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PRINT VERSIONS OF TODAY’S PREP:

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WELCOME TO THE SHOW!

Some people think it's easy to sit here and spin CDs. But if you don't do it just right, they'll fall right off your finger.

People love to claim they're Irish for St. Patrick's Day even if they're not. So why don't we claim to be Japanese on Pearl Harbor Day, or claim to be black for the entire month of February? I'll tell you why... because that would be stupid, insensitive, and racist. Enjoy your green beer, America!

I have searched everywhere and I just cannot find Nat King Cole's St. Patrick's Day album.

PRESIDENTIAL WIT & WISDOM ([click here to buy the book](#))

(None on the weekends or holidays.)

BIBLE VERSE OF THE DAY

God has saved us and called us to a holy life -- not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. --2 *Timothy 1:9 New International Version*

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. — [John 1:14](#)

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil. — [Hebrews 2:14](#)

HEARTLIGHT DAILY VERSE, PRAYER & THOUGHT

(From VerseOfTheDay.com)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. — [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

Thought: What do you use for your life's compass? No matter how insightful, wise, experienced, or knowledgeable we may be, only God can guide our steps properly. God asks us to trust him and his wisdom even when we can't immediately see the rationale behind it. He wants us to recognize his presence, guidance, and grace in all we do. As we trust and as we acknowledge his presence, we suddenly realize that our paths are a lot straighter and our destinations are a lot a closer.

Prayer: Abba Father, please give me courage to not lean on my own understanding. I know my thinking can be flawed and what I intend for good can blow up in my face. Please bless me with wisdom and insight as I seek to live for you in today's confusing and immoral world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

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

Zephaniah 3:17 NIV = The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

TODAY IS SATURDAY – MARCH 17, 2018

(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 282 SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL NEXT CHRISTMAS.

Today is **GREEN RIVER DAY** in Chicago. *** Which, if you've seen the river that runs through Chicago, you wonder if green isn't actually an improvement.

TODAY IS ALSO...

Corn Dog Day
International Sports Car Racing Day
St. Patrick's Day
Worldwide Quilting Day
Play The Recorder 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)*

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Awkward Moments Day
Forgive Mom and Dad Day
National Biodiesel Day

MONDAY, MARCH 19

Client's Day
Goddess of Fertility Day
National Certified Nurses Day
National Chocolate Caramel Day
National Poultry Day
Operation Iraqi Freedom Day
Swallows Return to San Juan Capistrano Day
Well-Elderly or Wellderly Day

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Alien Abduction Day
Bed-in For Peace Day
Great American Meat Out Day
International Astrology Day
International Day of Happiness
French Language Day
Kiss Your Fiancée Day
National Agriculture Day
National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
Proposal Day
Snowman Burning Day
Spring (Vernal Equinox)
World Storytelling Day
Won't You Be My Neighbor Day
World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People
World Sparrow Day

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Afghanistan Day
Gallo Wine Day
International Colour Day
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
International Day of Forests and The Tree
International Day of Nowruz

Kick Butts Day
Memory Day
National Common Courtesy Day
National Day of Action On Syringe Exchange
National Healthy Fats Day
National Renewable Energy Day
Poetry Day
Twitter Day
WE Day (Note: This has various dates based on city. Check their [website.](#))
National Single Parent Day
World Down Syndrome Day
World Poetry Day
World Puppetry Day

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

As Young As You Feel Day
Data Innovation Day
International Day of The Seal
National Goof-off Day
Tuskegee Airmen Day
World Day for Water (aka World Water Day)
World Day of Metta

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

National Puppy Day
National Chia Day
National Tamale Day
Near Miss Day
OK Day
World Meteorological Day

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Be Mad Day
Earth Hour
Endometriosis March Day
National Chocolate Covered Raisins Day
International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for Dignity of Victims
Take Your Parents To The Playground Day
Violations and for Dignity of Victims
World Tuberculosis Day

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

International Day of Remembrance of The Victims of Slavery and The Transatlantic
International Day of The Unborn Child
International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members
National Day of Celebration of Greek & American Democracy
National Medal of Honor Day
Old New Year's Day
Pecan Day
Tolkien Reading Day
Vaffeldagen (Waffle Day)

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Legal Assistants Day
Live Long And Prosper Day
Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
Purple Day
Spinach Day

ON THIS DAY

1755: The Transylvania Land Company bought what is now the State of Kentucky from Cherokee Chief Groundhog Sausage. One source puts the price at \$50,000, but it may have been less. Chief Dragging Canoe tried to prevent the sale.

