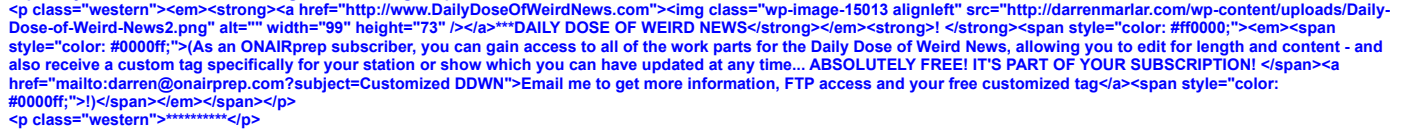


[PRINT VERSIONS OF TODAY'S PREP:](#)  
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 **DAILY DOSE OF WEIRD NEWS!** (As an ONAIRprep subscriber, you can gain access to all of the work parts for the Daily Dose of Weird News, allowing you to edit for length and content - and also receive a custom tag specifically for your station or show which you can have updated at any time... ABSOLUTELY FREE! IT'S PART OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION! [Email me to get more information, FTP access and your free customized tag](mailto:darren@onairprep.com?subject=Customized DDWN))  
\*\*\*\*\*

**\*\*\*Today's show prep is dedicated to my friends at Cross International. With the devastating hurricanes that hit Texas and Florida, it's easy to forget others in need around the world such as South Sudan, where children are starving. So I've teamed up with Cross International and I'm asking you, my ONAIRpreppers, to save a life today! A single gift of \$60 will feed a child for a full five months! You can also ask that part of your gift go to hurricane relief - so you're helping both causes at the same time! Call 866-822-4883 to donate now or give online by clicking the Cross International banner at ONAIRprep.com.**

### **WELCOME TO THE SHOW!**

Warning! (THE JOCK SHOW) will not cause drowsiness, so it's perfectly okay to operate heavy machinery while listening and pregnant.

### **BIBLE VERSE OF THE DAY**

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing." --James 3:16

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. --James 1:26

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. — [Ephesians 4:29](#)

### **HEARTLIGHT DAILY VERSE, PRAYER & THOUGHT**

*(From VerseOfTheDay.com)*

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life." — John 9:3

Thought: Let's ask God to help us view people through the eyes of Jesus so that we will see them as people in whom the work of God needs to be done. And just what is this work of God? Well, Jesus answered that question this way: To believe in the One he has sent! (John 6:28-29)

Prayer: Father, please help me see the people around me as Jesus does. I want to see your work done in their lives, so please give me patience with those who are rude, tenderness with those who are hurting, and boldness with those who are ready to hear the Good News of Jesus. In the name of Christ Jesus I pray. Amen.

The Thoughts and Prayers for Today's Verse are written by Phil Ware. You can email questions or comments to [phil@heartlight.org](mailto:phil@heartlight.org).

### **"BIRTHDAY VERSE" OF THE DAY (The chapter and verse correspond to the month and day!)**

**Luke 9:20 NIV** = "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

### **TODAY IS WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

*(NOTE: Some holidays may be duplicated due to various calendars reporting conflicting dates)*

**WEIRD, WACKY, STRANGE, ZANY, ODD, BIZARRE, QUIRKY, UNUSUAL HOLIDAYS!  
THERE ARE ONLY 95 SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS.**

Today is **FAMILY DAY**, a day to eat dinner with your children. (Actually, there was a study on this, and apparently having dinner with your kids five or more times a week dramatically *decreases* the chances of your teens getting involved with drugs and underage drinking!)

Today is **SAVE A CHICKEN DAY**. \*\*\*Why did the judge cross the road? To resuscitate the chicken! On this day in 1991, a fast-acting poultry judge saved a prize-winning chicken's life at the Western Washington Fair. The hen almost drowned while being given a bath, but Judge Sherry Milligan gave it mouth-to-beak resuscitation.

According to the Incas, today is the **SUN'S BIRTHDAY**. \*\*\*The Incas didn't say how old the sun is though – no one has found a way to approach it with the question without getting burned.

Today is **NATIONAL STUDENT DAY** and **NATIONAL PUNCH DAY**. \*\*\*Not to be confused with "National Punch a Student Day" which is never placed on the calendar... but is often fantasized about by substitute teachers.

Today is **NATIONAL GIBBERISH DAY**. \*\*\*Also known as the monthly meeting for the (JOCK SHOW) Fan Club.

