

August 25, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 1

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Paper clip anatomy
- The Elusive Loopy
- Anatomy of a "shell" game

The World's Easiest Knot To Tie—But Also The Most Difficult

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Growing up in a small town in central Kansas in the 1960's was not as boring as it might seem to someone looking at the scene from our day and time. One could describe it all with a few basic words:

Flat: Imagine a square mile with no more than a 5 foot high "hill" out in the middle of it.

Hot: In the summer, I recall 20 consecutive days of 120 plus degree temps. (The warmest—128°)

Cold: One winter, 20-30 degrees below zero for weeks with even water towers freezing solid!

Windy: Always windy! On a clear day—gusts up to 80 mph were possible.

And for me, there was Boy Scouts. I learned a lot in that program. To this day, I can still tie every knot that I learned as a 10 year-old boy.

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

How To Not Destroy A Watch

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Luke 10: 38-42

38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

The passage above provides a glimpse of an everyday moment in Jesus' life. We find the Lord giving instruction to Martha concerning her decision-making processes. He gently reminds her of her dislocated priorities.

As Christians, we often face identical challenges. The world that we live in is quick to drag our focus away from God. How we make choices every day is crucial. Fortunately, the Bible gives us a few hints to guide us in making positive, Godly, choices.

1. Pray. Talking to God results in a closer walk with Him. That can never be a bad thing.

2. Read the Bible. There is a wealth of information to be found in the Word.

3. Apply what you find in the Bible. That sounds easy, but often it is not.

4. Accept God's leading. Don't doubt or argue with Him. He's REALLY, REALLY smart!

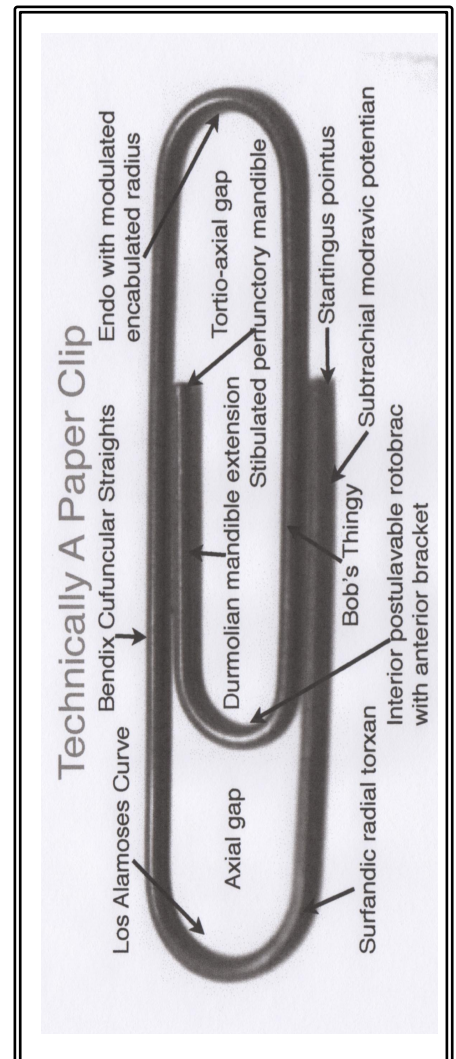
5. Seek Godly council. Many times there are people in our paths that God has conveniently placed there for us to lean on.

6. Stretch your faith. There are times when we must be prepared to throw caution aside and follow God blindly—and never, never give up.

7. Check the desires of your heart. When we walk with God, His "wants" become our "wants".

Life hands us opportunities. How we use those moments can affect our lives tremendously. It may be cliché, but what would Jesus do (or say)?

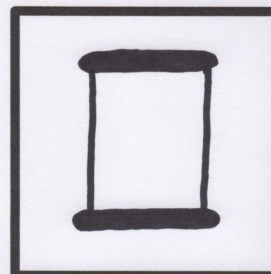
And what about that watch? Well, that is part of the lesson today.



Today's Special

Buy one Sunday School Times for the price of two, and receive the second one absolutely FREE!

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



September 15, 2013

Volume 2, Issue 2

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Presidential Trivia
- Classic literature
- Court Case 32 U.S. 7 Pet. 150 (1833)

Stuff You Probably Didn't Know About Past Presidents

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

1. John Quincy Adams was known to regularly go swimming in the Potomac—always in the nude.
2. James Garfield was ambidextrous. It is recorded that he could simultaneously write a sentence in Latin with one hand and in Greek with the other.
3. Ulysses S. Grant got a speeding ticket for riding his horse too fast down a Washington street.
4. Lewis and Clark sent two bears back to Thomas Jefferson who kept them as pets on the White House lawn.
5. Herbert Hoover spoke Mandarin Chinese fluently and often spoke it around the White House for privacy.

Kimberton Stage Robbed at Gunpoint!

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Nehemiah 9:17

And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

In the passage above, note the phrase "thou art a God ready to pardon."

On November 26, 1829, the stagecoach from Philadelphia to Reading was robbed at gunpoint at a bend in the road known as Kimberton. Eleven days later, the same gunmen held up the stage again—at the same location—this time hurting the driver in the process. This event took place early in our country's development, and the US Mail was held in great regard. The leaders of our nation felt a strong obligation to instill absolute trust in this newly established communication network. Thieves targeting the US Mail could expect VERY heavy penalties!

And so the case of the Kimberton stage robbery was no small spectacle. An enormous manhunt ensued, and the capture of the offenders inevitable.

James Porter, George Wilson, and John Poteet were arrested and charged with 6 counts each. John Poteet, a young man, still

wet behind the ears, turned State's Evidence and was let off with little punishment. With John's testimony against them, James Porter and George Wilson were found guilty on all counts and scheduled for sentencing three weeks later. At sentencing, George Wilson was given a chance to speak, and in surprise to everyone, changed his original plea of innocence to a plea of guilty on all but one count. The court was not moved, and sentenced both men to hang by the neck until dead on July 2, 1830.

The story now takes a bizarre twist, as news of this odd behavior by George Wilson struck at the heart of some very influential people who were following this case. Using their position and prominence, they successfully obtained an audience with none other than the President of the United States, Andrew Jackson! Pleading for George Wilson's life, they requested that the President exercise his constitutionally granted power to issue an official Presidential Pardon. Two weeks later, Jackson granted their request.

The story now takes an even bizzarrer (I know it's not really a word, but it sounds funny) twist! When presented with the officially signed document

of Presidential Pardon, George Wilson refused it, choosing rather to die than live! This was unprecedented in US history. Never before had a pardon been turned down. Eventually, this case came before the US Supreme Court.

In a decision that has stood the test of time, the Supreme Court sided with George Wilson. A pardon could not be forced upon anyone. Acceptance by the accused is a crucial factor. The story ends with the needless death of George Wilson.

We serve a God ready to pardon. God has granted all of us relief from our death sentence—the result of sin. Some in this world choose to accept His forgiveness and pardon. Others refuse it. And God will not force His gift on anyone. We are all given freedom of choice.

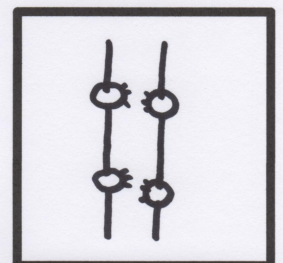
Each of our stories have two possible endings, and only two. Ending number one is to accept God's pardon and enjoy eternity with Him forever one day. The alternative is to reject His offer and die needlessly forever in Hell.

Don't be a George Wilson!

Mr. Lyle Explains Classic Works of Literature

The Wizard of Oz is the poignant story of two women trying to kill each other over a pair of shoes.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



September 22, 2013

Volume 2, Issue 3

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Of Ice Hockey and OREOs
- Children's books
- Prince Charmin—a story

My Favorite Children's Books No Longer In Print

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

1. The Boy Who Died From Eating All His Vegetables
2. A Children's Guide to Hitchhiking
3. Curious George and the High Voltage Fence
4. See, Some Kittens Really Can Fly...Uh Oh!
5. Why Can't Mr. Fork and Mr. Electrical Outlet Be Friends?
6. Freeway Dodge Ball: Official Kindergarten Rules
7. The Little Engine That Thought He Could—But Failed Miserably
8. The Invisible Child Eating Crocodiles That Live and Hide Absolutely Everywhere
10. Nuclear Launch Protocol and Command Codes for Single-Person Authorization via Non-secure Civilian Communication Systems

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Luke 15: 11-32

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. 25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' 28 "The older brother became

angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' 31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

This passage is commonly known as the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The narrative follows the mistakes and failures of a young son who finally comes to his senses and realizes he has erred greatly.

However, the most important character in the story is the loving father. In spite of the extreme disrespect and disdain present in the young son's life, the father still loves him unconditionally. We see in the father, an attitude that does not force the son into submission, but patient grace and mercy awaiting the son's return.

God understands us. We come into this world rebellious and sinful. Often we do not realize just how hard hearted and stiff necked we can be. The young son in the story said and did some absolutely

horrid things towards his father.

Our loving Father patiently awaits our response to His love. He does not force Himself on us, but quietly reminds us of His concern.

The son reunited with the father is a picture of salvation. A humble child faces the reality of his mistakes and asks for forgiveness. And of course the father forgives and a celebration ensues.

Luke assures us that there are angels rejoicing in Heaven when someone repents and is saved. First Peter tells us that they are intrigued by the way that God has structured salvation, and are in awe of what He has done.

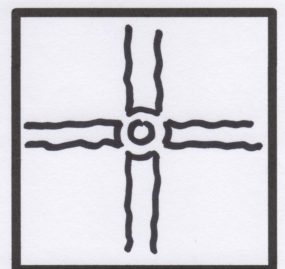
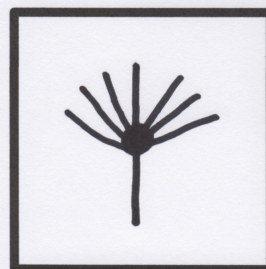
So a question remains. Are you still feeding pigs?

*Don't forget
to pray to God
today—He
didn't forget
to wake you
up!*

The Only Way That Ice Hockey Will Ever Be Interesting to Me...

Is if I pretend that both teams are fighting over the last OREO cookie left on Earth.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



September 29, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 4

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- A Love Story
- A little lost dog
- Why a Victor 4-Way?

Lost Dog Found

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)



A male beagle was found around 11:30 AM on September 23rd on the corner of 14th and Pine. Approximately six months old and mostly brown with cute patches of white on his nose and feet. A slightly crooked tail, and a blue collar but no tags. Very friendly, and loves kids. Tasted a lot like chicken.

A Love Story

*He knew it would never work between them.
The girl had been born into a wealthy family.
He was just a third person singular masculine
subject pronoun*

A "Victor Four Way" Rat Trap

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Proverbs 3: 5

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own
understanding.**

Rodent control is much more reliable with the use of *Victor 4-Way Rat Traps*. Rat and mousetraps have evolved little over the many years, and the spring-loaded-rodent-crusher is still my method of choice.

Most would think it hardly a topic for a Sunday School lesson, but bear with me and perhaps I can draw things together sufficiently.

The writer in Proverbs is using a common technique for Hebrew poetry. No rhymes as we might want in our culture, but rather, a repetition of a phrase with a slightly different set of words with their implied subtle differences in meanings. Let's look at this verse in two parts.

The first phrase is *Trust in the Lord with all your heart*. I have little problem in that area. I know and understand that God is able to do

anything, and I don't have to worry or fret about anything. He will take care of me always. I can trust Him completely!

It's the second half that I personally struggle with. *And lean not on your own understanding* requires something from me that I am not comfortable giving up. I am by nature an inquisitive person. I want to know how things work, and how they operate. I want to understand them.

There are times in life when God does not find it necessary to explain to us all of the details. It is not important to Him that we completely understand everything.

At times He wants us to simply obey blindly, not knowing the future or the outcome. Only knowing that we are operating in the will of God, and that needs to be enough for us.

That is the ultimate test of trust--to obey blindly. Imagine the following.

Suppose you had a *Victor 4-Way Rat Trap* directly in front of you. It has been baited with several one dollar bills. Now suppose you are blindfolded and given the *opportunity* to reach in and grab the money but it will have to be done incredibly fast, so your hand is not crushed by the trap.

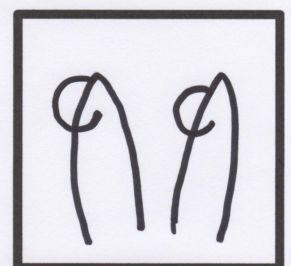
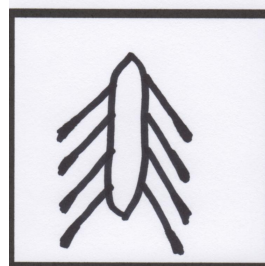
Would you follow the instructions, or would you balk at the idea because it made no sense to you to take that risk?

Welcome to our Sunday School Bible lesson!

Gossip Corner

Shhh. You didn't hear it from me, but our class may be moving to a different classroom very soon. Don't spread it around, though, because...well...it's just something I heard, OK?

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



October 6, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 5

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Venezuela in the news
- Amerigo Vespucci
- Hu Waru

In The News This Week

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

For those who recall last week's Sunday School lesson, it centered around a retelling of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. It was an amazing story of Prince Charmin, the youngest son of the King of the toilet paper world.

From Venezuela this week we hear that the government has stepped in to make sure that the factories responsible for the manufacture of toilet paper produce enough rolls for the country. The socialist country has been embarrassingly short of the special paper, and public concern has been prominent.

Socialism has failed every time it has been tried. This is just another example of deficiency.

...and then Satan
said,
"Let's put the
alphabet in Math."

An Island Paradise Called Hu Waru

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 5: 43-44

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor[] and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Even on a good day, it is difficult for us to genuinely love those who mistreat us.