1789: English writer Charlotte Elliott was born. An invalid for 50 years, she wrote 150 hymns, including the popular "Just As I Am."

1010: The Camp Fire Girls organization was formed. It was presented to the public on this day two years later.

1958: The Coasters recorded "Yakety Yak." Composers Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller wrote the song in ten minutes. ([audio clip](#))

1962: Charlie Drake's "My Boomerang Won't Come Back" peaked at #21 on U.S. pop charts. It was Charlie's biggest hit.

1966: The last Studebaker, a Daytona, was produced in Canada. The company's U.S. plant already had closed.

1966: A U.S. midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb which had fallen from an American bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain.

1967: The cover of Life magazine carried a picture of Snoopy and Charlie Brown.

1969: Golda Meir was sworn in as the first woman Prime Minister of Israel. Born in Russia, she grew in Wisconsin and once taught at a Milwaukee high school.

1990: 57-year-old French actress Capucine committed suicide in Lausanne, Switzerland. Thirty years earlier she had starred with John Wayne in "North to Alaska." She also played Mrs. Inspector Clouseau in "The Pink Panther."

1991: In its first dress code change since the 1960s, Brigham Young University announced that students could wear knee-length shorts and go sockless.

1998: 25-year-old Cristian Pavesi was convicted of murder in Brescia, Italy, and sentenced to 18 years under house arrest at his grandmother's. When the sentence was read, the mother of the victim fainted.

1999: At a restaurant in Schererville, Indiana, an intoxicated man, angered by a slow-flushing toilet, pulled out a pistol and shot it. Several times. Police said no one was injured, but the toilet was destroyed.

1999: A Chinese illegal immigrant was given a year in jail for breaking into a Hong Kong home and eating an expensive pet turtle. Though the normal burglary sentence was three years, the judge assessed a lighter sentence because the defendant pleaded guilty, didn't steal anything else, and claimed he was really hungry. He left two smaller turtles unharmed.

2005: Several major league baseball players told the U.S. Congress steroids were a problem in the sport.

2006: A U.S. appeals court ruled that the Environmental Protection Administration cannot exempt older power plants and refineries from the Clean Air Act, voting unanimously against the Bush administration's interpretation of the law.

TODAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

461: Patrick, missionary to Ireland and that country's patron saint, dies. Irish raiders captured Patrick, a Romanized Briton, and enslaved him as a youth. He escaped to Gaul (modern France) but returned to Ireland after experiencing a vision calling him back to preach. Patrick enjoyed great success there as a missionary, and only the far south remained predominantly pagan when he died.

1780: Thomas Chalmers, pastor, social reformer, and one of the founders of the Free Church of Scotland (FCS), is born. By his death in 1847, he had started missions in hundreds of poor urban settings, and he led a third of the Scottish clergy and a half of the laity of the church of Scotland into FCS in 1843. His chief concern throughout his life was the evangelization of the urban poor.

HOLLYWOOD, SPORTS AND CELEBRITY FIGURE BIRTHDAYS

- actress (Ursula Hanson in *Super Troopers*, Melissa Hughes on “Boston Legal”) Marisa Coughlan 44
- actor (*The Christmas Shoes*, *The Christmas Blessing*, *Salem’s Lot*, Jack Turner on “The Lyon’s Den”) Rob Lowe is 54
- actor (Lt. Dan in *Forest Gump*, *Ransom*, “CSI: NewYork,” *Mission to Mars*, *Apollo 13*) Gary Sinise 63
- actress (“The Bold and the Beautiful,” “Days of Our Lives”) Leslie-Ann Down 64
- actor (*Escape From New York*, *Escape From LA*, *Dreamer*, *Stargate*) Kurt Russell 67 ([audio clip](#))
- actor (Bobby Ewing on “Dallas”) Patrick Duffy 69 ([audio clip](#))

BEE-BOP BIRTHDAYS

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

1919 : [Nat King Cole](#)

1935 : Adam Wade

1938 : Zola Taylor ([The Platters](#))

1941 : Clarence Clemons

1941 : Paul Kantner of ([Jefferson Airplane](#))

1944 : John Sebastian ([The Lovin' Spoonful](#))

1945 : Pattie Boyd is born. She would later marry George Harrison and Eric Clapton, and also inspire the song [Layla](#).