### **TODAY IS ALSO...**

National Rehabilitation Day

\*National String Cheese Day

School Backpack Awareness Day

**COMING UP NEXT** (*Just a list, we are not endorsing the holidays posted below. Find more holidays and link to their websites at [BrownieLocks.com](http://BrownieLocks.com)*)

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

International Day of Peace

National Surgical Technologists Day

Islamic New Year

RAINN Day (Rape Abuse Incest National Network)

Rosh Hashanah

National Teach Ag Day

World's Alzheimer's Day

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

American Business Women's Day

Autumn (Autumnal Equinox)

Bright Pink Lipstick Day

Car Free Day

Chainmail Day

Dear Diary Day

Elephant Appreciation Day

Hobbit Day

Ice Cream Cone Day

International Day of Radiant Peace

Love Note Day

Mabon

National Centenarian's Day

National Doodle Day

National Leg Wear Day

National Rock n' Roll Dog Day

National White Chocolate Day

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

Checkers Day or Dogs in Politics Day

Fish Amnesty Day

Innergize Day

International Lace Day

International Rabbit Day

Kids Day (Kiwanis Clubs)

National Hunting and Fishing Day

National Museum Day

National Public Lands Day

National Seat Check Saturday

National Singles Day  
National Snack Stick Day  
R.E.A.D. in America Day  
Restless Legs Awareness Day  
Teal Talk Day

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

Bluebird of Happiness Day  
Gold Star Mother's Day  
International Day of The Deaf  
National Familial Hypercholesterolemia Day  
Punctuation Day  
Schwenkfelder Thanksgiving

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

Family Day  
Math Story Telling Day  
National One-Hit Wonder Day  
National Psychotherapy Day  
National Research Administrators Day  
National Tune-up Day  
(World) Ataxia Awareness Day  
World Pharmacists Day

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

Compliance Officer Day  
Johnny Appleseed Day  
National Dumpling Day  
National Voter Registration Day  
Shamu the Whale Day  
Situational Awareness Day  
World Contraception Day

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

Ancestor Appreciation Day  
Banned Websites Awareness Day  
Crush A Can Day  
Google's Birthday  
National Women's Health & Fitness Day  
National Woman Road Warrior Day  
World Tourism Day

**ON THIS DAY**

**1870:** Victor Emmanuel II, the first king of modern Italy, seized the Papal States from the French.

**1881:** Chester A. Arthur was sworn in as the 21st president of the United States, succeeding James A. Garfield, who had been assassinated.

**1973:** Billie Jean King beat Bobby Riggs in a battle of the sexes tennis match.

**1993:** The Georgia state parole board probated the sentence of a 17-year-old boy, who was given three years in prison for stealing ice cream bars from a rural school. The youth had served 10 days in jail before being released on bail.

**1998:** Baltimore Oriole shortstop Cal Ripken, Jr., sat out a game, ending his consecutive game playing streak. Ripken played 2,632 consecutive games over 16 seasons.

**2000:** Independent Counsel Robert Ray announced the end of the Whitewater investigation, saying there was insufficient evidence to charge President Clinton and his wife, Hillary.

**2001:** President George W. Bush addressed the nation and a joint session of Congress about terrorism. He also named Tom Ridge as head of the new Office of Homeland Security.

### **TODAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY**

**1224:** On or about this date, on Italy's secluded Mount Alvernia, Francis of Assisi reportedly prayed, "O Lord, I beg of you two graces before I die—to experience in myself in all possible fullness the pains of your cruel passion, and to feel for you the same love that made you sacrifice yourself for us." Soon his heart was filled with both joy and pity, and wounds appeared on his hands, feet, and side. He reportedly carried these scars (called stigmata) until his death in 1226.

**1565:** Spanish sea captain Menendez reportedly wipes out French Huguenots in Florida.

**1883:** Albrecht Alt, German Lutheran scholar of the Old Testament, is born in Stuebach, Bavaria. His book *Biblia Hebraica*, which he edited with R. Kittel, became the standard critical text of the Old Testament for Bible students.

### **BIRTHDAY RAP-UP**

- actress ("3rd Rock From The Sun") Kristen Johnston 50 ([audio clip](#))
- Actor (*Beowulf*, *The I Scream Man*, *Back to the Future*) Crispin Glover, 53
- Actor (*Midnight Caller*, *Brady Bunch Movie's* Mike Brady) Gary Cole, 60
- actress (*El Cid*, *Grumpier Old Men*) Sophia Loren 83

### **BEE-BOP BIRTHDAYS**

***(Music Artist Birthdays From [SongFacts.com](#))***

**1924 :** Gogi Grant

**1947 :** Chuck Panozzo ([Styx](#))

**1966 :** Nuno Bettencourt ([Extreme](#))

**1967 :** Matthew and Gunnar Nelson (Nelson)

**1968 :** Ben Shepherd ([Soundgarden](#))

**1979 :** Rick Woolstenhulme ([Lifehouse](#))

### **SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE (Answering questions that have plagued mankind for minutes!)**

#### **What fish travels 800 miles backward?**

When Chinook salmon fry are first hatched, they cling to the pebbles and rocks of the high mountain streams where their parents laid their eggs. For a whole year and sometimes two, the fingerling salmon live in the cold waters of the high rocky mountains.

