

# Remembering Words



by Dawn Reed  
E. Ky. Columnist

I knew my mom had been sick. It was a cold or a sinus infection, she said. Too many days passed with no improvement. When my sister told me she was finally going to the doctor, I knew it was bad. I texted her, "What's

going on? Tell the truth!" My mom replied, "Short of breath! Don't worry! Don't come! Will let you know!" (We use a lot of exclamation marks!)

I was at work and tried not to overthink it. Another text a bit later let me know my brother was taking her on to the ER. The doctor said it was congestive heart failure. She was also dehydrated. This was my mother that I loved so much! I tried not to cry.

After work, I headed to the hospital.

With a bit of IV fluids, my sweet mom rallied. (We Facetimed my sisters.) She felt so much better but the doctor said she would have to stay overnight. On the way to her room, she asked the nurse transferring her if she knew Jesus. (She did and they had a good chat on the way about how good He is.)

I announced that I was staying also and sent my brother home. I would sleep in the boxy chair by her bed. Too embarrassed to ask for help getting it all the way out, I rode it like a bronco through the night, dozing in spurts.

My mom was busy on her phone

encouraging others on Facebook, her platform since retirement. She looked up periodically to say again and again, "The Lord worked out everything just right!" She marveled at how they had found a parking spot directly in front of the doctor's office so she could get right in. Then when they got to the ER, not a soul was there. She was taken back immediately. She smiled at me and went back to her posting. I smiled back but mostly wanted to sleep. I had gotten up super early!

I wrestled the chair and dozed a little more. Finally, finally, at four a.m., she closed her eyes and I thought she had gone to sleep. Nope. She had been praying, she said Three hours later, she was with Jesus.

Her words have lingered in my heart and mind perhaps more than anything she ever told me throughout my whole life: "The Lord worked out everything just right!" (And that's with an exclamation point!) Those words are true! He IS at work. He DOES put everything together. I didn't realize at the time how valuable her words were. I have spoken

them out loud countless times since to put things in perspective.

Jesus taught His disciples many things. Each day brought new life lessons of trusting Him and learning of His Father's love. He spoke radical words: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you," (Matt. 5:44). He spoke puzzling words: "You are the salt of the earth..." (Matt. 5:13). Some of His words made no sense to the disciples at the time but fell into perfect place after His crucifixion and resurrection. Looking back, His words had meaning. They just hadn't realized it.

Centuries later, our words have meaning, too. They can build up or tear down. Encourage or discourage. My mother was a master at using her words for good. She wielded them like a cheerleader her pom poms. Words of kindness, comfort, especially encouragement.

Some of Jesus' last words here on earth were: "Go and make disciples..." and "I am with you..." (Matt. 28). My mom's words were words to treasure. Jesus' words are words to live by.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ephesians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In Matthew 4, Jesus says, "Man shall not live on bread alone," but by what else? Joyful noise, Praise, God's word, Kind deeds
3. What was the aristocratic party of the Jews at

the time of Jesus? Pharisees, Reubenites, Israelites, Sadducees

4. In Acts 9, what fell from Saul's eyes when he regained his sight? Ants, Scales, Blood, Salt

5. From 1 Kings 6, who built the first temple in Jerusalem? Samuel, Joshua, Solomon, Aaron

6. What's a sepulcher? Coin, Robe, Tomb, Sermon

**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.

## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

JOHN 10:27-28

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

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L C W W I F O E M O  
J A I G G E W N U F  
L N L O S N A T C H  
Q D L A V L L A H S

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

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## Seeds of Hope



"You know how much I love you, Josie - more than anyone or anything in the world!" began his text message. "Can't wait until I see you this evening. Will be there if I don't go to the ball game with Rob. Love, Steve."

It didn't take Josie long to erase the message and text her friend Ruth asking if they could get together for dinner. She had trouble understanding that kind of love. And so does God. We say one thing to Him and then live a life that is entirely inconsistent with His understanding of love and what He expects us to do if we love Him.

"You who love the Lord," said the Psalmist, "hate evil!" That is a very straight forward, simple statement. It is one of

Scriptures If/Then challenges that God puts in our pathway. Put another way we might ask, "If we don't hate evil can we truly love God? And, if we hate evil, how will our lives show those around us that we do?"