1946 : Harold Brown ([War](#))

1948 : Fran Byrne ([Ace](#))

1951 : Scott Gorham ([Thin Lizzy](#), [Supertramp](#))

1959 : Mike Kindup ([Level 42](#))

1967 : Billy Corgan ([The Smashing Pumpkins](#))

1972 : Melissa Auf der Maur ([Hole](#), [The Smashing Pumpkins](#))

1973 : Caroline Corr ([the Corrs](#))

1975 : Justin Hawkins ([The Darkness](#))

1976 : Stephen Gately ([Boyzone](#))

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

How are enormously heavy steel ships able to float?

From the way they look in the water, I'd say "with plenty of effort." They appear to defy basic laws of nature. But in fact, they're obeying a law of nature, buoyancy, which Greek mathematician Archimedes reportedly discovered while taking a bath. The trick in building ships so that they don't go straight to the bottom is to get the shape right. The vessel has to be configured so that it will be buoyant, displacing a volume of water weighing as much as it does. In other words, if an amount of steel equal to that in a giant tanker were rolled into a compact ball and dropped into the sea, bye, bye ball. But if the metal is spread out over a thousand feet, the ship can cross the ocean.

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.)

NEWS KICKER EVERGREENS...

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

(PERENNIAL) HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY! Archaeologists in Cork, Ireland have uncovered startling new evidence that a race of leprechauns really existed on the Emerald Isle. A team of researchers excavating a 13-thousand year old burial mound report finding skeletal remains of 11 adult males, all under three feet tall. And in accordance with Celtic myths, beside each one was buried with a pot of gold. ***And a box of Lucky Charms.

(PERENNIAL) Almost 3 in 10 people plan to watch March Madness games while at work. ***It's important to take a break from social media sometimes.

AS THE JUNGLE TURNS

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

[CLICK HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD MONDAY'S EPISODE

OPEN: And now FancyMonkey.com, (Show Name), and (Station Call Letters) bring you another inspiringly inspiring inspirational story in the never-ending deep-jungle soap-opera saga that is, "As the Jungle Turns!"

CLOSE: So what's so wrong about playing with the new kid? Nothing, I think... but then, I don't think like Marvy Snuffleson. Which is a good thing – otherwise I'd end up being sent to my room, which I'm pretty sure is going to happen to Marvy! Tune in next time to find out... As the Jungle Turns!

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MOMENT OF DUH

Need a girlfriend? Try arson!

University of Central Florida student Matthew Damsky wanted to meet women. Damsky then came up with a plan. Damsky admitted to setting a couch on fire at the Academic Village Dorms. Damsky told officers he hoped he would be able to meet women as the building was being evacuated. He instead met inmates after he was arrested for arson and booked into the local jail.

TOP TEN

TOP TEN UNNECESSARY INVENTIONS

10. **Makeup That is Tattooed on:** You might love that green eyeliner now, but what about when you're fifty?
9. **Colored Elastics For Braces:** As if the braces didn't make your mouth stand out enough.
8. **Crayons That Smell:** Oh, good, let's give kids another reason to eat them.
7. **Juicers:** Carrot-peach-avocado-rutabaga-pomegranate-yam juice was not meant to be.
6. **Colored Contact Lenses:** Oh, yeah, purple is such a natural eye color.
5. **Fake Eyelashes:** You shouldn't be able to braid your eyelashes.
4. **The Epilady:** Pulling hair out by the roots is so painful.
3. **Those Crocheted Kleenex Box Covers:** Kleenex does not get chilly.
2. **Heated and/or Padded Toilet Seats:** You are not supposed to spend the day there. Comfort should not be a pressing concern.
1. **Doggie Sweaters:** There was only ONE Mr. Rogers!

THE FILES OF LAW & DISORDER

The pen may be mightier than the sword, but one sword sends a burglar to the pen!

