

Saying goodbye to Larry Adkins, the coon hunting preacher



America's Heartland
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er board and the dog would go tree a coon to fit it.

"It worked well," the man said, "until the day my wife set the ironing board out on the porch. I haven't seen my dog since."

I share that old story in honor of Larry Adkins, the coon hunting preacher. Larry graduated to Heaven in February after a long battle with cancer.

For Larry, hounds were both an enjoyable pastime and valuable tools that allowed him to share the Gospel with people out beneath the stars at night. He loved to be on the ridgetops bragging on the Lord to his hunting buddies while their dogs were roaming the coun-

tryside looking for coons.

You realize the Bible encourages us to use whatever tools we have at our disposal to accomplish the Lord's work. Samson used the jawbone of a donkey. Gideon used some clay jars and torches. And Larry used coonhounds.

You may recall that the Apostle Paul once used a false idol as an object lesson to present the Gospel to a group of confused worshippers on Mars Hill. Paul told them, "As I passed by and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with the inscription, 'To The Unknown God.' Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:22-23).

If the Apostle Paul could use an idol to launch a Gospel presentation, certainly Larry could use his hounds for the same purpose.

One of the kindest men you could ever meet, Larry served the same church for more than 30 years. It takes quite a man to accomplish that feat, because, typically, pastors manage to stay about three years on average in any particular church. Larry managed it because he truly was a Christian gentleman.

Theologian B.B. Warfield once said a pastor needs two qualifications: He must know the scriptures and he must be godly. Warfield said those are the two "legs" a pastor stands

on. In that case, I can't think of a pastor with stronger "legs" than Larry's.

As much as Larry enjoyed following hounds, his true passion was serving the Lord. He loved teaching young Christians, and he was always ready to show non-believers the way of salvation.

We'll never find another preacher to fill Larry's shoes. If we tried, we'd be searching for a long, long, long time and still come up empty, like the hound searching for a coon big enough to fit the ironing board.

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Kitchen Diva by Angela Shelf Medearis Hope for the Best, Prepare for the Worst

I live in Texas, in an area that has been hit recently with a massive power-grid failure, freezing temperatures, icy roads, frozen pipes, water pressure woes and boil water notices for the past several days. To say that our state was unprepared for this weather disaster is an understatement.

Whether you live in an area that has been hit with pandemic quarantines and lockdowns, work and school closures, bad weather, power outages, frozen pipes and water cutoffs, or you just need to stock your pantry for the times when you're unable to shop, here are some ways to create an emergency pantry using canned goods as staples.

A typical emergency pantry:

- * Dried and/or evaporated milk
- * Pasta, rice, cereals, crackers, bread (can be frozen for months)
- * Jars of processed cheese spread
- * Granola bars, Pop Tarts
- * Canned fruits and vegetables
- * Canned meats & fish (chicken, ham, tuna)
- * Canned fruit, vegetable juices
- * Peanut butter
- * Canned bean, potato salad
- * Unsalted nuts
- * Canned baked beans, chili, hash, spaghetti,

soup

- * Dried fruits
- * Instant beverages
- * Baby food and formula (if needed)
- * Bottled water

Additional supplies:

- * Non-electric can opener
- * Paper towels, foil
- * Medications (prescription and nonprescription) that family uses on a regular basis
- * Paper goods (toilet paper and tissues), napkins, plates, bowls, cups
- * Plastic cutlery
- * Bar soap and rinse-free body wash (if sanitizers or liquid soaps are unavailable)
- * Food and water for pets
- * Catering sterno
- * cans, matches and aluminum chafer pan sets (disposable party buffet serving sets can be used for cooking and re-heating food safely)

Tips for creating and stocking an emergency pantry:

-- Choose foods your family enjoys. Good options include low-sodium canned beans, vegetables, fruit (packed in juice), breakfast cereal, peanut butter, pouches of fully cooked whole grains and pastas, nuts, whole-wheat crackers and shelf-stable milk or plant milk (sold in aseptic boxes in the grocery aisle).

-- When buying canned foods, choose low-sodium or no-salt-added products, and choose fruits packed in their own juice or water instead of syrup.

-- Store canned goods in a cool, dark, dry area away from furnaces, pipes and other places where temperature changes occur. Store metal cans off

the floor because moisture may lead to rust.

-- Always use the FIFO (first-in, first-out) method when it comes to using foods from storage so that you're sure to use your oldest cans first. If you see a can or jar with a broken seal or is rusting, bulging or denting, it should be discarded. If any food does not look or smell right, throw it out.

-- Keep at least 6 gallons of water per family member to be prepared for one week. Store water in airtight, food-grade storage containers. Replace water every six months.

Here are a few recipes using ingredients that should be in every emergency pantry -- grains and beans! They are versatile, nutrient-dense, packed with protein and very filling. These No-Cook Emergency Pantry Recipes courtesy of Trisha Calvo, a writer for Consumer Reports, are simple and easy to prepare.

No-Cook Emergency Pantry Recipes

Overnight Oats -- Mix rolled oats with water and let sit overnight on a counter. In the morning, add peanut butter, raisins or other dried fruit, and a little cinnamon.

Power Bean and Grain Bowl or Wrap Filling -- Combine drained canned beans with a pouch of precooked grains, drained canned corn, olive oil and any vegetables, herbs and spices you like. This dish also makes a delicious filling for a wrap, tortilla or pita bread.