When they are about five inches long (12 cm) the young fish allow themselves to be carried downstream, but their current-fighting instinct keeps them facing upstream. They complete the entire journey to the Pacific Ocean backwards, swimming upstream but moving downstream.

The 800-mile (1300 km) backward journey is only the first challenge the salmon must face. They must stay alive in the ocean, growing strong and fat. They then must retrace their path, swimming upstream to the same cold mountain creek where they were born, to mate and begin the cycle again.

### **NEWS KICKERS**

***(None on weekends. Want a customizable version with your specific station tag, FREE? [Email me for more information!](#))***

#### **NEW NEWS KICKERS...**

***(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)***

Jared Fogle's ex-wife is suing Subway, saying they were negligent in how they handled that whole fiasco. \*\*\*Wait... what? Your husband is the child molester, but you're suing his employer? Are you a little wacked in the head too?

Drinking coffee every day may just keep your brain healthy as you age. But if you drink too much, it could do just the opposite and increase your odds of developing dementia, according to Italian researchers. Those who drank one or two cups of coffee every day had a lower rate of mild cognitive impairment, which is a decline in memory and thinking that is often the precursor to dementia, compared with those who never or only rarely consumed coffee. However, drinking more than two cups offered no cognitive benefit. In addition, when people increased how much coffee they

typically drank by even one or two cups, the rate of mild cognitive impairment also increased. \*\*\*So coffee is good for you – until it's not good for you. At which point you should stop drinking it – until it's good for you again. Honestly, I don't think these people have a clue as to what their studies actually indicate – they're just making it up as they go.

Jamie Lee Curtis is returning to the newest "Halloween" movie at age 58. \*\*\*I would call foul because she was killed in her previous appearance in the series, but then she's related to Michael Meyers which seems to be immortal, so who knows what could happen.

A study says being generous makes people happier. \*\*\*I have to admit, when someone is generous to me, that makes me happier.

This is disgusting. If you share a bathroom with others, there is most likely traces of poop on your toothbrush, according to research at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut. Led by Lauren Aber, the team analyzed toothbrushes from Quinnipiac students who used communal bathrooms with an average of more than nine uses per bathroom. At least 60 percent of the toothbrushes were contaminated with fecal matter--no matter how the toothbrush was stored. In addition, there was an 80 percent chance that the fecal matter found on the toothbrushes came from someone other than the toothbrush's owner. \*\*\*I may have to start brushing my teeth in the kitchen... or start pooping in the garage.

Toys 'R' Us is preparing for a possible bankruptcy filing before the holidays. \*\*\*So now could be the most affordable time every to buy an Etch-a-Sketch!

A report says robots will eventually take over the job of real estate appraisals. \*\*\*You can still bribe the property inspector though – you'll just need to switch out the cash for WD-40 and electrical tape.

It's come to this. By just doing your job and sitting at your desk all day, you could be raising your risk of death -- a lot. How? Your chair. It's a killer. People who sit 11 or more hours a day are 40 percent more likely to die over the next three years, no matter how physically active they are the rest of the time, reports a study from the University of Sydney in Australia. What can you do? If you sit long hours at work, then spend your leisure time on your feet. \*\*\*Meaning I should be dead by now.

### **NEWS KICKER EVERGREENS...**

*(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

According to research, writing down your negative thoughts and tossing them in the garbage can erase your bad mood. The finding seems silly, admits lead researcher Richard Petty, Ph.D., a professor at The Ohio State University. "But sometimes it's the silly things that work." In one of Petty's experiments, 83 people were asked to write down thoughts on their body image, then either throw them away or keep them. The results: People who kept their thoughts were more likely to side in favor of their notes--so if they wrote negative notes, they rated themselves more negatively--but those who trashed their thoughts saw no change in how they rated their bodies. \*\*\*Usually my negative thoughts are that I don't want to take out the trash... how is adding to the trash pile going to help my mood?

Scientific American reports that scientists have found that the average time it takes for any mammal over 6.5 pounds to urinate is a consistent 21 seconds whether it's a huge elephant or a cat. \*\*\*So glad we were able to get the big important studies out of the way first. Now we can move on to the smaller, more insignificant issues of finding cures for cancer and AIDS.

In a poll, 55% of Californians said they consider illegal aliens to be criminals. \*\*\*Gee... really? And what was their first clue? The fact that they're here ILLEGALLY?

French Parliament recently issued a scathing report on why France is suffering a big drop in tourism. Turns out it's because the French are arrogant, rude and surly. The list of tourist complaints includes slow baggage handlers, no "Welcome to France" signs at the Paris airport, cab drivers who refuse to speak English, and a general haughty attitude that it's a great honor to visit France. French Parliament admitted this is not a new problem, as English author Horace Walpole wrote in the 18th century that he found the French insolent and detestable. \*\*\*All the French senators listened politely to his report, then they spit on it in disapproval.