FILE #1: Sometimes you just know it's not your day. Take Budapest's Pal Nagy, for example. He climbed over a fence with the intent of robbing a house. Unfortunately, our pal, Pal, was confronted by 23-year-old Virgine Ujlaky. That name may sound familiar to Olympic fencing fans as she's one of the sport's best. She also happened to be practicing her swordplay when Pal dropped in on her. Before you could say 'en guard,' her blade was against Pal's throat. Police arrested Pal right after he was treated by paramedics for shock.

FILE #2: A successful bank robbery is never truly a success unless it's done in conjunction with a successful getaway. Finding out the hard way was an unnamed 16-year-old Toronto boy. The kid walked into the bank and collected cash from the vault, the tellers and even the customers until 45 minutes later he had some \$150,000 in his sack. If you're

thinking that 45 minutes would surely be enough time for someone to trigger a silent alarm and for police to surround the bank and wait for him to emerge to slap the handcuffs on him, you'd be absolutely correct.

FILE #3: If you're planning to embark upon a career in bank robbery, it would be a good idea to possess a sharp memory. Such was not the case for 26-year-old Terrell Green. It seems that Terrell walked into a bank and handed the teller a note from his wallet demanding money. When the teller asked what she should do with the money, the man handed her a white pillowcase into which she placed the loot, along with a complimentary dye pack. One thing Terrell didn't take was his wallet, which he left behind on the counter, along with his identification. Police paid a visit to Terrell's residence and made new living arrangements for him at the local jail.

STRANGE LAW: In Los Angeles, CA, it is illegal to cry on the witness stand.

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.

Even police officers sometimes make mistakes when their brain is on drugs...

Ohio's Jeff Krepina was arrested on DUI charges after he crashed his car into a building. When officers asked Krepina how much he had to drink before the accident, he replied, "Too much." By the way, that was Sergeant Jeff Krepina, of the Parma Heights Police Department and the building he crashed into was the police department. Police Captain Garry Lauter says, "He is a good police officer. This is an isolated incident."

PHONER PHUN

They're constantly coming out with new ways to cure men of balding. Everything from new pills to creams that you rub on your scalp. Phone poll for the guys: What would you be willing to give up for five years if it would guarantee you a full head of hair for the rest of your life?

BIBLE BRAIN BUSTER!

QUESTION: Because many people believed in Jesus because of this man, the Jews wanted to put whom to death?

ANSWER: Lazarus (John 12:10-11)

QUESTION IMPOSSIBLE

QUESTION: Due to tectonic shifts, Mt. Everest keeps moving northeast every year. How far northeast has it moved since this time last year?

ANSWER: Two inches.

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. The San Diego Zoo in California has the largest collection of animals in the world. (True)
2. Golfers use an estimated \$100 million worth of golf balls annually. (False - \$800 million)
3. Chevy Chase was actually the name of a battle that took place on the English-Scottish border in 1388. (True)
4. In the weightlessness of space a frozen pea will explode if it comes in contact with Pepsi. (True)
5. The idea for "tribbles" in "Star Trek" came from rabbits. (False - gerbils, since some gerbils are actually born pregnant.)
6. Johnny Plessey batted .331 for the Cleveland Spiders in 1891, even though he spent the entire season batting with a rolled-up, lacquered copy of the Toledo Post-Dispatch. (True)

7. The Boeing 747 is capable of flying upside-down. (True - if it weren't for the fact that the wings would shear off when trying to roll it over.)
8. The trucking company Elvis Presley worked at as a young man was owned by Sammy Davis Jr. (False, it was owned by Frank Sinatra)
9. The only golf course on the island of Tonga has 19 holes. (False - 15 holes, and there's no penalty if a monkey steals your golf ball)
10. It's technically against the law to say "gesundheit" after someone sneezes. (True. Legislation passed during WWI making it illegal to say "gesundheit" to a sneezer was never repealed.)

TABLOID MATCH GAME

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

GRANDPARENTS TO BE BANNED FROM _____ (FACEBOOK)

Tumblr pages have been dedicated to restaurant posts by them. Millions of young adults use blocking features to hide posts from them. Infiltration by the elderly on Facebook has been answered with a simple reply: You're banned. In a few months, Facebook will unveil a new website devoted solely to 80-somethings. The company says it's a new opportunity for older users to connect on a more simplistic interface. But many others say it's simply a way of maintaining the youth of the social network.