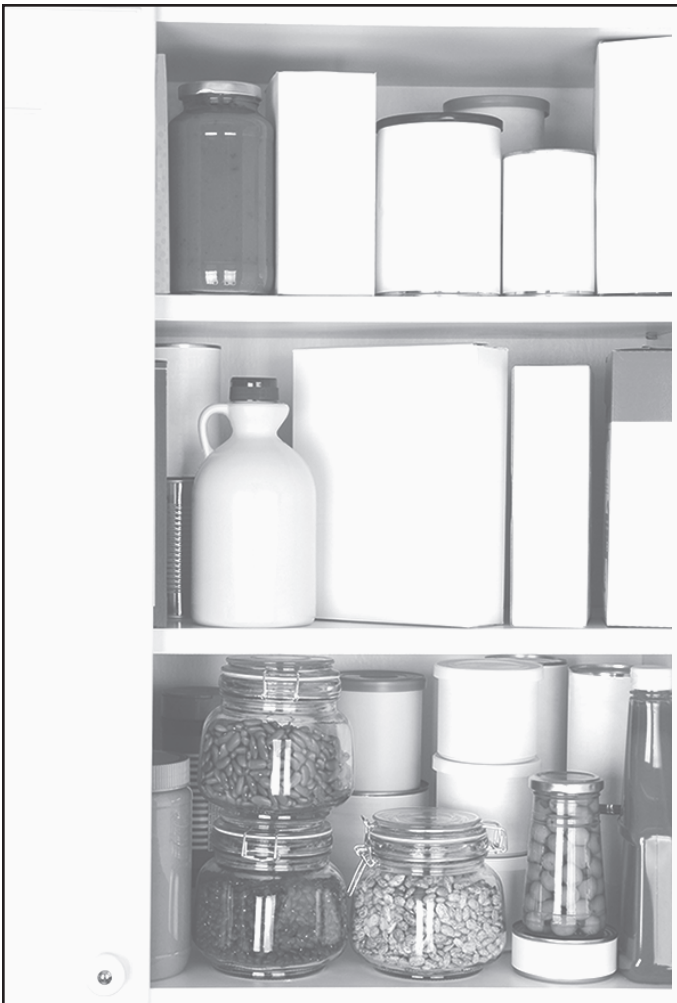
Salmon or Tuna Stuffed Avocados -- Combine chunks of canned salmon, tuna or canned smoke trout with chopped tomato and cucumber. Toss with a dressing of lemon juice or white vinegar, olive oil, paprika, and salt and pepper. Use to stuff in avocado halves, top lettuce greens or as a sandwich filling.

Chunky Gazpacho -- Combine a can of diced tomatoes with its juice, chopped onion, chopped cucumber, a little Tabasco sauce or cayenne pepper, and a dash of salt and pepper. You can also add chopped red or green peppers, drizzle with olive oil and top with fresh parsley or cilantro, if you have any of these. For a heartier dish, add a can of chickpeas (drained).

Corn Salad -- Combine drained canned corn with vegetables you have on hand (tomatoes, peppers and onions, for example), chopped. Add drained canned black beans if you like. Toss with a dressing made of one-part apple cider vinegar and one-part olive oil, fresh or dried basil, and a little salt and pepper.

Angela Shelf Medearis is an award-winning children's author, culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is "The Kitchen Diva's Diabetic Cookbook." Her website is www.divapro.com. To see how-to videos, recipes and much, much more, Like Angela Shelf Medearis, The Kitchen Diva! on Facebook. Recipes may not be reprinted without permission from Angela Shelf Medearis.

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Are you raising your children for the Lord?

Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021 Message
 Bro. Warren Rogers, Retired Baptist Minister

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

A Sunday school teacher asked her students to explain God. An eight-year-old wrote it in an essay.

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grown ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't waste valuable time teaching them to walk and talk. He leaves that up to moms and dads. I think it works out pretty good."

When it comes to raising our children in today's society, "attitude is more important than aptitude (natural ability or talent)." Without the right attitude toward children that God has entrusted to us, our efforts to raise G-rated kids in an X-rated world are going to fail regardless of our degree of natural ability.

#1 One of the problems we have today is that a lot of people see their kids as an inconvenience. Our abortion rate has skyrocketed to outstanding numbers because the woman (and man) thought this way: Get rid of the inconvenience. A lot of people blame the woman, but I know it takes two to dance and both are responsible for their off-spring.

#2 We have got in the habit of being too busy to take time for our children when they need us most. Believe it or not, children want to follow their parents, they want to be loved, they want our guidance. Television, cell phones and computers have destroyed our family life. It is time to bring back the old ways and paths.

#3 We've got to remember that children are a gift from the Lord. "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate." Psalm 127:3-5 It has been said that raising children would be easier if they came with a manual -- they do, it's called the BIBLE.

#4 A few verses telling us how to raise our children. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Proverbs 22:15

"Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." Proverbs 23:13-14

#5 The results of raising a child for the Lord can be found in 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

#6 The results of treating a child badly can be found in Matthew 18:2-6. I believe that each person (doctors, nurses and anyone connected with abortion) will face God's wrath at Judgment Day. It is awful to believe that we have children being sold into slavery, prostitution, and all sorts of evil practices. Mankind has gotten so wicked that they have no respect for God's children. There will be a special place in hell for those that mistreat our precious children.

My Friends, we've got a big job to do. We have been told to raise our children to honor our Lord Jesus Christ. We need to pray that our efforts will not fall on deaf ears and our children will respond to our teachings. Make sure you let the Bible lead you in raising your children. This should be our prayer: "My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine." Proverbs 23:15

"Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way." Proverbs 23:19

My Friends, until next week, may God bless your life. If you have problems and need to talk to me, you may call 606-481-0444

Warren Rogers
 Retired Baptist preacher