The realm of gaming is expanding... to the men's room. In an attempt to make your bathroom stop more enjoyable a new kind of video game urinal has been invented. The urinal has a screen above where the action takes place, and you control the game with your urine stream. \*\*\*This could bring a whole new meaning to Pikachu (Peak at You).

## **AS THE JUNGLE TURNS**

*(Not updated on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

### **CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD WEDNESDAY'S EPISODE**

OPEN: And now, FancyMonkey.com, (Show Name), and (Station Call Letters) bring you As the Jungle Turns! When last we left the jungle, Millard the Monkey, feeling defeated because he could never come up with a way to beat Steve Mozart, no matter how hard he tried, walked sadly back to his tree-house. But when he opened the door, he found an intruder rifling through this filing cabinets... it was Steve Mozart!

CLOSE: Tune in again next time, as FancyMonkey.com, (Show Name), and (Station Call Letters) bring you another inspiringly inspiring inspirational inspiration in the never-ending deep-jungle soap-opera saga that is As the Jungle Turns!

*\*\*\*You may simulcast "As the Jungle Turns" on the Internet stream of your live broadcast only. Any other Internet use of "As the Jungle Turns" in whole or part including podcasting of your live broadcast is a violation of copyright law. Thank you for your cooperation on this vitally important issue. If you have any questions, please [e-mail us](#) and ask about "Jungle Jam & Friends the Radio Show" usage.*

## **MOMENT OF DUH**

### **Scientists study the obvious in today's Moment of Duh!**

Fill in the blank: Binge watching leads to A) larger muscles; B) poorer sleep quality; or C) soft, shiny hair? If you said B you're smarter than the researchers at the University of Michigan, who felt it necessary to see what binge-watching TV shows does to us. They discovered it leads to poorer sleep quality, fatigue and insomnia.

## **TOP TEN**

### **TOP TEN TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED**

10. Raising teenagers is like trying to nail Jell-O to a tree.
9. There's always a lot to be thankful for if you take time to look for it. For example, I am sitting here thinking about how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.
8. Reason to smile: Every seven minutes of every day, someone in an aerobics class pulls a hamstring.
7. The best way to keep teenagers at home is to make the home a pleasant atmosphere... and let the air out of their tires.
6. Families are like fudge ... mostly sweet with quite a few nuts.
5. Middle age is when you choose cereal for the fiber, not the toy.
4. The more you complain, the longer God lets you live.
3. If you can remain calm, you don't have all the facts.
2. Eat a live toad first thing in the morning, and nothing worse can happen to you the rest of the day.
1. You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoes and wonder what else you can do while you're down there.

## **THE FILES OF LAW & DISORDER**

### **A 63-year-old woman attempting to flee from police in Baker County, Florida, accidentally ran herself over with her own van.**

FILE #1: Sheriff Joey Dobson said that when 63-year-old Mary B. Davis attempted to leave the scene of a domestic dispute, she crashed into a riding lawnmower and fell from her vehicle, which then ran her over. The accident happened after Davis nearly hit a deputy with her van as he was standing by the driver's door. The officer was able to jump out of the way and avoid injury. Davis sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

FILE #2: A 20-year-old Forth Worth, Texas, woman is faced an aggravated assault charge after she bit her boyfriend, broke a picture frame across his face, and swung at him with a sword during an argument over his refusal to do the dishes. The woman was arrested at the couple's apartment.

FILE #3: Gregory Roberts made it really easy for the police. After breaking into a New Mexico library, he called 911. Roberts found himself in a bit of a predicament after smashing a window to gain entry into the Branigan Library. Wandering inside the library, Roberts got himself trapped between the outer and inner doors of the foyer, with no way of getting out. He eventually had to call police from a pay phone to come get him out. It's not clear as to what he was trying to do breaking into the library. Sgt. Joel Cano jokingly said, "Sometimes, late night studying just doesn't pay."  
\*\*\*MARLAR: Police are planning on throwing the book at him.

STRANGE LAW: If a child burps during a church service in Omaha, Nebraska, his or her parents may be arrested.

### **THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON DRUGS**

*"This Is Your Brain On Drugs" is about people doing dumb things under the influence, but addiction is no laughing matter. If you or someone you know needs help, there's a toll free number you can call 1-800-438-0380. That's the Addiction Hope and Help Line at 1-800-438-0380.*

#### **A man breaks into a woman's home – and you won't believe why!**

Police in York, Pennsylvania say Sean Haller was pretty drunk when he allegedly forced his way into a woman's home and sat down with two 12-packs of beer. It seems Mr. Haller didn't mean any harm to the woman - he just wanted somebody to drink with. He now faces multiple charges including criminal trespassing and remained in the York County jail as of yesterday. The Southern Regional Police Department says a woman called them on Sept. 12 to report Haller had entered her home and refused to leave. Police say the 39-year-old Haller had done the same thing in another woman's home earlier that day. Police found him in the second woman's home and say he refused to leave, even though there were children inside. Officers ultimately had to go inside and get him. (Newser)

### **PHONER PHUN**

Does your family have any fun traditions that take place around the dinner table?

