



THE CORNERSTONE
a ministry on the move

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Happy Mother's Day

A Written Guarantee by Edie Jones

Many years ago my son Josh and I went to see a relative up north. It was the choice we had made for that precious annual week called vacation and we had looked forward to it day and night. It had been over a year since we had been with our loved ones. As over 900 miles ticked off on the odometer, I drove with eager anticipation. The long drive seemed short compared to the joy that I knew awaited.

When we got there, however, nothing was as I presumed. Although we had planned our arrival date and time weeks in advance, it looked as though nobody was expecting us. My relative was cutting the grass. At first I told my son "He doesn't see us," but then he waved nonchalantly and continued mowing. We stood at the car unsure of what to do next. After about twenty minutes his wife came outside and he came over for a minute, but instead of big hugs and hello's she commented on our weight. Next the couple began to argue about who was supposed to go the grocery store. Josh and I volunteered. I got back in the car and wanted to drive the whole way back to Florida. I just could not believe that I had worked, saved, planned, waited the whole year and driven so far to see people who obviously could care less about seeing me. What a disappointment!

Thankfully heaven won't be like that. Jesus said in John 14:2-3 (KJV) ² *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.* ³ *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

I love that. He went to prepare a place for me. That means he is expecting me and when I get there He will welcome me and be happy to see me. 1 Corinthians 2:9 (KJV) promises *"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."* *I don't have to wonder if heaven will be worth the work and trials and problems I face down here on earth. It will exceed all my expectations by far. In fact I have a written guarantee.*

Remember Our Troops in Prayer

Armed Forces Day
May 17th

Memorial Day
May 26th



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MAY 2008

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Listen to the Cornerstone on Wednesdays for your chance to win a bible by knowing this verse.

Genesis 1:1
In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.



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National Day of Prayer

by Bill Powell

May 1st is the National Day of Prayer. I think we all agree it's a good thing. There is a good chance when you read this, the National Day of Prayer event will be over but prayer should not be over.

Christians hold prayer in high regard and even those in the world speak of prayer when they are in trouble or a tragedy falls their way. What does prayer mean to you? What do you pray for? How often and for how long do you pray? *Wait a minute buddy! You're getting a little personal aren't you?* Yes, I am but I don't expect you to answer verbally or by mail.

Many don't believe in God because they have the perspective that God is a genie and you go to Him when you want something. Give me this! Give me that! Stop this from happening or make this or that go away. Does that mean we shouldn't ask God for things? Of course not, but we cannot expect our desire to always be God's desire or answer. Philippians 4:6 *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;"* (NKJV)

Let's face it; from the time we were children we weren't

too keen on the word "no." "No" was probably one of the first words we learned and taught our kids. Some think God is just waiting for the best deal so we say "if you will do this I will never ...or I will do thus and such." God is the One with the plan. He knows how it all fits and how it should all go. Does that mean we shouldn't try to persuade God? No! In the Bible, Luke 18:1 says *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,* ² *saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man."* ³ *"Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.'"* ⁴ *"And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,' yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me."* (NKJV)

Prayer is one of the most significant and important subjects in the Bible and we all could benefit by studying all the scriptures on the subject. I have only scratched the surface. My purpose here is to encourage you to pray beyond the National Day of

Prayer and to tell you how much you should pray. *What? You're going to tell me how much I should pray?* Prayer is addressing God and we should address Him often- when we rise up and when we go through our day. We should pour out ourselves to Him in all we do, in all we say, in all that we want, wherever we go, and throughout our whole day. We should not have any thoughts or actions that we have not brought to God. We should be an open book to Him. The key is this: When we have done that, will we listen and accept what He has for us? He hears all we say; so say it, pray it to Him- then listen.



Running Through Sprinklers by Carla Intriago

When I was growing up, our mom would tell us she had eyes in the back of her head and we believed her too! No matter how sneaky my brother and I thought we were being, she would always know what we were up to or what we were into!