The story of Hu Waru embraces this topic. The mythical island chain is composed of three islands. The first island, Watts, is named after Sir Ampsund Watts. The middle and much larger island is Yoore, named of course after the Viking Crusader Yoore Seally. And to the far west we find Nayme, discovered and mapped by the famous Dutch explorer Gwatno Nayme. The islanders traditional greeting of "Hu Waru, Hu Waru.", lends itself to the common name of the island chain.

As the story goes, The islanders embarked upon a campaign to build a National Monstrosity, and division among its citizens soon followed. The engineers responsible for the project, commonly known by the acronym NME (The National Monstrosity Engineers) became arrogant and disrespectful. They chided the less educated with their constant flaunting of mathematical formulas used during the construction process. The division among the population was shocking.

Probably the darkest hour for these islands was the day that the NME's took control of a key supply of raw materials. A mine on the island of Watts was taken by force and declared to be under new ownership—the island of Yoore! The headline in the newspaper the next day said it all. Watts Mine Is Yoore's!

Luckily, there was a level head among the indigenous population, Mr. P. Smayker. His attention to detail and thoughtful consideration resulted is an excellent campaign to reunite the torn nation. He called it an LUV program. Let's Understand Volume was a well-received effort to teach the less educated the formulas that the engineers were flaunting upon the people.

T-shirts were printed and a nationwide emphasis begun. Billboards everywhere proclaimed:

**Luv
Yoore
NME's**

It worked! In no time at all the nation was reconciled. This little paradise of the South Pacific was once again a wonderful place to live and work.

Jesus was adamant that his disciples know that there would be those that would not

tolerate them and would genuinely hate them simply because they were Christ like—Christians. We would do well to heed his advice and learn how to deal with those that may not like us much (or at all).

Elisha dealt with an enemy army in 2 Kings chapter 6. In one of the most striking "battles" in the Old Testament, Elisha asked God to blind the entire army. He then promptly led them into the capital city, where he presented them to the king and told him to feed them and send them home in kindness. With their blindness healed, and food in their stomach, and a story unlike any other, they returned home and allowed Israel to continue in peace.

Love your enemies? Hmmm, it does work. How about that!

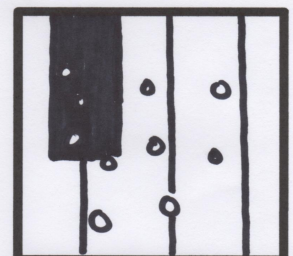
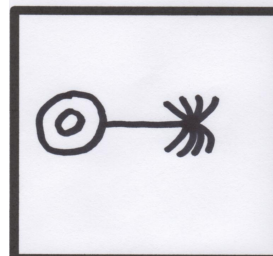
Remember to Give 100% Each Week!!

Monday—12%
Tuesday—17%
Wednesday—23%
Thursday—19%
Friday—4%
Saturday—16%
Sunday—9%

Just a thought:

If they had used his last name instead of his first, we might all be living in **The United States of Vespucci.**
Like I said, it is just a thought.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



October 13, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 6

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Veterinary Corner
- Fairy Tales
- What is COTSA?!

An Amazing Celebration of COTSA

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 20: 1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius[a] for the day and sent them

into his vineyard. 3 "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' 5 So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. 6 About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' 7 "Because no one has hired us," they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' 8 "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' 9 "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 12 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' 13 "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

collected them when they were young, and their collection is actually quite impressive! The activities associated with COTSA are an object lesson to help us understand a little better, the sovereignty of God.

We humans tend to define God down to our level. Our belief that He thinks and acts the same way we do is often misguided. God is not bound by our rules or understanding. He conducts the affairs of this world as He wishes. We would do well to acknowledge that.

In the parable found in Matthew 20, the landowner represents God. 1. We find Him to have an overall plan that He is executing. 2. He is just and fair. 3. He is caring enough to go to where the workers are to be found and hire them. He doesn't just put up a *Help Wanted* sign. 4. He did the choosing of His workers, not the other way around.

As an employer myself, I see one more concept here that would apply to us as Christians. Our work for God is not just something to be endured. It should be an honor and a pleasure to work for such a just, fair, loving and caring boss. And He does pay well—Heaven is an amazing place!

Every second year we observe the *Celebration Of The Stuffed Animals* in this class. It is a wonderful time for those familiar with "Beanie Babies". My two daughters

Veterinary Corner

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

How to Give Your Cat a Pill

Pick cat up and cradle it in the crook of your left arm as though holding a baby. Position right forefinger and thumb on either side of the cat's mouth and lightly apply pressure to its cheeks. When the cat opens its mouth, gently drop the pill into the mouth. The cat will then close its mouth and swallow.

Apply bandages as necessary to arms and face. Retrieve pill from the floor and cat from behind sofa. Repeat the process.

Retrieve the cat from the bedroom and throw the soggy pill away. Kneel on the floor with the cat wedged firmly between your knees, immobilizing front and rear paws. Ask assistant to hold cat's head firmly with one hand while forcing a wooden ruler into the cat's throat. Remove next pill from foil wrap. Flick pill down the ruler with forefinger and rub cat's throat vigorously.

Retrieve cat from living room curtains. Carefully sweep shattered figurines from hearth and set aside for later gluing. Apply bandages as necessary to your legs and feet. Remove next pill from foil wrap.

Wrap cat in beach towel, and ask assistant to lie prone on cat with cat's head visible under assistant's armpit. Put pill into the end of a paper tube that you have made for this purpose. Force cat's mouth open with pencil and insert the end of the paper tube. Take a deep breath and blow the pill into its mouth.

Check label to make sure the pill is not lethal to humans. Sip enough water to take terrible taste away. Apply bandage to assistant's forearm, and remove blood from carpet with soap and water.

Call 911, and ask fire department to retrieve cat from tree in front yard. Remove remaining pill from foil wrap. Tie cat's front paws to rear paws with bailing twine and secure to leg of dining table. Put on heavy duty welding gloves. Force cat's mouth open with tire iron. Drop pill into cat's mouth. Hold your head vertically with nose pointed to ceiling to stop nose bleed resulting from collapsed dining table. Don't worry, lots of people get concussions and survive.

Ask assistant to drive you to emergency room. Sit quietly while doctor administers anesthetic, stitches arm and removes pill remnants from your eye.

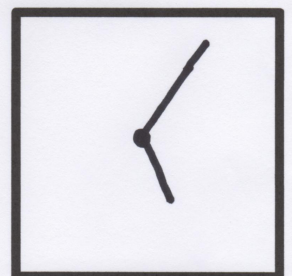
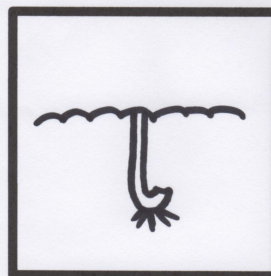
Drop off cat with a generous donation at an animal shelter. Go to Walmart and adopt a goldfish.

The Difference Between Northern Fairy Tales and Southern Fairy Tales

Northern: "Once upon a time..."

Southern: "Y'all ain't gonna believe this..."

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



October 20, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 7

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Alarm clocks
- Random thoughts
- A first sermon gone wrong?

Random Thoughts That I Thought While Thinking This Week

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

--When going through airport security, do not peel the label off of your *Chapstick* and try to explain to security that *it's a balm*.

--Never allow them to put new pew cushions manufactured by *SleepNumber* in your church.

--New store idea: *The Costco of Discipleship*.

--Stop calling it a hashtag and call it what it really is- *Tic,Tac,Toe*.

--National *Wear A Hockey Mask To Work Day*.

--Life is better when you realize that most of Emily Dickenson's poems can be sung to the tune of *Gilligan's Island*.

Alarm Clocks

Because every morning should begin with a heart attack!!

His First Sermon A Catastrophe!

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Isaiah 61: 1-2

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted; to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn.

The Bible is largely silent regarding the early life of Jesus. A few short moments are recorded for us as well as some very general statements. This we do know for sure: Jesus grew up as a normal human being. He experienced all that any of us might expect. And through all His experiences, He never sinned!

Place yourself nearby that amazing idea for just a moment. What would it be like to know someone growing up who never lied, never hurt anyone, never teased anyone, never, ever disobeyed—imagine you had a friend like that. What would your personal feelings be towards that individual?

I believe it would be very difficult to not like someone with those qualities. Jesus grew up in Nazareth, and the entire little community probably knew Him well—and liked Him very much.

When Jesus was approximately thirty years old, He began his earthly ministry. Immediately following His baptism by John, He was whisked off into the desert to

be tempted for an extended period of time by the Devil himself.

As that episode ended he headed home to Nazareth. It was his custom to attend the temple services on Sabbath Day. He was invited to speak to the gathered group and what transpired there that day is one of the truly awesome stories found in the Bible.

First sermons are always important. And this one was no exception. God saw fit to record many significant details of this address and we will look at a few of them today.

He was handed the scroll of Isaiah. Few Scriptures are as respected and loved by the Jewish people as is the book of Isaiah—even today. Many of the prophecies found there tell of an astonishing time in the future for Israel. A day when Israel will be restored to her rightful place near to God is the hope and confidence of many of the faithful in Israel.

He unrolled the manuscript all the way to nearly the end. That itself took some time no doubt. He found what we know as Isaiah 61 (remember, there were no chapter and verse divisions then) and read two verses—almost! This passage was well known by all and He stopped just short of reading all of this familiar poem, rolled up the scroll and sat down. In the culture of

the day, the customs required the listeners to remain standing, and the one who taught to be seated as a sign of respect.

He then graciously explained that the passage that He had just read was being fulfilled in their presence. It is notable what He did NOT read that morning. He completely disregarded the phrase referring to the vengeance of God.

Jesus did not come this first time in vengeance. He came in love. There is most certainly a day coming when He will return in vengeance and the world will see a righteous God ready to judge the sin of the inhabitants of the earth.

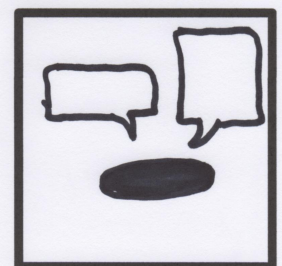
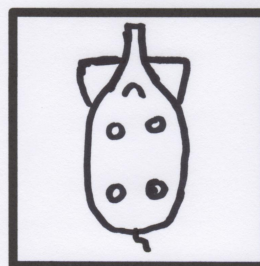
God is a God of love to be sure, but He is also a God of righteousness. Failure to uphold His standards is punishable by death. There are many today who look upon the concept of Hell and its torment and say that a loving God would never do such a thing to anyone. A righteous God must.

The people in Nazareth turned on Jesus that day. They despised His message and genuinely tried to kill Him then and there! How could a hometown turn on one of its own? Sin is ugly!

Remember:

All of the cool chipmunks are *Alvinist!*

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



October 27, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 8

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

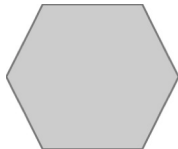
- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Geometry
- Olympic Trivia
- A Sunday School funeral

Fun With Geometric Shapes

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)



Pentagon



Hexagon



Oregon



This Day in US Olympic History
Frank Sheffington, 1804 US Hide and Seek Olympic Gold medal winner (center) is finally found October 27th, 1939 in Huntington, New York. Frank is quoted as saying...it was the perfect hiding spot!

A Funeral For A Very Dear Friend

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Luke 12:15

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

A Eulogy

I remember it just like it was yesterday. My family and I were walking through Walmart shopping. We browsed through the various areas we encountered as we searched for the items on my wife's shopping list.

As we passed by the housewares isle, oddly, I felt a presence. I was indeed being watched. And as I looked around, there on the very top shelf he sat, looking down with a big grin. There was no question about it—I had to take him home with me!

Through the years he became a part of the family. Always displaying a familiar, affable personality, I became particularly attached to him. We became the best of friends.

I fondly remember the many summers we spent together. On any hot, dry, dusty day I knew that, without question, he would be there when I came inside, and we would share cold, refreshing iced tea.

That all abruptly came to an end this week. Our family had gone out for an evening meal,

and when we returned, to our horror and sadness, we discovered him lying on the floor lifeless. All attempts at reviving him were unrewarded. We had to face the fact that a very dear friend was gone forever.

We are not sure how it all happened, but this is our best guess scenario. Our last recollection of his whereabouts is that he was setting on the edge of the countertop as we walked out of the door that evening. Some iced tea must have sloshed out somehow, and as he reached to catch the spill, he lost his balance and fell face first onto the hardwood floor.

We feel that his time on this earth was brief, but we were honored to have known him.

Glassy will be missed dearly by my family. And in sadness we say "Good bye". We know he would want us to go on with our lives. That's just the way he was, always there to serve us. And so we will go on without his physical presence, but many fond memories.

We have already set forth on our quest to carry on in respect to his memory. A trip to Walmart was completed and we found a new friend! As the winter months approach, I know our family will love and support our newest member—Mugster!

What a funeral that will be! Ridiculous? Perhaps we should take a few moments to analyze our own attachments to our possessions. The culture that we live in today is all about money, possessions and power.

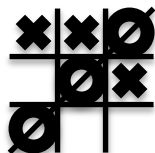
Jesus warned people in His day of the challenges regarding wealth. Things have not changed much since then. We humans have always counted the things that we own and endeared them to ourselves.

Throughout the Bible we are warned to keep our desires focused on Him, and everything else that we need will be provided. It is easy to say, but difficult to live.

Coming Soon

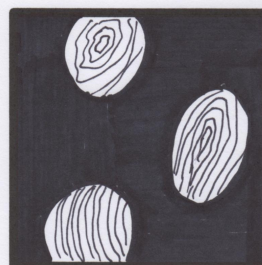
Plans for a Sunday School party are set for the evening of November 16th. We will be at the home of Dennis and Thea Brown—that's out in the country folks!

Details will be out soon. Just be sure to mark your calendars.



Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



November 3, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 9

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Foreign Language
- Worship Signals
- A lady named "Glamorous"

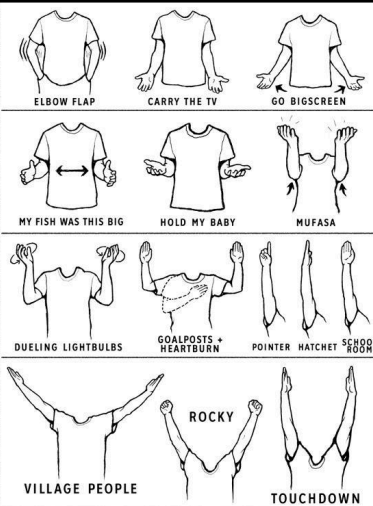
Foreign Language 101

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Phrases every world traveller
needs to know:

1. *Wa Shing Ka*
2. *No Pah King*
3. *Tai Ni Po Ni*
4. *No Bai Dat Ting*
5. *Ai Bang Mai Ni*
6. *Wai Yu Mun Ching*
7. *Yu Stin Ki Pu*

Official Non-denominational Worship Signals



By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

The Book Of Ruth

Multiple Choice Outline For Today's Lesson

1. This lesson taught by
a. ___ Mr. Lyle
b. ___ Ol'-what's-his-name
c. ___ His Majesty
2. Mr. Lyle's family tree is
a. ___ really just a broken branch
b. ___ "funky"
c. ___ His Majesty thinks "a" is the right answer.
3. The "Royal Candy" is
a. ___ chocolate
b. ___ chocolate
c. ___ His Majesty likes Kit Kat bars the best
4. Thou shalt not
a. ___ steal the "Royal Candy"
b. ___ drool over the "Royal Candy"
c. ___ quote or sing any part of "The Little Mermaid"
5. Home is where
a. ___ the heart is
b. ___ the candy is
c. ___ the castle is
6. If I could stand next to Mr. Lyle
a. ___ I would be nervous
b. ___ everyone would be in awe
c. ___ Mr Lyle thinks it best that I stay where I am

Coming Soon

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The Prodigal Family

7. It is good to be
a. ___ here
b. ___ eating candy
c. ___ to be king
8. Many years from now
a. ___ the "Royal Candy" will be very old
b. ___ I will remember this lesson
c. ___ His Majesty's generosity will be fondly remembered by his subjects

In the book of Ruth we find an unvarnished, uncensored account of a poverty stricken family making poor choices. Their condition goes from bad to worse as life throws them one curve after another. The decisions we make in life have consequences. Sometimes the choices we make haunt us for a lifetime.

God's laws were clear regarding their options. Elimelech should not have taken his family away from the Promised Land. The hardships of famine should have been endured with others who believed and lived as God's people. Instead, he chose to subject his family to the despicable lifestyle present in Moab.

When the little family's spiritual leader died, the sons, as they came of age, decided to marry women from Moab. Marriage is a huge step in life, and these

young men boldly stepped in exactly the wrong direction. God had warned His people over and over against intermarrying with the population of neighboring pagan nations.

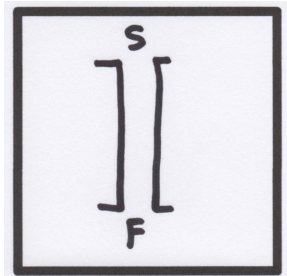
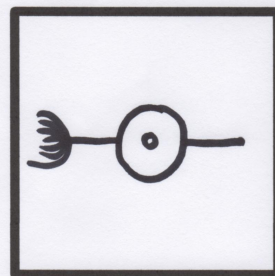
When both young sons unexpectedly died, Naomi was left broken, hopeless, and alone.

There is one bright spot in this tale: a young lady named Ruth. Having grown up in the spiritual darkness of Moab, she caught a brief glimpse of the One True God in the lives of her new family. Not wanting to lose that, she boldly chose to follow her mother-in-law back to Israel.

Her willingness to leave everything she had ever known behind and embrace and identify with this new life she had found is just the beginning.

Most family histories in the Bible are centered on the men—father to son. As God gives us the family tree of the Messiah, we find Ruth proudly displayed in one of the branches. Who would have thought we would find a woman guilty of incest, a prostitute, an adulteress, and a woman from an unbelievably disdained, sinful background. God is able to forgive all sin and use the cleansed believer. We find an excellent example of this in the person of Ruth.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



November 10, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 10

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Flying Insects
- Spider Anatomy
- eharmony.God

Welcome to eharmony.God

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

The Book Of Ruth Chapter 2

God is sovereign. He can and will do what He wishes. How He accomplishes His will is beyond our grasp of understanding. Our God knows all, including the future, and is actively involved in the events of this world.

And He does have plans. Some see God as a sort of terrarium builder. They say He created the world and set everything into motion, then stood back

to see what would happen. But the Bible tells us over and over that we serve a God who is intricately involved in the affairs of man.

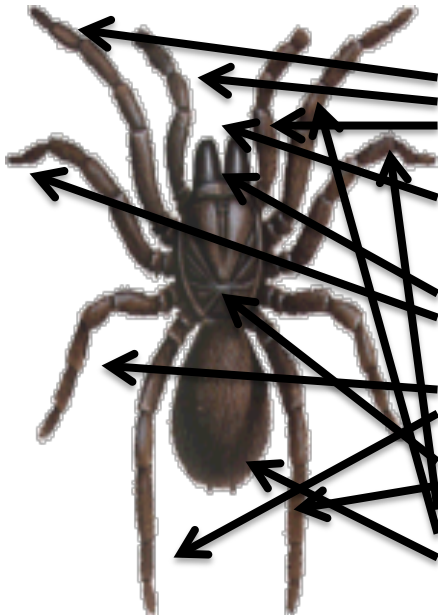
He influences and moves the hearts and minds of all of us to accomplish His perfect design. In the book of Ruth we find God putting together a very unlikely, but tender love story. It was God's blueprint that Boaz and Ruth meet, fall in love, marry, have children, and raise those children to fear God.

The story unfolds with incredible precision. Two lives from seemingly opposite backgrounds merge and God moves His plans another step further down the hallways of time.

Isaiah tells us that God is zealous—very zealous. Everything God does, He accomplishes with eagerness and excitement. He is sincerely fervent about all He has ever done. That is an amazing idea. Just think what that can mean. Not only was He intensely passionate and enthusiastic about the big moments, like creation. But He is also as ardently interested when dealing with individual people on a day by day, moment by moment basis.

We see an excellent example of this in the story of Ruth

Spider Anatomy



1. Brain Ripper Outer
2. Blood Sucking Mandible
3. Leg Used To Explore Ears
4. Fangs—Huge Wet Fangs Still Dripping With Blood From It's Last Victim
5. Teeth—Lots Of Teeth!
6. Zombies Eat This Part First
7. The Reason I Don't Sleep
8. One Word—POISON
9. Filled With Ooey Gooley
10. Back Leg
11. Neck Artery Locator Leg
12. Eyeball Driller Leg
13. Filled With Vitamin C

Coming Soon

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"Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess" Postponed One Week To Bring You A Very Special Edition Of "Identifying Flying Insects"

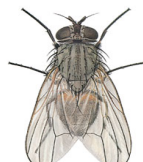
By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)



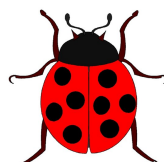
Dragonfly



Butterfly



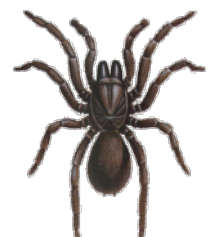
House Fly



Won't Fly



Can't Fly



Better Never Be Able To Fly!

November 17, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 11

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Evolutionary Theory
- Questions and Answers
- The Redeemer says "yes"

Marketing Failure #347

Purina Dog Chow
(Homework Flavor)

A Question:

Once per semester Mr Lyle takes questions from you about the Bible, God, church, other religions, etc. He will then attempt to answer them in class. So, if there is something that you always wondered about or would just simply like to have an answer to, next week will be your chance. You will be given a piece of paper to write your question on—you will NOT sign it—and hand it in and we will go through each one until all have been answered. No question is "off the table". You can ask anything you like. This is ALWAYS interesting!

Mr. Lyle Explains Evolutionary Theory

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

120 million years ago this boulder looked remarkably like a 1983 Nissan Sentra. Isn't evolution amazing?!



Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Ruth Chooses A Redeemer

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

The Book Of Ruth Chapter 3 and 4

To a Hebrew, the New Testament term of redeemer would be more accurately defined as kinsman-redeemer. The Old Testament law of the kinsman-redeemer provides some interesting insights into the concept of calling Jesus our Redeemer. The Biblical narrative says that Ruth washed (we are washed, born again, forgiven), anointed herself (we have the anointing of the Holy Spirit), dressed in her best clothes (we are clothed in the

righteousness of Christ), and she claimed her redeemer (we, too, must accept our Redeemer). Staking that claim was her only requirement. Everything else became the responsibility of Boaz. (God performs all the work in our salvation.)

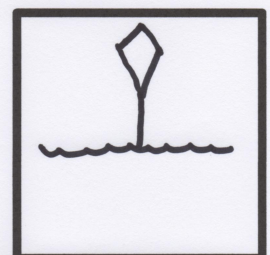
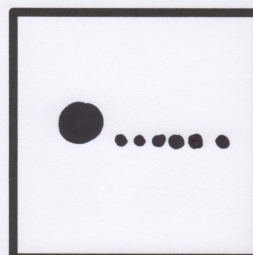
There is also mention of a redeemer who was of closer relationship who refused to do his duty, and thus Boaz could fulfill the request. That nameless kinsman represents the Law. It cannot save, because no one is able to keep it. The kinsman-redeemer was also responsible for justice. If we claim Jesus to be our

Redeemer, He is our Kinsman-Redeemer, and we have no need to seek personal revenge for wrong done to us, he will ensure that justice is applied.

The romance of redemption is a beautiful thing to behold.

The lives of countless tens of people were brutally and tragically counted as failure this weekend as the Middle School Cookout was cancelled. The loss will be felt for many, many years to come. Counselors will be available for those needing help dealing with the tragic turn of events. Those still struggling with their hurt can rest assured that it will be rescheduled soon.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



November 24, 2013

Volume 2, Issue 12

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Girl Scout Cookies
- Lost Dawg
- Questions and Answers

A Suggestion:

As farm animals go, turkeys are not very bright. In fact they are downright stupid. So, this Thursday, as you are eating your turkey meal, feel confident that you have probably done that animal a favor by removing it from it's pitiful existence on a farm.

Lost Dawg

(A Paid Advertisement)



I lost my dawg while walking up 42nd street. He went off to play with other dawgs, and I haven't seen him since. He answers to "dawg", "JaQuan", or just plain "sup yo". If you see him, tell him to hit me up. I be missin' my brotha.

Wile E. Coyote's 12 Steps To Personal Success



After God's Own Heart

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

II Samuel 22:36

The Bible records the faults as well as the failures of men and women. It is easy to focus upon those blemishes. On a large white canvas, a black smudge is easily seen and gathers attention. That dark spot becomes the focus of consideration instead of the vast white areas that are unscathed by discoloration. David made an enormous mistake with Bathsheba. He compounded that sin by murdering her husband—a man whom David had known and considered a friend for many years. Nathan, the prophet, confronted David openly. Nathan put his life on the line when he challenged David. The king could have had him executed right then and there. Instead, David immediately admitted his guilt and asked for forgiveness from God. In Psalms we are given a first-hand look into the private thoughts of this man as he dealt with this issue. His instant humility and heart

condition are traits God desires in all. He was *a man after God's own heart*.

To understand the heart of David is difficult from our vantage point. We see a boy with his sheep, a young man challenging giants, and a man with huge mistakes as well as huge successes in his life. Remember it was David who brought the nation together, who planned and financed Solomon's temple, and who wrote many of the Psalms that today still touch many hearts. One Psalm, written by David, places our attention appropriately upon the secret of his success as a man of God. It is also found in the Book of Psalms. It is a song he wrote as he neared the end of his life and is now recorded in II Samuel 22. Verse 36 places everything into perfect perspective. *Thou hast given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness has made me great.* Our relationship with our Lord is based upon his gift of salvation. It is the foundation block that

everything else stands upon. David also understood that nothing in his own self was of any lasting value. The gentleness of God, His bending down towards man in love, His tender care for us, His compassion delicately touching our lives—that is what makes anyone great. The understanding of that truth may allow any of us to develop into men and women *after God's own heart*.

Girl Scout Cookies Go On Sale

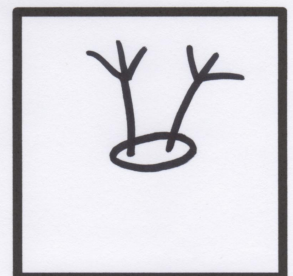
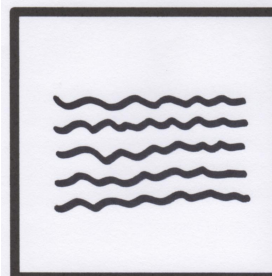


Thin Mints



Thick Mints

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



December 1, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 13

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Pumpkin pie
- Man's survival
- Questions and Answers

Pumpkin Pie: Before and After

Before



After



Isaiah 7:3

Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field.

Christmas season and the accompanying celebrations help us to remember the passage in Isaiah 7:14. As remarkable as is the content of these verses, so is the physical location they were first quoted. God wanted a face to face meeting between the king of Judah, Ahaz, and His prophet, Isaiah, at a very specific location. Few places in Scripture are as exacting in description as this one. That fact spurs some interest and inquiry. Isaiah 7:3

presents these geographical notes. The meeting was to take place at the *end of the conduit*. God had promised David that his family line would always sit upon the throne of Israel. That family tree was the conduit through which Jesus claims rightful ownership of the throne. He is at the end of that line, the final King who will rule and reign forever. The conduit empties into *the upper pool*. In Israel, water is precious and a blessing. A body of water, a pool, is literally the word for blessing in the Hebrew. And the word *upper* elsewhere in Scripture is translated Most High when referring to God Himself. Jesus, the Most High God is indeed a blessing to all. The remaining phrase, *in the highway of the fuller's field*, is an allusion to an elevated roadbed, one that keeps the traveler out of the mud and muck through which the road extends. As we look to Christ in our everyday walk, we need holiness. It is essential to keep our lives out of the dirt and filth that

the rest of the world so easily entangles itself in. *The fuller's field* is a laundry of that day. The only way that we can be truly sanctified in our daily walk, is to be cleansed of our sin and that can come by no one but the Savior Himself. It is no accident that God chose to articulate one of the promises of His coming Son at this very allegorical location.