### **BIBLE BRAIN BUSTER!**

**QUESTION: What do you have that Cain, Abel, and Seth never had?**

*ANSWER: Grandparents*

### **QUESTION IMPOSSIBLE**

**QUESTION: The word "galaxy" comes from the Greek word for what?**

*ANSWER: Milk*

### **TRUE OR FALSE**

*Pay attention! If our next player doesn't answer all ten T/F questions correctly we start all over from question #1! First person to answer question #10 correctly is our winner!*

1. Aztec emperor Montezuma drank 50 golden goblets of hot chocolate every day. (True - it was thick, dyed red and flavored with chili peppers.)
2. A notch in a tree will continue to rise as the tree grows, even going into the branches. (False - the notch will remain the same distance from the ground as the tree grows.)
3. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the largest fruit can be as heavy as 44 lbs. (True - the single-seeded fruit of the giant fan palm, or *Lodoicea maldivica*, can weigh 44 lbs. Commonly known as the double coconut or coco de mer, it is found wild only in the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean.)
4. Coffee was once used to treat gout. (True - advertisements for coffee in London in 1657 claimed that the beverage was a cure for scurvy, gout and other ills.)
5. The soy bean is the oldest, most widely cultivated and extensively used nuts in the world. (False - that honor belongs to the almond.)



6. Americans eat more bananas than any other fruit. (True - a total of 11 billion bananas a year.)
7. Speaking of bananas, they aren't really fruits - but vegetables. (False. They're not vegetables or fruits - they are actually herbs. Bananas die after fruiting, like all herbs do.)
8. Arrowroot, an antidote for poisoned arrows, is also used in some recipes. (True - it's used as a thickener in cooking.)
9. Avocados have the highest calories of any fruit. (True - 167 calories per hundred grams.)
10. Most of the world's olives are grown in Italy. (False - 70 to 80 percent of all ripe olives are grown in California's approximately 35,000 acres. In the 1700s, Franciscan monks brought olives to Mexico and then into California by way of the missions. The first cuttings were planted in 1769 at the San Diego Mission. Commercial cultivation of California olives began in the late 1800s. Today, anywhere from 80,000 to 160,000 tons of olives are produced in California each year.)

### **TABLOID MATCH GAME**

*You have to match the blank in the tabloid headline with the word or phrase that has been removed!*

**"Man Killed by \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone!" (CHARGING)**

It happened in India to a 27-year-old man who was listening to music on his charging cell phone! Police believe the charger wire may have been faulty.

### **THE WAY TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING TO UNDERSTAND THE PUNCHLINE EVEN AFTER TWO CUPS OF COFFEE JOKE OF THE DAY**

#### **JOKE #1**

A retired man who volunteers to entertain patients in nursing homes and hospitals went to Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn and took his portable keyboard along. He told some jokes and sang some funny songs at patients' bedsides. When he finished he said, in farewell, "I hope you get better."  
One elderly gentleman replied, "I hope you get better, too."

#### **JOKE #2**

A barber gave a haircut to a priest one day. The priest tried to pay for the haircut but the barber refused saying "you do God's work." The next morning the barber found a dozen bibles at the door to his shop.  
A policeman came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused payment saying "you protect the public." The next morning the barber found a dozen doughnuts at the door to his shop.  
A lawyer came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused payment saying "you serve the justice system." The next morning the barber found a dozen lawyers waiting for a haircut.

#### **JOKE #3**

The sheriff of a small town was also the town's veterinarian. One night the phone rang, and his wife answered.  
An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"  
"Do you require his services as a sheriff or as a vet?" the wife asked.  
"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it."

### **USELESS FACTS**

Mothers who are over 40 at the time of birth are more likely to have a left-handed baby. \*\*\*Which I can only assume means being left-handed is a birth defect.

Flamingos are able to fly at a speed of approximately 34 miles per hour. In one night they can travel over 370 miles. \*\*\*Except for the pink ones – which seem to never move from my neighbor's back yard.

### **FEATURED FUNNIES**

#### **BIBLE VERSIONS**

A ten-year-old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then one



day she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus: the Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

### **WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR DINNER?**

Two little boys were visiting their grandfather and he took them to a restaurant for lunch. They couldn't make up their minds about what they wanted to eat. Finally the grandfather grinned at the server and said, "Just bring them bread and water."

One of the little boys looked up and quavered, "Can I have ketchup on it?"

### **OLD AS DIRT**

You know you're old when you have owned an album for 4 or more decades in 5 different formats.