Loving God means that we will do whatever is necessary to align ourselves with His plan and purpose for His world. We will work with Him to reach out to those around us with a heart full of His love to show them His grace and mercy. We will be uncomfortable if we know of someone, somewhere who needs something that we have that we can share with them that will bring hope and healing to their lives.

People who lie abandoned in convalescent homes and children who are abused through no fault of their own and individuals who crave a smile and a hug need to know that "we love the Lord." They will if we reach out.

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## Stickeler's Puzzle



Here's a "trickledown" puzzle. The rules are simple; you merely change one letter on each line to make a new word and continue until you reach the final word.

CRUSH  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SLAPS

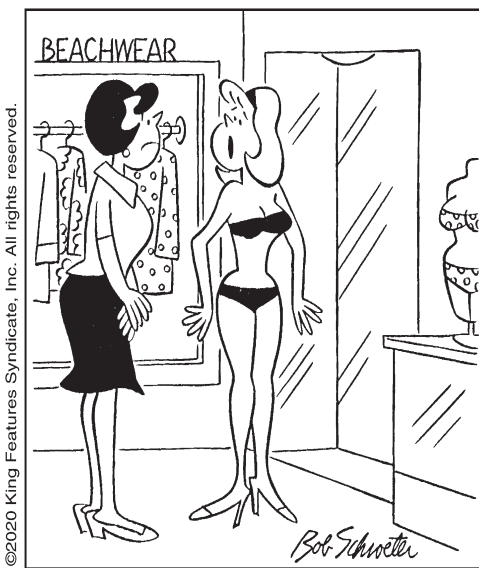
EXAMPLE: COAT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
VASE

ANS: COAT  
COST  
CAST  
CASE  
VASE

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## Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12

## Stickeler's Answer on Page 12



"Sure, this suit is perfect to meet a man in — but I need something to meet his \_\_\_\_\_ in."

## SCRAMBLERS

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!

Glide  
ALOFT

Stock  
PUPYLS

Edge  
ARMING

Eat  
SETING

TODAY'S WORD

## The Point of It All!

by BOB CASEY, preacher  
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What is the point of all of our lives? Did you ever think about it? Is what we see, feel, obtain, eat, etc.; Is this all there is to life? Or is there a higher motivation to the which we may be letting slip right by us?

In the letter to the Philippian Church, the Apostle Paul wrote that he had a goal in life that had a higher ideal than physical pleasure. He talks about obtaining, or apprehending, this goal. This, of course, was to obtain his home in Heaven and to include the attempt to condition, through preaching, the hearts of every person he has met here in his life. He said he reached forth toward this higher ideal than self. He calls it a "high calling of God." He even said it was a mark or target to achieve. I believe that there is that reality in all of mankind. They want to excel in life and to make their lives stand for good, but when they do, the arch enemy who never sleeps, the devil, comes around and with cunning subtlety, convinces them, they need to make some changes in their life for good, but just not today, for you have plenty of time left in this life to make preparations whereas one day we will stand before Jesus to give an accounting of how we did live on this earth. But know this, if he is able to get you to procrastinate, that is, put off obeying the Gospel, for example, his chances of seeing your failure will be to his delight. For you see, he really does hate you because you are created in the image of God. Matter of fact, he hates God so much for his defeat that this is the only way he feels that he can get even with the Lord, is to get you to lose your eternal soul.

And this he will do if you let him by squandering all your efforts chasing the pleasure of sin for a season. Then, when it comes time for your demise, he will be of no help to you, simply because eternal life is not within his hands to offer you. So, while you are struggling to live, he will laugh at your demise.

I hope that you will lay this message to heart, for you and I do not know what a day may bring forth. But, this much I do know, if our day of death comes around suddenly and you are not prepared, what then? I believe you already know the answer.

Solomon, the wisest man other than Christ, after he had tried every thing that life offered him, said all is vanity and vexation of spirit. He said also, now let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. To fear God and keep his commands, for this is the whole duty of man.

In closing, have you begun your duty; if not, when do you aim to start? We at Cornerstone Church are awaiting to help you to know and obey only what is written within God's Word. We will come to you with a Bible study in your home or anywhere at any time. For example, it is now six minutes until three o'clock in the morning; the Lord laid this on my heart to pass on to you.

Sincerely, Bob Casey  
Call Waco (859-369-4165)

## Americanisms



"Even if you can't bring yourself to get rid of your stuff, your heirs will have no such qualms at all."  
— professional mover  
Finn Murphy

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