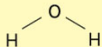
We continue today with our question and answer time. If you have not had an opportunity to submit a question, Ms. Jeanette has paper and pencils for you to do so.

Remember, friendship is the greatest treasure of all...unless you have a magic pony!

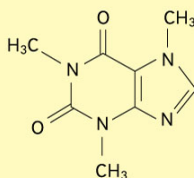
MOST VITAL COMPONENTS TO MAN'S SURVIVAL



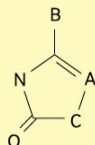
Oxygen



Water

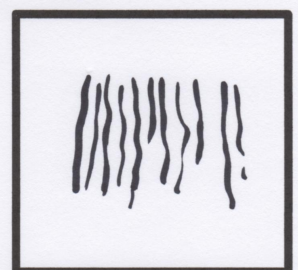
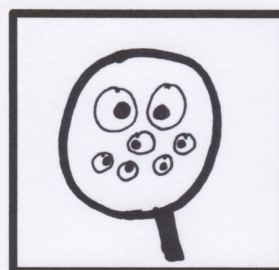


Caffeine



Bacon

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



December 15, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 14

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Christmas trivia
- A Kroger Christmas

13th Annual Kroger Christmas

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Luke 1: 26-38

26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, **27** to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. **28** The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." **29** Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **30** But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." **34** "How will this be," Mary asked the angel,

"since I am a virgin?" **35** The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called [b] the Son of God. **36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. **37** For no word from God will ever fail." **38** "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Luke 2

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. **2** (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3** And everyone went to their own town to register. **4** So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. **5** He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. **6** While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, **7** and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. **8** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. **9** An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. **11** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. **12** This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." **13** Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." **15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see

this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." **16** So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. **17** When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. **20** The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Really...How
Well Do You
Think You Know
Christmas?

Yup
Nope
Dunno

1. ___ Gabriel told Mary she would have a son.
2. ___ Jesus was named before He was born.
3. ___ Mary and Joseph were married when Jesus was announced.
4. ___ Jesus and John the Baptist are related.
5. ___ Ceasar commanded all to be registered for taxes.
6. ___ Joseph was from Bethlehem.
7. ___ Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem.
8. ___ When they got to Bethlehem, the Inn keeper said there was no room for them.
9. ___ They were allowed to use a stable instead.
10. ___ Jesus was born in a stable.
11. ___ Jesus was the only baby ever born who was older than his mother.
12. ___ There were animals there.
13. ___ Jesus' first bed was a feed trough.
14. ___ Jesus was born on December 25th.
15. ___ God chose shepherds because they were well respected men in the community.
16. ___ An angel appeared at night with a message for them.
17. ___ The angel appeared in the sky.
18. ___ The angel was very frightening because he was so bright.
19. ___ An angel choir sang to the shepherds.
20. ___ The angels then suddenly disappeared into the night sky.
21. ___ The shepherds then hurried to see the baby Jesus.
22. ___ They found everything just as they had been told.
23. ___ The shepherds stayed a long time at the manger.
24. ___ An arch angel was above the manger.
25. ___ Three wise men came to the manger with gifts.
26. ___ They showed up right after the shepherds left.
27. ___ They had followed a star to the manger.
28. ___ The gifts they brought were significant.
29. ___ Mary understood everything about what had happened that night.
30. ___ And everybody lived happily ever after.

How Well Do You Know Christmas?

1. ___ There are 32 "la"s in the first verse of "Deck the Halls".
2. ___ "Jingle Bells" never mentions Christmas.
3. ___ "Silent Night" was originally written for guitar.
4. ___ "Joy to the World" was not written as a Christmas song.
5. ___ Snowflakes have 6 sides.
6. ___ Animal cracker boxes have strings on them so they can be used as Christmas tree decorations.
7. ___ Pointsettias, mistletoe, and holly are all poisonous.
8. ___ Snowmen fall from the sky unassembled.
9. ___ Santa did not live at the North Pole until 1882.
10. ___ Santa's North Pole has an official Canadian Zip Code.
11. ___ Mistletoe means "bird poo on a twig".
12. ___ Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
13. ___ Rudolph's real name is Rollo. He was also known as Reginald.
14. ___ All Santa's reindeer are males.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess

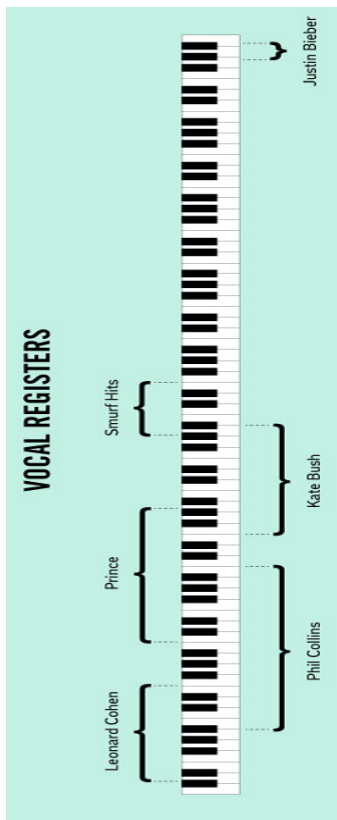


Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Keys of Life
- Questions and Answers

A Handy Guide To Pop Music



Clay Jars + Oil = All Bills Paid In Full

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

II Kings 4: 1-7

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the Lord. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves." 2 Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?" "Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil." 3 Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. 4 Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side." 5 She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. 6 When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one." But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing. 7 She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

The Old Testament is replete with pictures, or types, of New Testament truths. One episode in the life of Elisha is worthy of a second look. An un-named prophet of God had passed away, leaving his wife and family saddled with an unfortunate amount of debt. In the stress of her heart, the woman came to Elisha for help. He told her to gather jars into her house, *not just a few*, then close the door and

pour oil into those very jars. The Bible says that the oil kept flowing until every jar was full. She then sold the oil and paid the creditors their money.

Oil, in the Bible, is often times a picture, or type, of the Holy Spirit. Such is the case in this passage. As Christians, we know that we are called by God to serve Him, but the task is impossible from a human standpoint. From within our own selves we have nothing of value or importance to bring to the table. However, God has a solution. We are but jars of clay, vessels, to be filled by the Holy Spirit and used by Him. In the story of the miracle, note that the only limitation on the quantity of oil was in the number of clay jars the woman collected beforehand. Likewise, in our own lives, we curb the influence and impact of the Holy Spirit by "collecting and filling" a limited number of "jars" in our hearts. God places no

restrictions upon the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Recall that Elisha requested a double portion of the Spirit of Elijah. What might be accomplished in the life of a man or woman completely filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit?

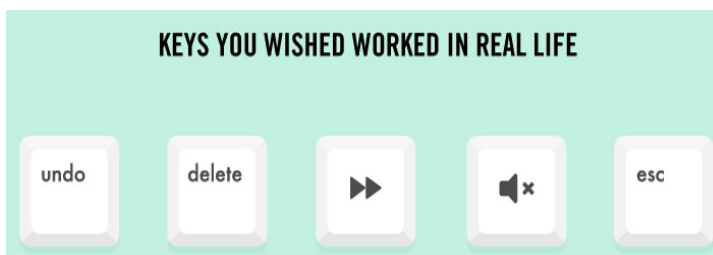
We continue today with our question and answer time. If you have not had an opportunity to submit a question, Ms. Jeanette has paper and pencils for you to do so.

Math Corner

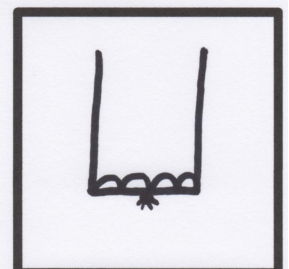
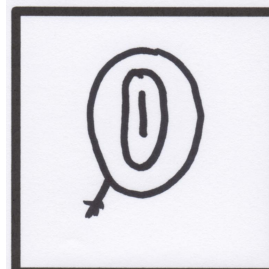
Coles Law
 $T/S=C$

(Thinly/Sliced=Cabbage)

KEYS YOU WISHED WORKED IN REAL LIFE



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



January 5, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 16

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Romeo and Juliet and Hammie
- Questions and Answers

The Wisdom Of Hammie (By The Beach)



Hammie has always been doubtful of man's reputed high intelligence. After seeing many spend their entire vacation frolicking in his toilet, he was convinced that his understanding of the human race was absolutely correct!

Romeo and Juliet Is Not a Love Story

It's a two-day relationship between a thirteen year old and a twenty year old that ended in six deaths.

The Biblical Account of Creation

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

II Peter 3: 3-6

3 Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. 4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

One phrase in the passage in II Peter 3, as of this writing, has not been fully explained scientifically. *They deliberately forget that long ago, by Gods word, the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.* Couple that with the mention in Genesis of *the deep*, and questions arise. Clearly, God has the ability to create an earth with the appearance of age. (Do we doubt that Adam was created with the developmental form of a mature man?) There is no solid explanation for the water, but one interesting observation.

Beginning in 1960, and until the fall of the Soviet Union, there was a tremendous rivalry between the two world super powers. The US and the USSR were

both intent on showing the rest of the world that their system of life was superior. Most are familiar with the race for the conquest of space. Few are aware of another contest that was ensuing. Both nations proceeded with the task of attempting to drill deep into the core of the Earth. The United States conceded early, but Russia continued from 1965 until officially discontinuing drilling in 1994. Known commonly as the Kola Superdeep Borehole, the result was a nine inch diameter hole bored 7.5 miles deep. Drilling in the tremendous pressures and heat (356°F), are beyond the solutions of current technology. Two discoveries made at that facility are worthy of mention here. First, fossils were found at a depth of four miles. Secondly, and to the point of our subject, it was found that the granite at those extreme depths is super-saturated with water. There is currently no scientific explanation for this. In fact, it goes against all

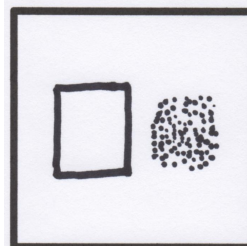
known models and theories.

God created this universe by speaking it into existence from nothing, and He did it in less than a week. As "science" progresses, He shows us from time to time the complete folly of the evolutionary theory.

News has been released just this week of an incredible find of five partial skeletons that are, amazingly well preserved. They date (Carbon 14 dating is a flawed concept, but that is another topic) back to the earliest "human" ancestor—and yet they are fine examples of the last step of the so-called "evolutionary" chain. The pull quotes from the articles all read this way. "The findings will most likely completely obliterate all previous theories of human evolution as we now perceive them!"

Keep watch on this story. God has provided all the proof we need of His Creation Majesty.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



January 12, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 17

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Recall notice
- Ly Lé

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Portraits of the Famous 20th Century French Artist Ly Lé

Isaiah 1: 18b

*"Though your sins are like
scarlet, they shall be as white as
snow; though they are red as
crimson, they shall be like wool."*

Manufacturer's Recall Notice

The Maker of all human beings is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to the serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code named A.D.A.M. and E.V.E., resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed, "Sub-sequential Internal Non-morality" or more commonly known as SIN as it is primarily expressed.

Some symptoms of this problem include:

- (a). Loss of direction
- (b). Confusion of the mental component
- (c). Amnesia of origin
- (d). Foul vocal emissions
- (e). Erratic self-destructive behaviors.

The Manufacturer, Who is neither liable or at fault for this defect, is providing authorized repair service free of charge to correct the SIN defect. The Repair Technician, Jesus, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs.

There is no additional fee required. The number to call in all areas is P-R-A-Y-E-R. Once connected please up load your burden of SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure. Next download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component.

Please see and use the readily available operating manual HOLY BIBLE for further details on the use of these fixes. With the upgrade, the Manufacturer has made available to all repaired units a facility enabling direct monitoring and assistance, from the resident Maintenance Technician, the Holy Spirit.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without corrections voids the Manufacturer's warranty, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list, and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded.

For free emergency service call on J-E-S-U-S. This is of course a toll free call.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped and disposed of by burning. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter the Heaven Facility, so as to prevent contamination of that facility.

Thank you for your attention. Please assist where possible by notifying others of the important recall notice.

Initially, most may find it odd to ask the simple question: "If sin was described by its color, what hue comes to mind?" Often the answer given refers to a shade of black, as black is the opposite of pure white.

God places an interesting description in the Bible. Isaiah quotes God talking to Israel of their sin, and He refers to it as being red, scarlet, crimson, or burgundy.

At first glance that may seem odd, but a short lesson in the physics of light gives at least one interesting bit of insight into the unique color reference.

Known well by a small but loyal group of followers, the French artist Ly Lé has been rendering portraits of one particular individual for over fifty years. An un-named collector of his works has consented to display his very first portrait of this nameless individual. We will have the chance to examine first hand the subtle nuances of color and textures used by Ly Lé.

During the art presentation we will be fortunate enough to see his very latest portrait—drawn, as it were, with a hole in his side. Careful observation will reveal that Ly Lé chose to color the exposed heart red.

Using this amazing portrait,

we will show how light and color react when the entire portrait is viewed through a red lens. (A hint: the red is no longer visible!)

When we turn our lives over to Jesus and become Christians, God says that the blood of Jesus covers us. We are forgiven because of the Atonement of Christ. The very word "atone" means to cover.