In 1978 - 8-track tape.

In 1983 - cassette tape.

In 1987 - vinyl.

In 1994 - CD

In 2008 - MP3

### **IT MUST BE TRUE BECAUSE I HEARD IT ON THE RADIO!**

#### **Want to know how to bring a little levity to the courtroom?**

British magistrate Hector Graham was about to pass sentence in his courtroom in Luton, England, when his musical tie, a gift from his wife, came to life. "He had arrived at the part about how serious an offense it was that the defendant had committed when all of a sudden 'Santa Claus Is Coming to Town' started up," a court spokesman said. "He didn't have a clue how to stop it and was extremely embarrassed, especially because after that, it went into two more Christmas-time songs and finished with 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas.'" \*\*\*MARLAR: All rise... and boogie!

### **INSPIRATIONAL INSPIRATION**

#### **A DIFFERENT KIND OF PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity.

Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.

### **DRIVE TIME DEVOTIONAL**

#### **SIN OF THE SKIN**

Read: Ephesians 2:11-22

Do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. --James 2:1

Most people hate to be accused of racism. But racial bias is all too prevalent. Even Christians have had a long history of ethnic prejudice. In the first century, Jewish believers were reluctant to accept their Gentile brothers. In recent years, racial discrimination has been a dominant issue.

Prejudice can run so deep that it sometimes takes a tragedy to make a person see how wrong it is to discriminate on the basis of physical differences. Several years ago I read about a bigoted truckdriver who had no use for African-Americans. But one early morning, his tanker truck flipped over and burst into flames. A week later, he was lying in a hospital bed and looking into the face of a black man who had saved his life. He learned that the man had used his own coat and bare hands to smother the flames that had turned the trucker into a human torch. He wept as he thanked the man for his act of unselfish heroism.

We shouldn't need a tragedy to open our eyes. We need only look to Calvary. There our Lord gave His life for people of every language, race, and nation.

The universal scope of His sacrifice shows His love for every human being.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, if we have fanned the fire of prejudice that You died to put out.

## **LEFTOVERS**

### **SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON**

#### **A boat is put out of action, because of small fish.**

A car ferry in Finland has been put out of action. No, it didn't run out of gas. No, it didn't crash... it simply was attacked by a school of tiny fish. Engineers said the tiny fish swam through two sets of filters before clogging up the engine's cooling system. Engines on board the Sila Symphony failed and the vessel was plunged into darkness. A spokesman said "The ship was at open sea and the sea was calm so there was no emergency. Everything was under control."

## **LIFE... LIVE IT**

### **HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH IN JUST 5 MINUTES**

*(National Examiner)* Got five minutes to spare? Use the time to improve your health by practicing one of these 10 top tips:

- **Correct Posture** -- Sitting at your desk, adjust the height of your chair so that your forearms are parallel to the floor when using a keyboard. Your thighs should be at right angles to your body.
- **Tea Time** -- Two cups of tea a day can halve the risk of heart disease and prevent strokes. The phytochemicals in tea contain antioxidants that knock out free radicals that can lead to cancer.
- **Brush Right** -- To fend off gum disease, brush and floss twice a day. Use short horizontal strokes, and follow up with mouthwash to make sure you get all the plaque.
- **Juice It** -- A glass of orange juice is the easiest way to get one of the five recommended daily servings of fruits and veggies and it's packed with vitamin C.
- **Deep Breaths** -- Shallow breathing can lead to increased risk of infection in the lower lungs and high blood pressure. Deep breathing increases oxygen in the blood, calms nerves and lowers the heart rate.
- **Rent a Comedy** -- Having a good laugh can improve overall health and boost levels of immunoglobulin, an antibody that helps fight infections. It can also lower blood pressure.
- **Treat Your Feet** -- Wash your feet every day, and dry thoroughly, especially between the toes. Apply a moisturizing cream but not between the toes, because moisture leads to athlete's foot.
- **Stretch** -- If you don't stretch a muscle after a workout, it won't be able to refuel with the right nutrients, and the muscle fibers won't fall back into place.
- **Phone a Friend** -- Getting in touch with friends and family is an effective way of beating depression and can help you recover from illness sooner.
- **Pet Your Pet** -- Stroking your kitty or pooch lowers your heart rate and blood pressure, and can improve your chances of survival after a serious illness of surgery.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

### **TURTLE CROSSING**

#### **We've heard of pedestrian crossings, cattle crossings, deer crossings... and now in Nebraska you might see a sign for a turtle crossing!**

Now there are spots designated for turtle crossings at a wildlife refuge in Nebraska. To preserve rare Branding's turtles, officials in north-central Nebraska have put up chain link fences to help herd them under U.S. Highway 83. Branding's turtles can live up to 70 years. They are listed nationally as a species of special concern, which means they could be headed for extinction or endangered status. \*\*\*MARLAR: If these turtles can live for 70 years, maybe someone can teach them to use a crosswalk.