As my daughter got older, I would tell her that I might not know what she is doing or where she goes but God does. He knows it all, the good things that we do and the sinful things we do. The Bible tells us in Numbers 32:23 *But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.*

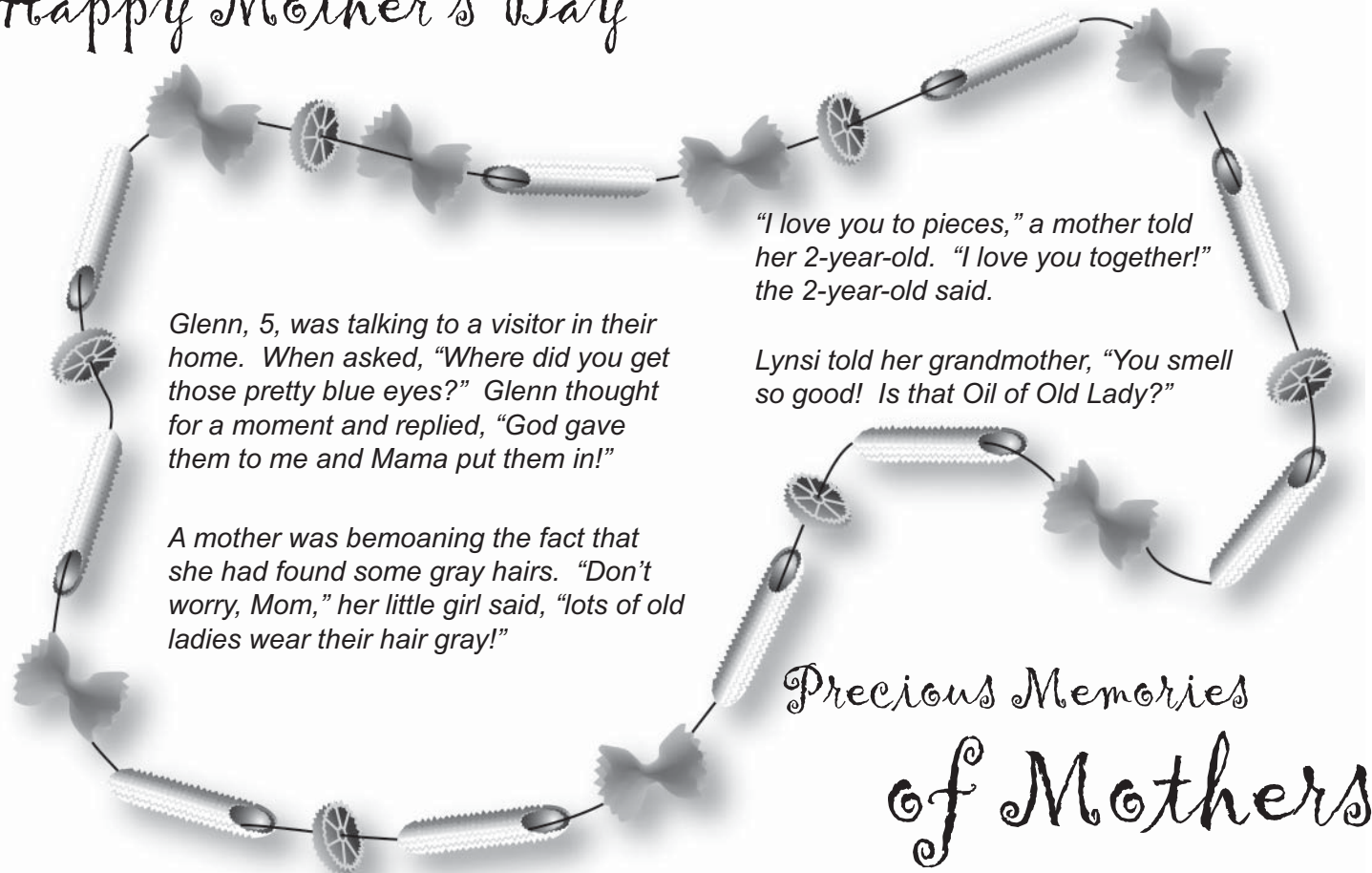
On Mother's Day, five years ago, my daughter and I had just dropped something off at a friend's house and we were on our way to get a Frappuccino...

my Mother's Day treat. While we were driving out of our friend's neighborhood, which is a golf community, we both noticed it. We looked at each other and huge smiles spread across our faces. The sprinklers on the golf course were on and it was a hot and humid May day. We both had the same idea! I quickly pulled the car over to the side and out we jumped. You guessed it; we headed for the sprinklers! If you have ever seen the sprinklers on a golf course, you know we were soaked to the bone in an instant! Boy, did that feel good!