Mark Zuckerberg has remained mum on the subject since a short press release was posted Friday afternoon. Many read over the move at first, as it was hidden amongst several other objectives for the year. However, it plainly states the following:

"We at Facebook are here to serve you. So starting next month, users will be required to take a survey to assess your social media aptitude. Say you're an 87-year-old who frequently signs their posts with a 'Love, Grandpa' tag. Well, congrats — you are now invited to our new website! More details will be available soon, guys."

While this may be a dramatic shift for some, Facebook officials are hoping that the change will be seen as best for everyone. Changes made by the company have been criticized more and more recently, but insiders think this will mark a new era for the tech giant.

"We're really just looking out for you," said Facebook engineer Jimmy Braswell. "We're constantly striving to give the most quality product possible. Let's be honest: This is what we need."

When asked if moving will be optional for those who are asked to go to the new site, Braswell was direct.

"This isn't exactly a 'ban' or anything," Braswell said. "But yeah, they'll have to leave."

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

JOKE #1

(In Honor Of St. Patrick's Day)

A young man named Murphy applied for an engineering position at an Irish firm based in Dublin. An American also applied for the same job. Both applicants had the same qualifications were asked to take a test by the Department manager.

Upon completion of the test, both men had only missed one of the questions.

The manager went to Murphy and said, "Thank you for your interest, but we've decided to give the American the job."

Murphy said, "And why would you be doing that? We both got 9 questions correct. This being Ireland and me being Irish I should get the job!"

We have made our decision not on the correct answers, but on the question you missed," replied the manager.

"And just how would one incorrect answer be better than the other?" asked Murphy.

The manager said, "It's simple. The American answered 'I don't know' to question #5. You put down 'Neither do I.'"

JOKE #2

(In Honor Of St. Patrick's Day)

An Irishman by the name of O'Mally proposed to his girl on St. Patrick's Day. He gave her a ring with a synthetic diamond. The excited young lass showed it to her father, a jeweler. He took one look at it and saw it wasn't real. The young lass, on learning it wasn't real, returned to her future husband and protested vehemently about his cheapness.

"It was in honor of St. Patrick's Day," he smiled. "I gave you a sham rock."

JOKE #3

A British Airways employee answers the telephone and hears a female voice asking: "How long is the Concorde flight from London to New York?"

As he turns to look the information up, he says, "Just a minute."

He hears the voice on the phone say, "Thank you," and she hangs up.

USELESS FACTS

Around 30% of women have changed their hairstyle without telling their partner first. ***And about 100% of men don't notice... because they're men.

55% of women have used company time to go to a tanning salon. ***Well, you gotta look good for your clients! In fact, tanning should be tax-deductible!

FEATURED FUNNIES

TAP AWAY

During an attack of laryngitis I lost my voice completely for two days. To help me communicate with him, my husband devised a system of taps.

One tap meant, "Give me a kiss," two taps meant "Yes," seven taps meant "No," and 95 taps meant "Take out the garbage."

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

DON'T DO THAT GOOD DEED TODAY!

Baking cookies for a little old lady now has two teenage girls in trouble with the law and also being sued by the old lady!

In Durango, Colorado, two teenage girls who surprised their neighbors with homemade cookies one night were ordered to pay nearly \$900 in medical bills to a woman who says she was so startled that she had to go to the hospital. 17-year-old Taylor Ostergaard and 18-year-old Lindsey Jo Zellitti baked the chocolate chip and sugar cookies one night last July. They made packages with a half-dozen cookies each and added large red construction-paper hearts that carried the message, "Have a great night! Love, The T and L Club." Then they set off to make their deliveries. But 49-year-old Wanita Renea says when she said saw "shadowy figures" outside the house knocking on her door. She yelled, "Who's there?" but no one answered, and the figures ran away. The teens said they didn't answer because they wanted the treats to be a surprise. Wanita says she was so frightened, she spent the night at her sister's house, then went to the hospital the next morning because she was still shaking and had an upset stomach. And get this -- the kids' families offered to pay the her medical bills, but she declined and sued, saying their apologies were not sincere and were not offered in person. After the judge's decision was announced, Taylor's mom said the girls, "cried and cried." ***MARLAR: This is some kind of sick world we live in when something like this can happen. Remember everybody, if Wanita's house is on fire late at night, don't yell and wake her. You might scare her so bad she might sue you.