## **FUN LIST**

### **LET'S FALL IN LOVE**

#### **What Happens When You Fall In Love With...**

- A chef? (You get buttered up.)
- A chauffeur? (You get taken for a ride.)
- A gambler? (He cheats on you.)
- A telephone operator? (He gives you a phone-y line.)
- A trash man? (He dumps you.)
- A clockmaker? (He two-times you.)
- A pastry cook? (He desserts you.)

- A shoe salesman? (He walks all over you.)
- An elevator operator? (He lets you down.)
- An artist? (He gives you the brush.)
- A jogger? (He gives you the run-around.)

### **MORE SHOW PREP STUFF..**

#### **TV DINNER**

Watching too much TV is bad for your brain and your body, but Canadian researchers have discovered that the TV can also lead to an increase in food consumption. The University of Toronto found that kids who watched TV while eating lunch took in 228 extra calories than those who ate without the TV on. \*\*\*MARLAR: This is really bad for me because sometimes I'll watch like three televisions at once!

### **OTHER STUFF I WANT TO CRAM INTO TODAY'S PREP**

*(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

Want to save as much as an hour a day? Here's an easy way: Stop checking your e-mail so much. On average, employees check their email 74 times a day. Assuming you sleep at least six hours, that's about four times an hour or once every 15 minutes. That's the word from Gloria Mark, a professor at the University of California, Irvine, who told the Wall Street Journal that e-mail usage is "out of control." Mark has made a career of studying how workers interact with email, and the news is not good. We are swamped with e-mail inboxes that just keep growing larger and larger. And the result is discouraging for workers and their bosses: We are becoming ever more distracted. It's creating a kind of high-tech attention deficit. After all, to check e-mail 74 times a day means we are stopping what we're doing to click on mail. That doesn't do much for productivity. What happens if we don't pay attention to the email? Mark and her colleagues studied that and found that when employees were cut off from their e-mail, they were able to better focus for longer periods of time, they switched screens less frequently and were less stress.

Stress can make you fat. Why? It's biological. When your life is filled with stress and anxiety, your body produces high levels of the stress hormone cortisol, and British researchers have discovered there is a link between cortisol and excess weight. Cortisol is triggered when you experience the "flight-or-fight" response to danger. And while it's helpful in short doses when real and sudden danger occurs, it is harmful when it is present in the body for long periods of time. The study found that those with higher cortisol levels tended to have larger waist circumferences, which was defined as more than 40 inches for men and more than 35 inches for women, as well as higher BMIs and body fat. In addition, higher levels of cortisol were linked to a higher risk of being obese for both men and women. Important caveat: Although the study found an association between cortisol and obesity, it did not prove a cause-and-effect link. But it is likely that a high level of stress leads some people to overeat as a way to compensate and that causes the excess weight gain.

Itching is contagious. To be exact, it is highly contagious. When you see someone scratch, you're likely to scratch, too. Just reading these words may have caused you to itch -- and then scratch. We've long known that laughing and yawning can be socially contagious. If you see someone yawn, you yawn. If you see a group of people laughing, chances are you will laugh. The same thing is true for scratching. Previously, researchers assumed this was all in our minds. Now researchers from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri have proven that contagious itching is hardwired in the brain and not a form of empathy. They say it's an innate behavior and an instinct. The next time you scratch or yawn in response to someone else doing it, remember it's really not a choice nor a psychological response; it's hardwired into your brain.

Scientists say holding hands with a loved one or even just looking at their photo can take away pain. Psychologists at the University of California, Los Angeles, found that women who were given mild burns felt less hurt if they were comforted by someone they cared about. But holding hands with a stranger made no difference. The findings show that a kiss or cuddle can make all the difference. Perhaps this is why when Mommy kissed your boo-boo, it felt better.

Research shows children can start acting mean in kindergarten, or even worse, before then. The Wall Street Journal reports researchers observed children using the threat of withholding friendship as a "tactical weapon." Laurel Klaassen, an elementary school counselor in Iowa, told the Journal: "They're already thinking at that age about being popular, being the queen of the classroom, or the queen of the playground and vying for that position." Research has found about 50% of children in 5th through 12th grade experience relational aggression on a monthly basis, and seven percent say they experience it on a daily or weekly basis. Because these issues are emerging at such a young age, ABC News says schools are beginning to implement programs to help teach kindness.