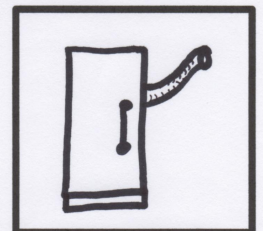
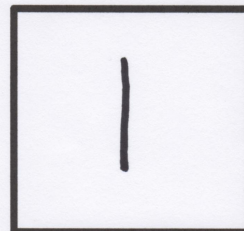
God forgives us of our sins, but none of us continues in perfection after that moment. Fortunately God's solution is adequate to cover our sins and allow us to stand in His presence. The precious blood that Jesus shed for us covers our sin.

What color is blood? Red of course. What color is sin? red also. And just as the demonstration shows the seeming "disappearance" of the red heart in Ly Lé's portrait, so the blood of Jesus creates the "disappearance" of our sin as well, allowing a Holy, Perfect, God to draw near to us and call us His own.

And by the way, don't bother to GOOGLE the artist Ly Lé. You won't find him! He is a complete fabrication of my imagination. (At least I think so.)

By Mr. Lyle

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



January 19, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 18

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more like whenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- The Alphabet
- There is no "I" in team?
- The Gospel

Nehemiah 3

Nehemiah 3 reads much like a boring engineer's report of an ongoing construction project. It is a comprehensive account of the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem. The captivity in Babylon was over and the Jewish people who had returned were struggling to bring their lives back to normal. With the leadership of Nehemiah, the plan was orchestrated to reconstruct the damaged walls surrounding Jerusalem. The Babylonians had left the walls in ruin seventy years previous. Restoring the walls was a matter of pride, identity, and security. The work was difficult and even dangerous. God approved and took note of all of it and recorded this footnote in history for us to see. With organization in place, the construction project began, and finished less than two months later.

A beautiful spiritual lesson can be found in the names of the gates of Jerusalem mentioned here. The plan of salvation and our ensuing Christian walk can be seen in detail as we take a tour of the walls of Jerusalem by way of a construction progress report.

The Sheep Gate. We begin at the Sheep Gate. The sacrificial animals were brought in through this gate into Jerusalem. Jesus was the Lamb of God. He was the Passover Lamb, the ultimate sacrifice offered once for all of time. There is a notation that the men of Jericho worked on the wall next to this gate. Jericho was a cursed city, a city of sin. Jesus carried our sin to the cross, bearing all of the sin of the world. This gate also reminds us that we are sheep, wandering our own way, lost. Jesus is the Great Shepherd, who came to search for and save those who are lost. It is fitting that our tour begins with the person of Jesus.

The Fish Gate. We would do well to recall the first command given by Jesus to new converts. He directed them to go and tell others what God had done for them. As Jesus called his disciples, He said that He would make them fishers of men. In fact, He stated that even He had come to seek and to save that which was lost. Spreading the good news about the salvation available to all is one of the most important aspects of being a Christian. Unfortunately, it is also the most neglected by many. The Fish Gate reminds us that we have an obligation to tell others about the love of God.

The Jeshanah Gate. Translated into English, the name would become the Old Gate. Our world that we live in today is one that accentuates and strives for that which is new. Many want the newest this or that, and it is human nature to look toward possessions or cultural practices from that view. But the Bible encourages us to look back to the old ways. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He never changes and the Bible remains ever true. The human heart has not

changed over the years. We need to look to that which has proven to be correct and valid in the past. We are fallen creatures with a sin nature, susceptible to degrading moral standards and ever increasing sinfulness. As I look back at my few years upon this earth, I can see a decline in the values of the society that I live in. Many of the old ways were better, and we need to grasp hold of, and embrace, those things worth keeping.

The Valley Gate. This gate reminds us that there will undoubtedly be times in our life when we will suffer deeply. Life is not a cake walk, and we can expect difficulties. King David understood the valleys well as he mentioned in the 23rd Psalm. For the Christian, the walk through the valley is not a lonely one. God has promised to be with us during the dark times in life, and it is a comfort to know that is true. It is also during these challenging times that we have the potential to grow the most. Our joy is in the Lord, even in the valley.

The Dung Gate. In a world that used beasts of burden to accomplish many of the normal day to day aspects of life, there was a need to clean up after them. Refuse of that nature cannot remain in a city for long or health problems will arise. This gate was devoted to this very unglamorous but most necessary task. The honest individual will admit that we all have things in our lives that should not have residence there. We are called to live a righteous lifestyle as children of God. There will be times in our lives when some unmentionable things need to be cast out through the dung gate of our heart. Our spiritual health depends upon cleanliness.

The Fountain Gate. For the Christian, the joy associated with our salvation and walk with God is not to be bottled up within us. We are to share the love of God with the very dark world that we live in. Jesus said that the result of the Holy Spirit indwelling us is that He will be a fountain bubbling up through our lives. We should not be afraid to pour out our hearts into the lives of those around us.

The Water Gate. Note that no repairs were necessary on this gate. In the Bible, we see the analogy of Scripture with water. We are washed by the Word of God. We are cleansed by the Word. The Bible is not in need of repair, it does not need to be adjusted to become useful for our day. It is the one thing in life that we can be absolutely sure of. It is as relevant today as it was two thousand years ago, and will be in another two thousand years. Unchanging

and applicable in every situation, the Bible, as is water, is not only necessary for cleanliness, but life cannot go on without it. We need the Word of God in our lives. We cannot live well without it.

The Horse Gate. In days of warfare, the army traditionally marched out through this gate, led by those on horseback and chariots. Paul emphasizes in the New Testament that we are involved in a spiritual battle every day. Our warfare is ongoing and very real, and we cannot let down our guard for even a moment, as the enemy will take advantage of any weakness found in our hearts.

The East Gate. Each morning, as the sun rose above the horizon and the new day began, the East Gate was the first to be opened. The uncertainty associated with the darkness dissipated, and the excitement of daybreak took root. We look forward to a time when our Lord will return. The dark night of sin will be ended and a glorious new day will dawn. Jesus will enter through the East Gate, and a new day that will never end, will begin.

The Gate Miphkad. Visitors to Jerusalem were to enter through this gate. It was the gate of inspection and review. Travel visas, or other documents, were checked at this gate before the traveller was allowed to proceed. This was also the gate through which a returning army entered back into the city. King David would meet his troops there, and the crowds were present to cheer them on in celebration of a job well done. We will one day stand before Jesus in review, at the judgment seat of Christ. For the Christian, all that we have done will be open for evaluation, and our rewards will be handed to us personally by our Savior. It is not a matter of salvation at this point. That issue was settled at the cross. This time of inspection is focused upon our actions as a child of God since the moment of our new birth.

The Sheep Gate. We end our tour at the Sheep Gate. Our lives should revolve around the person of Jesus Christ. It is because of Him that we live and have our being. He is the sum total of all that is important. He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Even a lowly engineer's progress report of something as benign as the building of a rock wall, when inspired by the Holy Spirit and included in Scripture, need not be overlooked and ignored. God included it to give us a modicum of insight into what He expects of our walk with Him as His children

T E A M

There it is!

Spelling is
difficoult
chalenging

....

hard.

A B C D E
F G H I J K
E L E M E N O P
Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

January 26, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 19

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess
- Seasonal Fruits and Veggies
- Texting Shorthand
- 4 x 4 x 4

What Texting Shorthand Will Look Like When Your Generation Reaches 60

ATD—At the doctor's

BFF—Best friend fell

BTW—Bring the wheelchair

FWIW—Forgot where I was

IMHO—Is my hearing aid on?

TTYL—Talk to you louder

LMDO—Laughing my dentures out

AIFOTV—Asleep in front of TV

WTALOS—Wow that's a lot of stairs!

WRU—Who are you?

4 Faces, 4 Gospels, 4 Names

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Ezekiel 1: 5-11

5 and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was human, 6 but each of them had four faces and four wings. 7 Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze. 8 Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. All four of them had faces and wings, 9 and the wings of one touched the wings of another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved. 10 Their faces looked like this: Each of the four had the face of a human being, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle. 11 Such were their faces. They each had two wings spreading out upward, each wing touching that of the creature on either side; and each had two other wings covering its body.

Ezekiel struggles to find words to adequately describe the scene before him in the first chapter of his prophecy. One cannot read through the entire narrative without asking "What in the world are we seeing?" Four creatures are introduced in the passage, completely beyond our comprehension, with four faces each. That particular attribute is more than just a bizarre oddity, it has significance. The Bible is not a mere piece of literature. It is an amazingly intricately interwoven collection of writings obviously inspired by God and put together by Him for our use to understand Him.

Each creature had four faces; the first, the face of a man, the second, the face of a lion, the third, the face of an ox, the fourth, the face of an eagle. A parallel can be drawn to the

four Gospels found in the New Testament. Luke wrote his gospel from the viewpoint of a medical doctor. He saw first-hand the humanity of Jesus. Jesus was indeed a human being, and Luke referred to Him often as the Son of Man. The first face mentioned was the face of a man. The second face was that of a lion, a symbol of kings throughout history. A beginning to end reading of Matthew reveals that he saw Christ as a king. Matthew begins that portrayal with his record of the Magi visiting the Child shortly after His birth. Mark saw Jesus through the lens of a servant. He recognized that Jesus came as the Servant of God, a man who learned obedience as an example to us. An ox is a beast of burden whose life is dedicated to serving its master. The final face was that of an eagle. The eagle represents divinity. Jesus was and is divine—He is God. No other inspired writer explained that more clearly than did John in the first verse of his gospel. And through the remainder of his book, he focuses on the reality that Jesus was God in human form.

Revelation 19 describes for us in detail, a rider on a white horse. That rider, found in verses eleven through sixteen, is Jesus Christ. When He returns in the fullness of His glory, He is described by four specific names.

Whose rider is called Faithful and True. No one is more loyal than is the faithful servant. Mark mentioned that attribute. *His name is the Word of God.* Immediately, we recall John's opening words. Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the great I AM. *He has this name written: KING*

of KINGS and LORD of LORDS. Matthew couldn't have said it better. *He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.* The fourth name is actually a secret in Revelation. The greatest mystery of Scripture is this simple fact: Why would God, the Creator, the Almighty, lower Himself to the condition of his creation, man, and walk among us? His love for us is astounding, a great unknown quality to us were it not for the fact that He demonstrated His love toward us by going to a cross and dying a very human death on our behalf. Luke recounts in detail the human being he touched and talked to face to face, who he also recognized to be God.

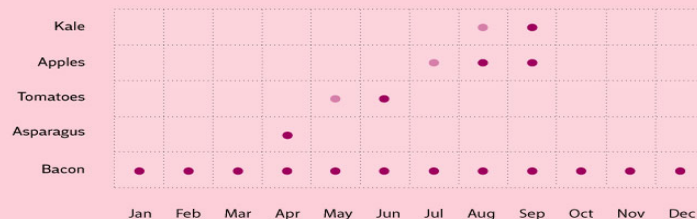
Four unique Gospels, four unique faces, four key attributes of God, masterfully intertwined in the Bible. The Word of God is unlike any other piece of literature, and the deeper one looks into Scripture, the more there is to be learned. Never discontinue that thrilling discovery.

Today is the tomorrow we worried about yesterday.

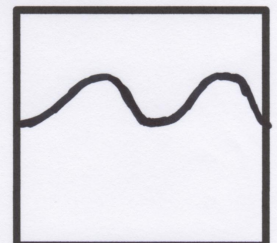
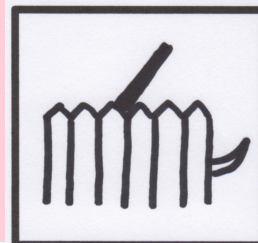
Now, yesterday's tomorrow is today and likewise, tomorrow's yesterday is today. And, tomorrow just as it nears arrival, suddenly becomes today, and today then becomes yesterday. It follows that yesterday's tomorrow and today's tomorrow are tomorrow's yesterday and today's tomorrow respectively. However, today, when seen from tomorrow's today is yesterday. And yesterday's tomorrow, as seen from today, is tomorrow's yesterday.

Yesterday's yesterday's tomorrow's tomorrow is actually tomorrow's yesterday—AND THAT'S TODAY!

SEASONAL FRUITS AND VEGETABLES



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



February 2, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 20

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

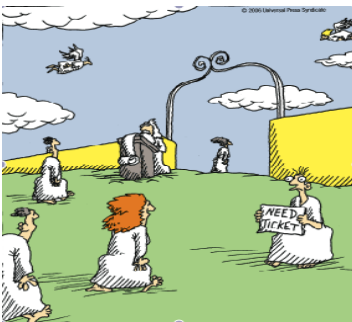
- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Spiritual Salad
- Recipe
- The Game

A Spiritual Salad

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Romans 13:12—LET US cast off the works of darkness
Romans 13:13—LET US walk honestly
Romans 14:13—LET US not therefore judge one another any more
Romans 14:19—LET US therefore follow after the things which make for peace
2 Corinthians 7:1—LET US cleanse ourselves from all filthiness
Galatians 5:25—LET US walk in the Spirit
Galatians 5:26—LET US not be desirous of vainglory
Galatians 6:9—LET US not be weary in well doing
Galatians 6:10—LET US do good unto all men
1 John 4:7—LET US love one another

There Will Be No Extra Tickets Available At The Gate Of Heaven!