INSPIRATIONAL INSPIRATION

Jesus said, "I am, and you will see me, the Son of Man, sitting at God's right hand in the place of power and coming back on the clouds of heaven." —Mark 14:62

Jesus stood before the high priest and boldly declared who He was. There stood Christ, unafraid of death, declaring before all men His identity and their judgment. His bold, resilient declaration ignited a storm like a match in a powder keg. Oh, what a difference the presence of the Holy Spirit makes as He gives us boldness to fearlessly declare our witness for God!

How opposite Jesus' assertion was from Peter's timid, fearful denial of who He was just six verses later. Peter shrank back, cursing, swearing, and denying that he had ever known Christ. If "fearing people is a dangerous trap" as Proverbs 29:25 declares, then Peter fell headlong into that trap. What a change we can observe in Peter's life, however, when he stood up on the day of Pentecost, demanding repentance from the men who had crucified Christ! Joshua and Caleb demonstrated the same boldness when facing a whole assembly that was about to stone them (Numbers 14:10). Never let the fear of man intimidate you in your greatest hour of destiny. Others may run, hide, and deny, but you must stand tall and be bold.

--Larry Stockstill

DRIVE TIME DEVOTIONAL

DOTS AND DOUGHNUT HOLES

Read: [Psalm 104:1-15](#)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. —Psalm 103:2

As a minister was addressing a group of men, he took a large piece of paper and made a black dot in the center of it. Then he held up the paper and asked them what they saw.

One person replied, "I see a black mark." "Right," the preacher said. "What else?" Complete silence prevailed. "I'm really surprised," the speaker commented. "You have completely overlooked the most important thing of all—the sheet of paper."

We are often distracted by small, dot-like disappointments, and we are prone to forget the innumerable blessings we receive from the Lord. But like the sheet of paper, the good things are far more important than the adversities that monopolize our attention.

This reminds me of a whimsical bit of verse that expresses good practical advice. "As you travel down life's pathway, may this ever be your goal: Keep your eye upon the doughnut, and not upon the hole!"

Yes, rather than concentrating on the trials of life, we should fix our attention on its blessings. Let's say with the psalmist, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits" (Psalm 68:19).

Let's keep praising Him so we won't be distracted by dots and doughnut holes. —Richard De Haan

*So amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged—God is over all;
Count your many blessings—angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end. —Oatman*

Spend your time counting your blessings—not airing your complaints.

LEFTOVERS

WOMAN HAS SCISSORS STUCK IN HER CHEST FOR 10 YEARS

We assumed that the medical community wasn't as advanced in Georgetown, Guyana as it is here at home but this story will leave you queasy! A Guyana woman has had a pair of surgical scissors lodged in her chest for 10 years without knowing it! 43 year old Roman Soman recently received treatment after breaking a bone and X-Rays revealed the scissors that were apparently forgotten after a chest operation performed at the same hospital in 1990! The Guyana Medical Association will provide Roman with financial compensation and they plan on removing the scissors this week.

LIFE... LIVE IT

Don't go shopping when you're feeling sad or you'll end up suffering the empty wallet blues.

(National Enquirer) To test this theory, researchers offered to sell bottled water to study participants, some of whom had watched a sad video immediately beforehand. The video, about the death of a boy's mentor, had a surprisingly dramatic effect on spending habits. Those who watched it were willing to spend four times more on the water than those who did not. Yet they claimed the video had no effect on their spending. "This is really different from the idea of retail therapy, where people are feeling negative and want to cheer themselves up by shopping," said researcher Jennifer Lerner of Harvard. "People have no idea this is going on." ***MARLAR: So – whatever you do – do NOT watch "Passion of the Christ" before you go shopping!

JUST FOR FUN

THERE AIN'T NO ANTIBIOTICS FOR COMPUTER VIRUSES

You no longer have to surf the Internet to pick up some nasty computer viruses. That because some cool gadgets like iPods, GPS systems and digital picture frames are coming pre-loaded with viruses that can hop into your computer when you plug them into your PC. They've tracked those viruses to the Chinese factories where the devices are made. Apparently what happens is that a Chinese worker who doesn't know any better, plugs the device into one of their computers to test it. Well, those computers at the Chinese factories don't have firewalls to keep out the viruses, so they jump into the gadget without anyone knowing it and, ultimately, into your computer. The good news is that if your computer has solid anti-virus software and if you keep it up to date, you'll probably be safe.

