford1@GMail.Com

When the lawnmower broke, a fellow told how his wife kept hinting that he should get it fixed. That fellow kept putting it off, and the grass kept growing taller and taller. Then, one day she came up with what she thought was a clever way to get her point across. The fellow arrived home and found her sitting in the tall grass, clipping away with a pair of scis-

while and then went into the house, retrieved a toothbrush, and handed it to her. "When you finish the grass," he said, "you might as greatly outnumbered, skipped ford1@amail.com.

Wife gives lazy husband reason to lie around the house

well sweep the driveway."

walk again, but he'll likely always

about having the right tool for the military history. right job. We generally wouldn't would we sweep our driveway with a toothbrush. But, you know, God put some unlikely tools into the hands of his people through great things.

You may remember that Sampson, the strongman of the Old Testament, was surrounded by an he found the jawbone of a donkey on the ground. He grabbed that bone and killed 1,000 Philistines, winning a victory so notable that The fellow watched for a little it was recorded for all generations to read about in the Bible.

conventional weapons and de-The doctor says he'll be able to feated the Philistine army using trumpets, clay jars and torches. The Philistines were so fright-That's another tale from my ened by the noise of the trumpets friend Barry Bishop. I think he got and the breaking jars that they it from some of his fellow coon ran away into the darkness in one hunters. It makes quite the point of the most humbling defeats in

Neither Sampson nor Gideon cut our grass with scissors, nor won those battles under their own power. God enabled and empowered them. God propelled them to victory. If you could ask either of those men today, they'd the generations to accomplish tell you the Lord proved himself wonderfully faithful in their lives. I'm sure each of us can look back over our lives and see just how busy the Lord has been in givarmy of Philistines bent on killing ing us victory after victory in the him. Sampson had no weapon, but struggles we've faced. And he'll continue to do just that.

So, you say, the fellow with the broken lawnmower and the angry wife got a raw deal. Well, at least he can still walk.

Roger Alford is pastor of South Then, there was the time that *Fork Baptist Church. Reach him* Gideon and his small band of men, at 502-514-6857 or rogeral-



We will call this story, Paw, and me, and just let it speak for itself.

in Estill County, and for the most part still call it home. This is about my memories of growing up here, and spending time with my favorite man of best teachers I have ever known. all times, my "Paw", Doug Hardy.

partner. I have never seen anyone, before or af- other hunt. Memories, good or bad, last a lifeter, that had the passion for squirrel hunting as time, my memories of my "Paw" are all good. he did. We would wake before dawn, the coffee would be on, and I can still remember how it tillTribune.com> and we will forward messmelled. I was a 5-year-old boy in a grown up sage.

body, when I would drink coffee, alongside of my "Paw" at that breakfast table; him sitting at his favorite spot and pouring me a cup of coffee. In my mind, I was already grown, and "Paw" never did anything to try and change my mind.

"Paw" always had a plan as to where we could get a mess of squirrels, and his plan never failed. Away we would go in his pickup, heading to the woods to spend time together. He was a deadeye shot, but it never made me any difference if we killed anything or not, as long as we where together. I always got to carry the gun; that helped me to act grown up. Although it never really mattered to me, we never failed to get a mess of squirrels. We would bring them home; my My name is Mike Hardy, I was born and raised dad, Rick Hardy would clean them; my mother, Georgia, would cook them. The best part, I got to spend time with my "Paw" and he was one of the

"Paw" has crossed "The Silent River", but I My "Paw", Doug Hardy was my first hunting know he is waiting for the time we can go on an-

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"My friend's forming a posse to bring me in."

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!	
Away STABEN	
Border ARMING	
Archaic BOYENG	
Abstain WEECHS	
	TODAY'S WORD

A M D I E D C

Words That Are Needed Today

Sunday, June 14th, 2020 Morning Message Bro. Warren Rogers, Ivory Hill Baptist Church

Proverbs 25:11, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

We live in a society that has far too many careless words. We are all the time hearing words and phrases such as these: hush your mouth, get out of my way, I ain't got time, I'll kill you, I hate you, I don't love you anymore and when we get real angry at someone, we bring up the past by saying, "Remember when."

Here are a few words we need to more of:

#1 We need words of cheer: **Proverbs 17:22**. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine..."

Sad to say, we live in a world filled with sadness. You can't turn on the news without hearing terrible things that have happened. We need to use more cheerful words that inspire people to look at life a little differently, set things in the right perspective, both to the giver and receiver.

Proverbs 15:13, "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance..."

#2 We need words of comfort: 2 Corinthians 1:3 & 4, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; 4Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

All the violence and wars just bring on sorrow and bereavement. We as preachers are called on many times to try and bring comfort to families that have lost loved ones. A lot of times people's suffering is eased from comforting words. Sad to say, some people try and find comfort in the wrong things, such as alcohol, drugs, gambling; anything to keep their minds off their troubles. They just get worse instead of better.

#3 We need words of compassion: 1 Peter 3:8, "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren ..."

We should model our lives after our savior Jesus Christ. **Psalm 145:8,** "The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion . . ."

Jesus had compassion on the sick, suffering, sinful. He did not pick and choose but loved all that came his way. It says in Romans that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Compassion must come from the heart, it must be sincere.

#4 We need words of Christian love: Ephesians **4:32,** "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Words of strife and hatred are so prevalent in our society today. All the riots and marches that do not prove anything and will not make anything right. If only these people would work for Jesus as hard as they demonstrate, the world would be a better place in a short while.

Romans 12:10, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love ...

Matthew 5:43 & 44, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

Dear Readers, we need to try and bring a smile on someone's face that just might brighten their day. It might help them get through the day.

Until next week, "May the good Lord bless and keep you."

Bro. Warren

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Josh grew up in Fleming County, Kentucky. He enlisted in the US Marine Corps, served as a police officer in Maysville, and graduated from Morehead State. After studying law at the University of Kentucky, he started his own law firm in Lexington, where he now lives with his wife and two children. He is running against Andy Barr to represent Kentucky's 6th District.

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