Game Day 2014

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Official Rules

The game begins with the participant standing at the beginning line with their toes touching the line but not completely covering it. Hands shall be held down at the side, but not tight against the body. A bend in the elbow is allowed to a maximum of 15 degrees. Once movement has begun, swing of the arms is allowed but shall not be so noticeable as to distract from the other processes of the game. Should the referee feel the arm movement to be a showy display of unsportsmanlike conduct, the turn shall be forfeited. Each time a potential participant shall attempt a traverse of the course, they shall begin with placing the right foot forward first. They shall then pull that same foot back for exactly 2 seconds, not allowing it to touch the floor. It shall be held up off the floor for that 2 second interval at a regulation height of 6 inches. The same foot may then be placed firmly down in front of said participant. If an alternate foot, namely the right foot is chosen as an option, the entire process must be completed in the afore mentioned details, but with the opposite foot being used. This process may be used a third time, but the 6 second time limit will come into bearing by then and is probably not a good strategy anyway, so it is not recommended that it even be tried. The eyes of the participant must be open, looking straight forward. Glancing around is expressly prohibited, as is any direct or indirect communication from the participant to his or her team mates. They may direct their words of encouragement and suggestions to the participant, but in no way are they allowed to physically touch the participant. No smile shall be allowed at this point in the procedure. Humming of a song is allowed, but it must be a song that everyone else knows. Should a song be hummed that is not known by everyone, a penalty shall be assessed by the judge. If this entire procedure is not accomplished in a minimum of 6 seconds, a delay of game penalty may be assessed by the referee at his discretion. Penalties may not be questioned by any participants, ever! If any quarrels do arise due to the participant not being aware of this rule, another penalty may be assessed by the referee. Once the initial step, namely the afore mentioned placement of the first foot onto the carpet, has been achieved, the participant must stand still, cross both arms, and loudly proclaim the words that are watching the proceedings these exact words: "Ma Ma Ooga Ooga Ma Ma". This procedure constitutes the first step and it's appropriate regulations as prescribed by the official who is the inventor of this magnificent event.

The second step is now going to be addressed. The second step may be taken backwards if so desired. But if taken, it must be done in exactly the same method as the first step, but in opposite order. Starting with the "Ma Ma Ooga Ooga Ma Ma" statement, all the way to standing with the toes aligned on the starting line. While this process is allowed, it serves only as a process whereby to confuse the other teams in the competition, and is therefore considered a method of strategy. A forward step strategy must follow the following prescribed order of events. The left foot is now to be considered. The participant must at this point stop for a moment and carefully perform each of the required elements. After clearing of the throat, arms must be raised, with hands placed under the armpits. A ritual flapping should immediately begin, with arms rising to at least a horizontal position in the upward movement. This shall be known as the "Chicken Tribute". A "Chicken Tribute" must be done with flamboyant gestures, clucking and bobbing of the head in a chicken pecking fashion. If the referee is not satisfied that the "Chicken Tribute", it must be done again until done correctly, or the game participant will forfeit their turn, and return to the starting line and begin again from the beginning, because that is the appropriate place to begin again. Once the "Chicken Tribute" has been successfully performed, the right foot may now be placed into movement. In a very quick jerk, the left foot must be moved from the starting line, but at

no time may it be raised any higher than 3 inches from the floor. The foot may be placed next to the already placed right foot. If this is the chosen placement, the participant must stand at attention with arms to their side and sing one verse of "Yankee Doodle Dandy". The rest of the team still standing and watching the events that are transpiring must clap and cheer for the magnificent rendition of this American classic. These cheers shall be no less than 5 seconds in length and no more than 10 seconds in length. The second option available to the participant is that they may choose to indeed put the left foot down ahead of the already placed right foot. This results in obvious increased travel on the course of competition, and also has requirements to be allowed to remain valid. Once the left foot has been placed in the down position, balance shall be checked, and once checked, the following course of events must transpire. First, there shall be a smile on the face of said participant. The participant must then crow like a rooster. This must be done with gusto and exuberance. The referee is the sole consideration of this part of the process. Should the referee feel that the requirements have not been met to assigned levels of expertise, the move shall be forfeited. Once the rooster crow has been successfully completed, the "Chicken Tribute" must be completely performed to the afore mentioned details. If properly performed, the participant shall be allowed to hold their position and prepare for their next step.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is just rules 1 and 2 (of 150). An incredibly complex game, winning is nearly impossible. The level of expertise and perfection required to traverse the field and succeed is non-negotiable. No regular player has ever even come close to winning. Many try and fail. The referee is demanding, and rightly so—he invented the game with it's magnificent rules. Yes, I said "magnificent" rules.

For anyone brave enough to read through the entire rule book, there is an amazing solution available. A careful study of rule number 150 reveals that, if requested and accepted by the player, a substitute furnished by the referee can and will traverse the field perfectly, and thus win the game for all players. You can win this impossible game, but not by yourself!

God has a game for us to play—life. And it is incredibly difficult to win because He demands perfection. Luckily for us, He knew we would have a problem succeeding on our own and furnished a substitute, Jesus Christ, who came to this earth and lived a perfect life, so that, if we accept Him as our savior, we can have eternal life in Heaven. Are you still trying to play the game on your own?

A Favorite Family Recipe

Iced Water

Ingredients:

- 2 cups tap water
- 1 cup bottled water

Place one cup of tap water in a mixing bowl. Gently add one cup of bottled water. Whisk briskly until thoroughly mixed. Pour into pre-heated sauce pan. Place over high heat until ingredients begin to bubble. Fold in remaining one cup of tap water. Heat and stir frequently until mixture reaches a full boil. Remove from heat and allow to cool for 30 minutes.

After mixture is cooled to room temperature, pour entire contents into a metal mixing bowl and chill in a refrigerator overnight. The next day, portions may then be poured into individual drinking glasses.

Serving Suggestions: Place five cubes of ice in the bottom of each glass. Gently drizzle cooled liquid over the ice and fill cup to brim.

Makes three servings.

Just a thought:



Have A Day!

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Formula for Love
- Laundry hints
- The story of one roll of toilet paper

Helpful Hints Regarding Laundry

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Someday you will be doing your own laundry. These are a few things I have learned over the years.

1. Always remember the miracle of **Laundromatic Pressure**. The force exerted by the weight of clothes at the top of a pile of dirty laundry is inversely proportional the square of the number of days since laundry day. When factored with enough time and pressure, the dirty laundry at the bottom of the pile becomes clean.

(Sniff, sniff ...close enough!)

2. My handy Laundry symbol guide.



Advanced laundry guide

Functional laundry guide



GUIDE TO LAUNDRY SYMBOLS

For the True Scholars Among Us

This week, remember to take an in-depth look at the literary works of Martin Handford.

Of Toilet Paper and Canons

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Romans 8:28-29

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son

Long before this class time began, I made plans.

Long before He made the universe, God made plans.

I wanted a roll of toilet paper, so I went to the store.

God wanted a relationship with us, so He came to this earth.

I found the roll I wanted on the shelf. It did not come looking for me first.

God came looking for you and I first as well.

I took the roll of toilet paper to the checkout stand and paid the price to make it mine.

God went to a cross and shed His blood to pay the price to make you and I His property.

The roll of toilet paper accepted my arrangement and I took it home.

You and I need to accept God's gift of salvation.

Let me put this delicately—had I not rescued that roll of toilet paper from its predicament, it would have faced a life of unspeakably disgusting things!

If God did not rescue us

from our sin, we would be facing an even more disgusting and awful future ourselves!

Now that the roll of toilet paper is mine, I can begin executing the plans I had for it.

When we become Christians, we are in a position to be used by God for His planned purpose in our lives.

I begin unrolling and removing the stuff I don't want on the roll.

We have stuff in our lives that doesn't need to be there—sin—and God wants to rid us of those things.

The roll of toilet paper does not resist my gentle process.

We need to be willing to allow God to work in our lives.

I know what I need the roll to be, and will continue the process of trimming and removing material until it finally becomes truly useful.

God will clean up our sinful hearts if we let Him, because He has a plan for our lives.

I have a target dimension for the roll of toilet paper. I want to remove everything that does not total 100 mm in diameter.

God has a target for every Christian's life—we

are to become like Christ.

Finally, the toilet paper is loaded into a 100mm canon and fired through the air in an amazing display. Everyone wonders in awe at the spectacle.

God will do amazing, awesome things in your life as well. Let Him do the work in your heart, and go along for the ride! And we will all wonder in awe at the great things God has done!

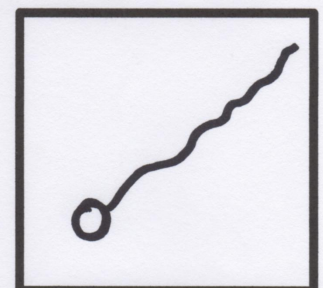
The Formula For Love (Solve for "i")

$$\begin{aligned} 9x - 7i &< 3(3x - 7u) \\ 9x - 7i &< 9x - 21u \\ -9x &\quad -9x \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{-7i < -21u}{-7 \quad -7}$$

$$i < 3u$$

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Written language
- Cuteness
- Moses makes a mistake

CUTENESS

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Cuteness vs. Number of Legs	
Awwww---adorable!	Cute
Pretty normal	Unfortunate
Creepy	
GAHAHHH KILL IT! KILL IT!	
0	1
1	2
2	3
3	4
4	5
5	6
6	7
7	8

Numbers 20;2-12

2 Now there was no water for the community, and the people gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron. **3** They quarreled with Moses and said, "If only we had died when our brothers fell dead before the Lord! **4** Why did you bring the Lord's community into this wilderness, that we and our livestock should die here? **5** Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? It has no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!" **6** Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them. **7** The Lord said to Moses, **8** "Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink." **9** So Moses took the staff from the Lord's presence, just as he commanded him. **10** He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" **11** Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. **12** But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

Kungfu Ninja Moses lived out in the desert perfecting his Kungfu Ninja moves. The Kungfu Ninja Master lit a great flaming torch. Kungfu Ninja Moses went over to it and tried to extinguish the flames with his Kungfu Ninja moves. Though he tried again and again, he could not put out the flaming torch. The Great Kungfu Ninja Master told Kungfu Ninja Moses, "Find

For the True Scholars Among Us

So...what did you think of the literary works of Martin Handford?

your brother Aaron, perfect your Kungfu Ninja moves, and go to the Evil Jujitsu Lord Pharoah of Egypt. He has my Kungfu Ninjas and he must let them go!"

Kungfu Ninja Moses and Aaron showed the Evil Jujitsu Lord Pharoah of Egypt some of their best kungfu. The Evil Jujitsu Lord Pharoah of Egypt was not impressed until Moses and Aaron showed him their best, most awesome, Kungfu Ninja moves. The Evil Jujitsu Lord Pharoah of Egypt said that all of the Kungfu Ninjas could leave. Moses and Aaron kungfued for joy.

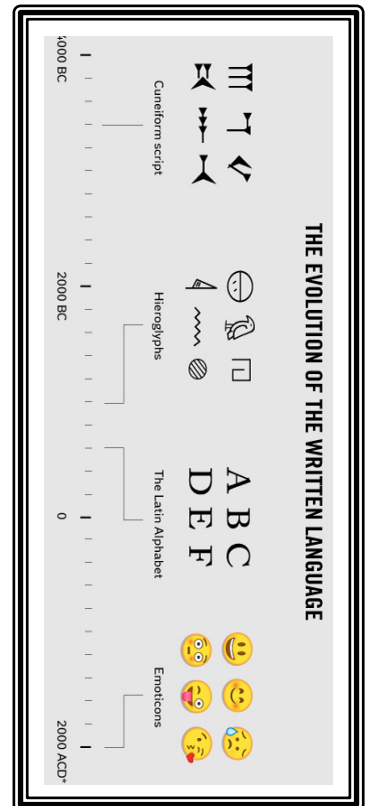
All of the Kungfu Ninjas went out into the desert. They were led by Moses and Aaron. They all practiced their Kungfu Ninja arts there in the desert. After an afternoon in the desert heat, all of the Kungfu Ninjas were thirsty. They complained to Moses and Aaron that there was no water there. Kungfu Ninja Moses and Aaron responded with a very interesting, never before seen, Kungfu Ninja move.

Kungfu Ninja Moses and Aaron took all of the Kungfu Ninjas to a large rock there in the desert. They kungfued them until all of the Kungfu Ninjas were quiet. Kungfu Ninja Moses then said "The Great Kungfu Ninja Master has great compassion. He will show us where we can get water to quench our thirst" Moses and Aaron kungfued like the great, skilled Ninja warriors they were, over to the rock.

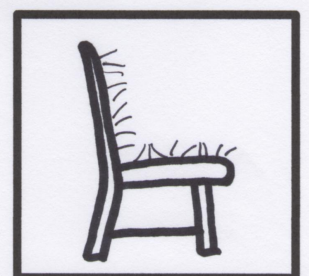
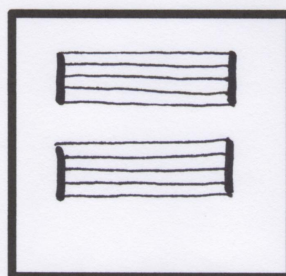
Then Kungfu Ninja Moses said to the Kungfu Ninjas following him "Today, I will expertly hit this rock. I have been taught well by the Great Kungfu Ninja Master. My blows will be so powerful, that I shall break this rock in two, and water will gush out

for everyone. It was an amazing sight to behold as Kungfu Ninja Moses and Aaron landed blow after blow on the huge rock.

Water came gushing out and all of the Kungfu Ninja warriors kungfued for joy!



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



March 2, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 24

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- The McDonald's Curve
- How to balance pennies
- Dangerous toys

Balancing Act

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

For those wishing to learn how to balance pennies, the following tutorial should be helpful.

Balancing pennies on edge is a delicate art. First, care must be taken to ensure a solid, flat surface. I highly recommend laying a solid bar of steel horizontally to create a firm and level surface.

Next, carefully place individual pennies in a straight line to form a foundational row, carefully balancing each one on its edge.

Building additional rows upon that foundation takes much practice, as the slightest movement can send the entire structure crashing to the ground.

Only a true professional would be expected to achieve the ultimate 5 row tall pyramid of coins. (See photo below of an actual 5-row achievement.)



Romans 15:13

¹³ Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Neodymium is the chemical element with the symbol Nd and atomic number of 60. It was discovered in 1885, but is actually quite common in the Earth's crust. Most of the world's neodymium is mined in China today. It has a variety of uses. Initially it was most often used as a dye in glass making. The reddish/purple colors are still popular today. My personal interest in neodymium is its use as an alloy in metal work. Combined with appropriate metals, heated to specific temperatures, and exposed to a strong magnetic field, neodymium becomes the strongest natural permanent magnet known today.