FUN LIST

SIGNS YOUR NEIGHBOR MIGHT BE A LEPRECHAUN

- Plays in the same rec basketball league as Mini-Me
- Needs a step-ladder to reach the mailbox
- Always wearing that stupid "Sham Rock Cafe" t-shirt

- Rainbow always seems to end in his backyard
- Thinks everyone is always after his Lucky Charms

MORE SHOW PREP STUFF..

COUPLE FINED \$3,400 FOR PINK FLAMINGOS

Plastic pink flamingoes may cost a pretty penny to persistent people.

Ellen and Doug Henry live in Lawrenceville, Georgia. They live in a neighborhood that has LOTS of rules as to how you are allowed to decorate your house. They're now trying to sell their house... and have discovered that the homeowners association has put a lien on their house! Why? Because they had a couple of pink flamingos in their yard! It turns out the association has been fining the Henry's \$25 A DAY for keeping two of the plastic pink flamingos in their front yard. . . and the fine is now up to \$3,400! The association says it's willing to call the whole thing off for \$374, but Ellen Henry says they won't pay more than \$100. If the couple does not pay the fine, the association's lawyer says the group can legally take their \$3,400 from the money the Henry's make on their house.

OTHER STUFF I WANT TO CRAM INTO TODAY'S PREP

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

SOUL-GLO

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

TOTALLY OUTRAGEOUS!

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

AND I LEAVE YOU WITH THIS THOUGHT

Even as a kid, I knew someday I'd be in a profession where I could help people. Either that or a Viking 'cause man, you gotta admit, those helmets with horns are pretty cool. --*Daniel Avrin*

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. Ratings from 1 (Low) to 5 (High).

MARCH 16, 2018...

Tomb Raider---Angelina Jolie was the first Lara Croft and I still have the soundtrack from that film. Jolie has gone on to further things in the film industry, including directing. In this reboot of the series, directed by Roar Uthaug, we again meet Lara (Alicia Vikander), who is the daughter of a famous explorer, played by Dominic West. They search for antiquities and Dad's company is vast, directed by Kristen Scott Thomas, with an array of gear and guns designed by Nick Fraser. In the film, Lara is searching for her father (aren't they all?) She doesn't quite have the knack for defense but catches on quickly. A water escape is there, and Vikander did many of her own stunts. Reminiscent of "A Wrinkle In Time.") Every adventure film has to have a villain, and here it is Walton Groggins. Lara gets into one entanglement after another with plenty of chases and escapes. The soundtrack this time around is done by Junkie XL. "Tomb Raider" is rated PG 13. Rating of 2 for fans.

Love, Simon---The story line here concerns a teenage boy, Simon (Nick Robinson) who is gay and trying to come out. Unfortunately, someone is trying to blackmail Nick and he learns you must choose your friends with care. The film is adapted from the book "Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda." Also in the cast are Jennifer Garner as Simon's Mom and Josh Duhamel as his father. "Love, Simon" is rated PG 13. No rating.

MARCH 23, 2018...

Midnight Sun was to have been released last year. It is a story of a young woman with a disease that makes it painful for her to be in the sun.

Sherlock Gnomes is an animated continuance of the gnomes stories and this time, there is a detective gnome trying to solve a case.

Leisure Seeker is finally opening and stars Helen Mirren and Donald Sutherland as an aging couple on a road trip.

Pacific Rim 2 is a science fiction film about Earth battling alien invaders by building huge robots as fighting machines. Stars John Boyega.

Unsane is directed by Steven Soderbergh and a psychological thriller starring Claire Foy in a mental hospital.

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WARNING: Don't believe anything you read on the Internet or email (including stuff you read here) unless you can confirm it with another source, and/or it is consistent with what you already know to be true. The opinions in this publication are not necessarily those of Darren Marlar, Marlar House Productions, or any company or organization affiliated with aforementioned. (Regardless of how stupid you may think those opinions are. So there - nyah!)

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