## **SOUL-GLO**

*(Feel-good stories! Only posted as new stories come available. Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

### **Little Girl Uses Her Lemonade Stand to Pay Down Other Kids' School Lunch Debt**

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade; and then use that lemonade to help less fortunate children in your community. That is what Amiah Van Hill in Hayden, Idaho is doing for her schoolmates. The second-grade student has been selling lemonade in order to pay off the school lunch debt of the Coeur d'Alene Public School district. Her "Lemonade 4 Lunch" stand initially raised about \$40 last weekend, which was enough to pare down the debt at three local schools. Then, she set her sights on a much bigger goal: \$23,000. By starting a [GoFundMe campaign](#) with her mom, the 6-year-old will be using her lemonade stand and the crowdfunding initiative to raise enough money to cover lunch debts throughout the district. Amiah, who attends Hayden Meadows Elementary School, says that she first became inspired to raise money for the cause after she read a [story about John Lew](#): a Seattle dad who raised over \$50,000 for his state's lunch debt. While Amiah may be a lot younger than Lew, her path will make a big difference for other students. You can see the video at <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/girls-lemonade-stand-to-pay-down-lunch-debt/>

## **TOTALLY OUTRAGEOUS!**

*(Only posted as stories come available. Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

In Greensboro, North Carolina, the Guilford County Sheriff's office says animal cruelty charges have been filed after a video went viral days ago showing a girl using an aerosol can and lighter to create flames which she pointed towards her dog. Another teen filmed the incident and posted it on Snapchat. The dog, a chocolate Labrador Retriever named Bella, is being treated at Benessere Animal Hospital. Doctors says the dog's fur was burned. It also has spots of paint on its tail. But luckily it wasn't seriously hurt. The mother of one of the teens charged said, "She made an immature, stupid mistake. She deserved to be charged, but she also deserves to be forgiven." Investigators say the teens involved are ages 13 and 14. Bella will stay at the animal hospital until she is allowed to be adopted.

## **AND I LEAVE YOU WITH THIS THOUGHT**

Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous. You will get knocked down by the traffic from both directions.

## **THE TICKET Movie Reviews with MARIE ASNER**

**Marie Asner has been reviewing films for over 35 years. Her outlets include radio, print and Internet. For more in-depth movie reviews of the following films, visit [www.Tollbooth.org](http://www.Tollbooth.org). Ratings from 1 (Low) to 5 (High).**

### **SEPTEMBER 15, 2017...**

**American Assassin**---This film is based on the first novel by Vince Flynn, as part of his book series. It is an action film, plenty of thrills, starring newcomer Dylan O'Brien as the character Mitch Rapp. Several actors were interested in the role, but eventually it went to an actor about to begin his major career. The set-up has Rapp being an orphan in his early teens, selected by a CIA agent (Sanaa Lathan) as a protege, then sent to a trainer (Michael Keaton) to learn the tricks of the trade. What motivates Rapp is finding who killed his parents. This theme seems to dominate action films, doesn't it? Even going back to "Batman." As an adult, Rapp is sent to work on a case of multiple attacks and has to team with Shiva Negar from Turkey. They find their villain is "The Ghost" (Taylor Kitsch) and away everyone goes on an action adventure. You will recognize Scott Adkins and David Suchet ("Hercule Poirot") also in the cast. "American Assassin" is rated R for violence. Rating of 2 for fans of the genre.

**Brad's Status**---Ben Stiller is taking his college-age son to various schools and meets an old classmate. This makes Ben wonder just how good a father he is. Is he lacking something? Is he smart? Witty? Wealthy? The cast includes Austin Abrams, Michael Sheen, Jenna Fischer and Luke Wilson. "Brad's Status" is rated PG 13. No rating.

**mother!**---Directed by Darren Aronofsky, this film is a combination comedy and drama. Stars Jennifer Lawrence and Javier Bardem as a couple who have a weekend party. However, things don't go exactly as planned. Also in the cast is Michele Pfeiffer. Aronofsky usually has surprises in his scripts. Hmm. "mother!" is rated R. No rating.

**First They Killed My Father**---Directed by Angelina Jolie, the film is based on the real life adventure in Cambodia by Loung Ung (played by Sareum Srey Moch). The Khmer Rouge were in power at that time and living in Cambodia was dangerous. What to do---escape? The film is in the Khmer and English languages. Also in the cast are Phoeong Kompheak and Sueng Socheatca. "First They Killed My Father" is rated R. No rating.

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2017...**

**Battle Of The Sexes** and it had to happen, a film version of the tennis match between Billie Jean King (Emma Stone) and Bobby Riggs (Steve Carell.)

**Kingsmen: The Golden Circle** continues the story of a young spy teamed with an older spy. Stars Taron Egerton and Colin Firth.

**The LEGO Ninjago Movie** is an animated film with LEGO'S new boy hero, Lloyd (voice of Dave Franco) defending everyone.

**Stronger** stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Jeff Bauman, who lost his legs from the Boston Marathon bombing.

**Woodshock** has Kirsten Dunst taking a dangerous drug and the after effects of it.

**Victoria and Abdul** has Dame Judi Dench as Queen Victoria as she enters a new stage of her life.

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