No one can see magnetism. But we can see its effects on the world around us and understand and believe in its existence. Magnetism is an integral part of nearly every facet of our lives today.

The Most Dangerous "Toy" in Mr. Lyle's Collection!

Today, for those interested, I have brought the most dangerous "toy" I have. I really shouldn't call it a toy! Children could be very badly hurt by this thing.

It is so dangerous, that my wife will usually leave the room when I bring it out to "play" with. (I had to sign a legal document just to purchase this amazing "toy"!)

Yes, I have even been hurt by it, so don't think for a moment that I will allow any of you to handle this thing. Just watch.

Nd

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

For those of us who are Christians, who have invited God to be a very genuine part of our lives, we have an amazing asset given to us by God. We understand that God indwells each believer. The Holy Spirit literally lives inside us! And God's power is with Him. Remember this phrase:

Power is the special and peculiar prerogative of God, and God alone.

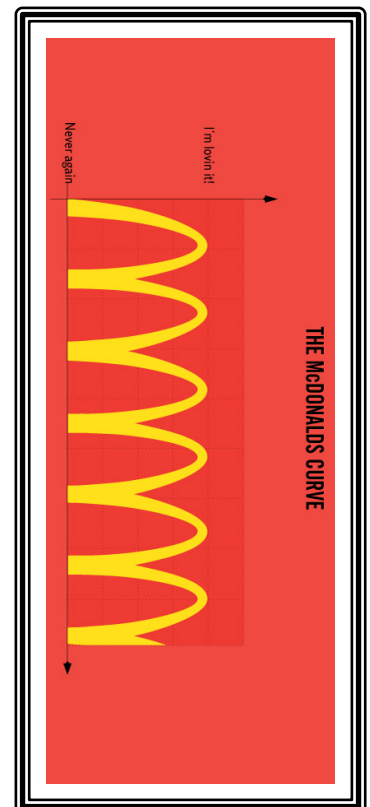
The majestic power of the Holy Spirit is displayed through the Bible, as well as in the world even today. Job 26:13 says that the Holy Spirit garnished the heavens—He put beautiful and amazing finishing touches on the universe. Genesis 2 says that He is responsible for human life.

I Peter 3: 18 tells us that the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.

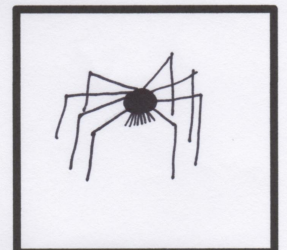
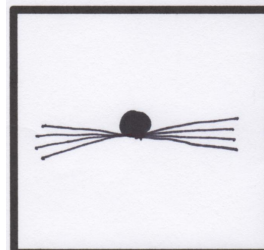
And for each Christian, God has promised that the Holy Spirit is a compass pointing us in the right directions, He is our conscience convicting us of sin, and He is the power we need to resist sin and live a victorious life. He refines us daily if we will only allow Him to work in our hearts.

And in the future, we find Him involved in the return of Jesus to this earth. Romans 8:11 affirms that He will be directly responsible for millions of people rising from the grave someday!

We have that power living within us. What will we do with it?



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



March 9, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 25

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Essential English
- God is like:
- Ezra—my hero

Essential English (Words you can use in your next term paper)

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Adolescence—The period when a boy refuses to believe that someday he will be as stupid as his father.

Ants—People who marry uncles.

Adult—A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

Aquarium—Interactive TV for cats.

Bananosecond—The time elapsed between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement.

Boy—Noise with dirt on it.

Dust—Mud with all of the juice squeezed out.

Ecnaubma—An emergency vehicle that can only be seen in a rear view mirror

Gross Ignorance—144 times worse than regular ignorance.

Me—What Geronimo yells when he jumps out of an airplane.

Ow—The first word spoken by a child with an older sibling.

Period—A comma that has curled up and gone to sleep.

Skeleton—A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

Subdued—Like, a guy who, like, works on one of those, like, submarines, man.

Vegetarian—A not so skilled hunter

The First Pulpit

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Ezra 9:4

Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice.

Accomplishments define a man. Look at what he does, and you will also see the focal point of his heart. That was true of the prophet Ezra. We find a man whose life and actions revolved around his lifelong pursuit of the Word of God. He is described as a student of the Word, a scribe, and his achievements stand as testimony to that fact.

Ezra was of the priestly line, but because there was no temple in Jerusalem, he could not serve in that capacity. So he devoted himself to the study of God's Word, sharpening his understanding in preparation for his role in the plan of God. He probably wrote the books of I and II Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah and was the one responsible for organizing the Psalms, playing a large part in settling the canon of Scripture. It was he who stood before those who had returned to Jerusalem from Babylon, and positioned on the first pulpit mentioned in the Bible, simply

read the text of Scripture to those listening and explained the meaning as he went. The revival and reformation that took place from this unassuming act was stunning. The Word of God is very sharp and will cut the heart in places no other implement can reach.

If a theme were to be assigned to the book of Ezra, it would be "The Word of the Lord". There are ten direct references to the Word of God in this short book, with the key verse found in Ezra 9:4. They "*trembled at the words of the God of Israel*". Seventy years of captivity had an effect upon the people, but there was no revival seen during their time in Babylon. It was not until the day that all the people gathered in front of the Water Gate, and stood in reverence as Ezra read from the Scripture for over six hours, that something began to stir in their hearts. They began to see that the commands of God demanded performance. Obedience and holiness before an Almighty

God finally became an issue to be dealt with, and it changed the lives of many, drastically. God's Word is powerful. Ezra understood that well, and his life reminds us of what is truly important.

God Is Like:

Bayer Aspirin. He works miracles.

A Ford. He's got a better idea.

Coke. He's the real thing.

Tide. He gets the stains out others leave behind.

Allstate. You're in good hands with him.

General Electric. He brings good things to life.

Sears. He has everything.

Scotch Tape. You can't see Him, but you know He's there.

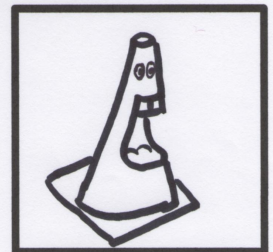
Hallmark Cards. He cares enough to send the very best.

Dial Soap. Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?

This winter has been brutal.

It might help to look at it as July 154th through 247th.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



July 24, 2016
Volume 4, Issue 34

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- The Lord's Prayer
- Pencil Trivia
- ??????????

The Lord's Prayer (Technically)

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Paternal relative associated with us established in a celestial position. The designation assigned to your person is inviolable. Hasten the appearance of the sovereign theocracy retained by you. Your expressed intensions and purpose be realized similarly upon this sublunary macrocosm as the extra-terrestrial commorancy. Bequeath upon us diurnally circadian triticum comestibles. Exculpate incumbrances as we exculpate conditional liabilities obligated towards us. Cease inveiglement resulting in inducement, but emancipate us from perdition. For you possess sovereign monarchical disposition, dynamic efficacy, and eminent illustriousness in perpetuity. So be it.

Here we go again.

I have to manage my anger because people can't manage their stupidity!

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Parable of the Pencil

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

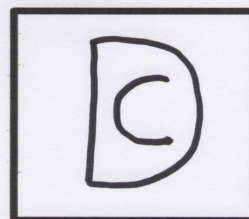
John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Pencil Trivia

1. Got time to kill? The average pencil holds enough graphite to draw a line 35 miles long. History does not record anyone testing this statistic.
2. Most pencils sold in America have eraser tips, while those in Europe usually have none. Europeans are obviously more confident scribblers.
3. NASA discovered that pencils can write in zero gravity. So they were used on many of the first space missions.
4. Though very rare, left-handed pencils do exist. Most are to be found in private collections.
5. Where do pencils come from? Well, to not be too technical, a Mommy pencil and a Daddy pencil meet and get married, and have lots of baby pencils. They feed them and take care of them and they grow up and eventually go to school. And that's where you usually find them.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Can God use you?
- What if?
- Hatfields and McCoys

What If?

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

What If we treated our Bibles like we do our cell phones?

What if...
We carried it everywhere we went?

What if...
We turned back to get it if we forgot it?

What if...
We checked it for messages throughout the day?

What if...
We used it in case of emergency?

What if...
We spent about an hour or more using it every day?

We pay for the privilege to use a cell phone. You get free "unlimited minutes" with your Bible.

So...

I was sitting at home, contemplating the universe and its amazing complexity. The enormously vast reaches of space, and how God created our planet and put us there to enjoy it. I thought about how incredible the idea of life is, and how fortunate I am to be alive. I began to recall all of the tiny things God has included in this world for us to enjoy. Even in the smallest of details we can see the hand of our God. And then I see the crowning achievement of creation—people—with their incredible variations of character, and their ability to comprehend and think. I remembered how fortunate I was to have friends, and I began to think about them. I went down the list, glad that I am alive to enjoy their company. And I eventually got to you. I remembered, **YOU STILL OWE ME TWENTY BUCKS!!!!**

Published almost weekly, but more like.....whenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Hatfields and McCoys

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 18:15-17

15 "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

Recipe

Ingredients:

1. One hog.
2. Asa, a young man from the South who decided to fight for the Union.
3. A river called "Tug Fork".
4. A romance between Roseanna and Johnse.
5. Assorted guns.
6. Stupidity.

Beginning in 1880 and continuing through 1891, mix the Tug Fork, Asa, the "Union defector", one whole hog, and Roseanna and Johnse together. Add plenty of guns and a very generous portion of stupidity. Stir well, and allow things to go on unchecked.

This recipe makes:

1. Twelve people dead
2. Ten maimed or badly hurt.
3. The Governor of West Virginia threaten to invade Kentucky
4. Seven people jailed for life
5. One man hanged for his crimes
6. And the US Supreme Court hand down a decision, before its all over.

The names Hatfield and McCoy hold a special place in US history. The story of seemingly unbridled hatred and revenge in the hills of eastern Kentucky is without equal.

And to think that it all started with a dispute over who owned a particular pig! In terms of that day, it was worth about 24 dollars. Translate that number to today's economy for comparison—the death and destruction originates over a mere two hundred dollars!

We find ourselves in disbelief that anyone could be so callous and harsh over something so small. But if we are honest, we must confess that we also find ourselves at times in heated contests with those around us, over things even more trivial than a pig.

Interpersonal relationships inside the church can be challenging. We are fallen human beings, and even though we have a relationship with Christ, our sin nature bubbles to the surface all too often. At heart we are selfish creatures, wanting our own way. And in our minds, those that infer themselves into our plans and spoil them are to be treated harshly.

Jesus taught a different way, however. And He was clear in His directions—very clear!

On Christmas Day, 1957, Dr. Martin Luther King delivered a sermon that he had written while in prison a few months earlier. It dealt with this subject, and I would like to summarize his three points, because they are worthy of note.

First, we must be willing to forgive. That does not mean that we ignore the wrong that may have been committed, but rather, we embrace a true spirit to forgive.

Second, we need to understand that the wrong that we may have suffered is not the other person's total identity. We need to acknowledge that we are all sinful creatures, with good and bad

points in each of us. The victory goes to the persons capable of focusing upon the good character traits in both parties involved.

And, thirdly, to carry an attitude that says that we must defeat or humiliate our opponent is misguided. We would do well to remember that God's love is unconditional towards us, and therefore, we can risk allowing ourselves to seek understanding and even friendship with others.

So are you a Hatfield or a McCoy? Rather, be a loving example of Christ to those that you rub shoulders with each day.

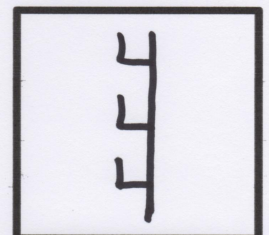
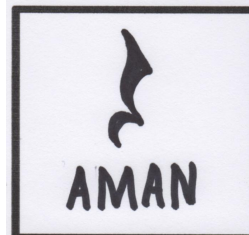
Can God Use You? Well, Let's See...

1. Jacob was a cheater
2. Peter had a temper
3. David had an affair.
4. Noah got drunk.
5. Paul was a murderer.
6. Gideon was a doubter.
7. Miriam was a gossipier.
8. Martha was a worrier.
9. Thomas was a doubter.
10. Sarah was impatient.
11. Elijah was depressed.
12. Moses stuttered.
13. Zaccheus was short.
14. Abraham was old.
15. Rahab was a prostitute.
16. Jonah ran from God.
17. Oh, and Lazarus was

DEAD!!!

So...what do you think?

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Peter Piper
- How they pick Easter Day
- Picking the Lamb

Picking Easter

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Easter Day is the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon, or next after the 21st day of March; and if the full moon happens upon a Sunday, Easter Day is the Sunday after."

Using this method, Easter can only occur between March 22 and April 25.

Peter Piper Picked A Peck Of Pickled Peppers

We all know that Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, but who in the world is Peter and why should we care if he's got pickled or fresh peppers? As it turns out, this story is far more interesting than the simple tongue twister we're all familiar with. First off, it's important to know a little history about the spice trade. You see, a long, long time ago, all spices were referred to by the generic name of "peppers." They were also incredibly expensive and the companies who ran the spice trade would go out of their way to keep the supply low by rubbing the seeds with lime before selling them so they couldn't germinate if planted. The practice was called "pickling." As for Peter Piper, he was actually a French pirate and horticulturalist named "Pierre Poivre" (which has become Anglicized into Peter Piper). Pierre was known for raiding spice stores so he could grow them in his garden in Seychelles and hopefully make spices more affordable and accessible for the average European. The rhyme comes from the fact that there were at least a few occasions where Peter Piper picked pickled peppers that wouldn't grow in his garden.

Picking The Lamb

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

John 12:1, 12-17

1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.