We ran back to the car, dried off and were on our way to get our Frappuccino. Low and behold, as we walk into the coffee shop and looked at the message board that always held the daily specials, this is what it said, "If you

thought running through sprinklers was cool, you should try our mocha malt frappuccino." No kidding! Quickly I was reminded that there is no sin that we can hide or get away with and God not know about it. Hebrews 4:13 tells us, *"and there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."* Big sin or little sin... they're all the same. The golf course was private property and we were wrong to go on it yet we were tempted because it was so hot. No matter the sin, we need to confess it before the Lord. 1 John 1:7 *"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."*

Happy Mother's Day



"I love you to pieces," a mother told her 2-year-old. "I love you together!" the 2-year-old said.

Lynsi told her grandmother, "You smell so good! Is that Oil of Old Lady?"

Glenn, 5, was talking to a visitor in their home. When asked, "Where did you get those pretty blue eyes?" Glenn thought for a moment and replied, "God gave them to me and Mama put them in!"

A mother was bemoaning the fact that she had found some gray hairs. "Don't worry, Mom," her little girl said, "lots of old ladies wear their hair gray!"

Precious Memories of Mothers

Music With a Message by Chris Johnson

I must say after not writing an article for last month's newsletter I feel like I have to relearn how to ride a bicycle. It's funny! I have been attending Liberty University through their distance education program and so I have been writing papers like crazy since last fall. I also write for the Christian Worldview Network on the Internet but as I sit down to write this article I am a bit jittery. I have been considering for weeks what I would write about in this article. It is my prayer that God would help me each time I sit to write because I desire for Him to bring glory to Himself each time I open my mouth or write a sentence.

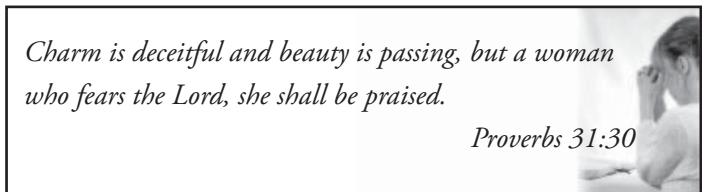
Over the past several weeks I have been preaching to my youth group at Crosswalk Church about the truth of the Gospel. Last week we looked at why Jesus had to die and considered what was accomplished through His death and resurrection. We tackled the question, "Was there any other way God could have saved us?" And we asked the question "Was Jesus' sacrifice sufficient?" It was an awesome time and there is nothing that excites me more than seeing young people with their Bibles open, excited about studying God's Word and learning more about their Savior Jesus Christ.

Today I pose the question again but in a different manner. We know Jesus is qualified to bring us salvation but what about the hard times we face in life? Is Jesus only sufficient for saving our souls or does He really care about the intricate details of our lives?

Prayer Corner by Sandy Leisner

In the book *Prayer Power* John Beckett writes, God places a responsibility upon His people for the condition of the communities and even the nation in which they live...A total response by the Christian community is the only means by which righteousness will be established in America... most, if not all of the moral, economic and political problems that confront us are, at their core, spiritual problems. And the Christian community is uniquely endowed with the power, in Jesus' name to bring down the satanic strongholds responsible for the spiritual problems.

What a responsibility! What a thought, that we have the power to change our nations through prayer! May 1, will be the 57th National Day of prayer. It is time for us to unite our hearts and fervently pray for God's mercy to be on this nation.



Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30

I respond to this question with two answers. First from the Bible: Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are -- yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (NIV)

Secondly, I want to respond with the story behind the song, "Mighty to Save," by Laura Story:

"A trial entered Story's life that would not only bring struggle, but also provide her with a deeper understanding of God's sovereignty. After one year of marriage, Story's husband was hospitalized with a brain tumor."

"There was a time he was on a breathing machine and we weren't sure he was going to make it. I spent my whole life singing "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus," but until Jesus took me through something where my only option was to trust Him, I didn't really know that sweetness," reflects Story. While supporting her husband through surgery, radiation, complications, and intense physical therapy, Story composed new rubber-meets-the-road songs to reaffirm God's presence in her darkest hours."

I pray this month that you are encouraged to know that whether on the mountain or in the valley our Savior is with us and is Mighty to Save.



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The FamilyLife Weekend To Remember Conference