12 The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

13 They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"

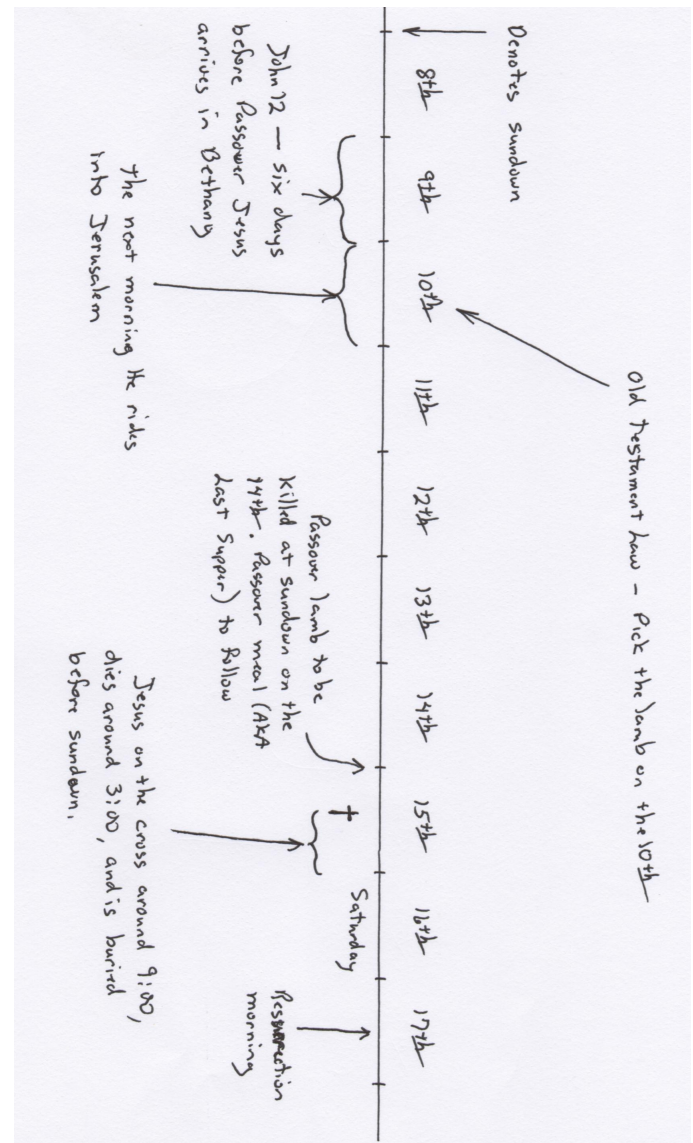
14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: 15 "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."

16 At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

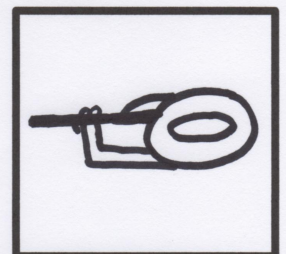
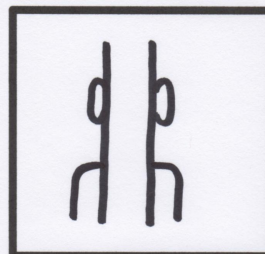
17 Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. 18 Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"

Exodus 12:1-6

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, 2 "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 3 Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. 4 If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. 5 The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. 6 Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight.



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



April 20, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 29

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Stuff about chocolate Easter bunnies.
- The only swear word you will ever be taught in Sunday School!

Chocolate Easter Bunny Technical Consumption Regulations.

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

We have included the following technical data. Also, please note that all facts quoted herein are conjectural and any and all reasonable conclusions should be considered fortuitous.

Always, always, always eat the ears first. Easter bunnies have an unmatched, highly acute sense of hearing. The slightest sound can set off their natural flight instinct, and you may never see them again. Eating the ears first makes them totally deaf, leaving them much more docile and easy to eat.

Secondly, eat the eyes and nose. Bunnies have incredible eyesight, and blinding them will make them easier to keep track of, should you lay one down for any reason. Their inherited defense mechanism is to remain completely motionless, hoping to not be detected by predators such as you.

And by eating the nose and mouth relatively early in the consumption process ensures that they cannot scream out in pain as you devour their frail little bodies.

Lastly, you want to be known as a generous person, so carefully eat around the tail portion, being careful to not get too close to it. When it has been sufficiently trimmed off, offer it to your little brother or sister. They'll never know the difference! And you're a hero!

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

A Four-Letter Swear Word--

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Deuteronomy 21

22 If someone guilty of a capital offense is put to death and their body is exposed on a tree, 23 you must not leave the body hanging on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury it that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse. You must not desecrate the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance.

Capital punishment in the Old Testament was far from the manner adopted in our culture today. The Mosaic Law permitted three methods, all of which we would find extremely repulsive today.

First, God allowed justice to be served with a sword. A quick, but brutal method of execution, it was used many times.

Secondly, there was a place in the Law for death by fire. This method would require preparation and planning. Implementation of this sentence would have been much more difficult and probably more public.

Lastly, the third option was stoning. This was a community event. Everyone was to throw stones at the accused until they were dead. The average individual participating in the execution would have forever, a lasting memory of a human being slowly dying right before their eyes.

But oddly, Deuteronomy 21 does not deal with these allowable techniques of execution. It instead deals with crucifixion. Somewhat common in the pagan world, its torture and degradation were not to be introduced by Israel into its criminal justice system. God says it is a "cursed" way to die.

God knew the future. He knew that His Son would come to this earth and die at the

hands of the Roman government. He knew that their most heinous form of punishment was death by the cross.

The extreme agony suffered by a convicted criminal was difficult to watch. The Romans could execute swiftly and cleanly if they desired. But the cross was a public spectacle of torture, reserved for the most despicable humans, and deigned to keep them alive for as long as they wished their public torture to continue.

In our culture and language, we have swear words. These are words that are used in times of extreme emotion or anger. Generally they refer to something nasty or disgusting or horrible. For the Romans, watching a crucifixion was one of the most disgusting, horrid things any human could experience. And a curse, or swear word, developed from it.

In Latin it has four letters, making it oddly similar to many of our curse words. The word—CRUX. In Latin, it is the very word for "cross".

God despises sin so intensely that He sent His Son to die a horrible death as an innocent, yet

convicted, man.

And God loves us so intensely that He sent His Son to die a horrible death as an innocent, yet convicted, man.

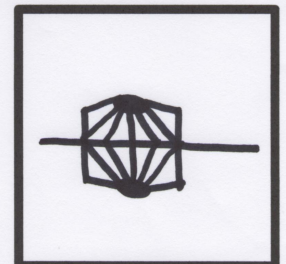
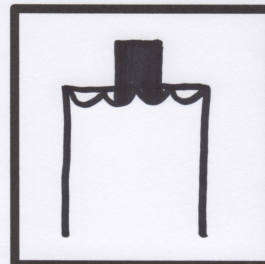
This Easter, may we remember these facts and allow them to sink into our hearts and consider the great gift that as given to us that day over 2000 years ago. God loves us! And showed us, and the entire universe, just how much He cares about us.



Mr. Lyle is now on Facebook!

Anyone who wishes to be his "friend" can send a friend request to Theother Lyle. Check it out. It will make you smile—guaranteed.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



April 27, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 30

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more like whenever, so get used to it, OK?

Walter and His Dad, William

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Theother Lyle
- Test Advice
- Walter and William

"End-of-the-School-Year" Advice

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

1. Success is 1% inspiration, and 99% cramming the night before the big test.
2. In Microsoft Word, if you drag down the format window and click on "paragraph", adjusting the line spacing can make your papers look a lot longer.
3. If you are caught sleeping in class, before you open your eyes, simply say "Amen."
4. "Y'all" is singular.
5. "All y'all" is plural.
6. "All y'all's" is plural possessive.
7. Don't listen to anything that your parents tell you. (It will give you so much more to talk about later!)

So what does this all mean to you? Reality is what the mind determines it to be. Your reality may not be my reality. But I am wise and therefore my reality is superior to yours. I would explain it to you further, but I am not entirely sure that you even exist.

Joshua 1:8-9

Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Whether the story is actually historical, or merely a legend, no one knows for sure. Regardless of that fact, the tale of William Tell is an important part of Swiss national identity. Many times it is extremely difficult to separate fact from fiction when studying events that happened over 500 years ago. Fortunately for our purposes today, it matters little if the story is merely a story. It is apropos for our topic of Biblical study. The earliest versions of the legend were told as follows.

The area presently known as Switzerland was once under the dominating control of various Austrian families. They were harsh and many times cruel, and a constant reminder to the Swiss people that tyranny was to be despised.

An Austrian named Hermann Gessler was appointed to rule the area in question, and set his center of government in a village known as Altdorf. He was especially unsavory to the locals, and in a public display meant to bring the people into subjection, he ordered that a tall pole be erected in the town square. He would then "donate" a hat to be placed atop that pole, and every citizen would then be required to show submission by bowing to the hat and what it represented, each time they passed by.

On November 18, 1307, a local

man and his son entered the little town. William Tell was a man's man. A mountain climber, a renowned marksman with a cross bow, he was also incredibly strong. William found the Austrian influence in his village abhorrent, and in a display to his son Walter, as well as any authority watching his actions, he refused to bow to the acclaimed hat on the pole.

Gessler was furious, and arrested William Tell on the spot. When he realized whom he had in his possession, Gessler decided to make a huge public spectacle of this situation as a statement to the locals who still had animosity towards the Austrians. When he discovered that Tell was known for his abilities with a cross bow, he forced William Tell into a despicable situation. He must shoot an apple off of his son's head.

As the story goes, Tell split the apple off of his son's head. Gessler noticed that he had actually pulled two arrows from his quiver as he had prepared for the difficult shot. When questioned about the oddity, Tell informed him that, had he missed and killed his son, the second arrow was for Gessler himself. And of course, Gessler was furious, refused to allow him his freedom, and made plans for Tell to spend the rest of his life in a dungeon.

The trip to Gessler's castle was partly by ship. But severe stormy weather gave Tell a chance to jump overboard and escape. He ran cross country ahead of Gessler, ambushed him as he entered his castle and

assassinated him there. News of the act traveled across the countryside. It became a rallying cry for the people, and Swiss independence from the Austrian oppression soon followed.

In class today we will reenact this moment in history. At first it may seem a dangerous task, but plans have been set in place to make it as safe as you can possibly imagine.

God cares about His children. He will protect them from undo harm. He loves us, and will not let anything come between Himself and His prize possessions.

The new Facebook page is up and running well. Look for **Theother Lyle**.

The last friend count was at 22. I find many Facebook pages to be quite boring. I personally guarantee that this one will not be boring—ever!

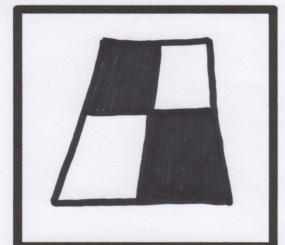
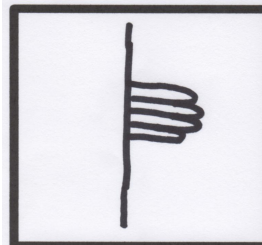
This past week Theother and a donkey named Earl took a cross country road trip. Included was an Amish baseball game, a 1973 SAAB, a photo for Earl's Momma, an ice cream cone, and a magnificent statue of Sancho Panza.

What could be better than that?

May I
Introduce:
EARL



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess.



May the 4th be with you, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 31

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Soap Opera of Daniel 11

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Theother Lyle
- Quotes
- Soap Operas and History

Famous Quotes

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

"18...19...20! Yup, he's got all of his hands and feet!" (Mr. Potato Head at the birth of his son)

"Moses, thou shalt hold down the Commandment Key and hit 10" (Hezekiah 5:3)

"...and then the man in the big yellow hat said "We can't go to the circus until you take your medicine," and George says, "Yeah, right, whatever." (From the famous children's book *Not So Curious George*.)

"Today you are you. That is truer than true. There is no one alive who is you-er than you." (Dr. Suess)

"My grading scale:
A---Average
B---Below Average
C---Can't Have Dinner
D---Don't Come Home
F---Find A New Family"
(Theother Lyle)

Daniel 11: 2-35

2 "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will arise in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece. 3 Then a mighty king will arise, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. 4 After he has arisen, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others. 5 "The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power. 6 After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power will not last. In those days she will be betrayed, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her. 7 "One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious. 8 He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone. 9 Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. 10 His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress. 11 "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. 12 When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. 13 For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped. 14 "In those times many

will rise against the king of the South. Those who are violent among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success. 15 Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand. 16 The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it. 17 He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans will not succeed or help him. 18 Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back on him. 19 After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more. 20 "His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor. In a few years, however, he will be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle. 21 "He will be succeeded by a contemptible person who has not been given the honor of royalty. He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue. 22 Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed. 23 After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully, and with only a few people he will rise to power. 24 When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. He will plot the overthrow of fortresses—but only for a time. 25 "With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and

very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him. 26 Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle. 27 The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time. 28 The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country. 29 "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. 30 Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant. 31 "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation. 32 With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him. 33 "Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered. 34 When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. 35 Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time.

Today we will overlay this very passage with world history and see an amazing, perfect match written many years before it actually happened.

Theother Lyle

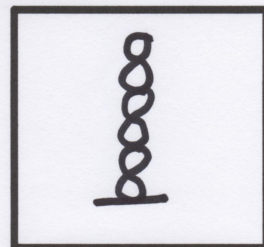
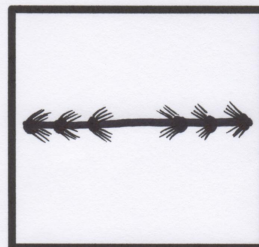
The new Facebook page is up and running well. Look for **Theother Lyle**.

The last friend count was at 25. I find many Facebook pages to be quite boring. I personally guarantee that this one will not be boring—ever!

This past week Theother took a new job on a fishing boat, the *Pea Pod*. He works with a crazy guy named Quebec, working for an agency known as AHAB, and searching for a huge white catfish named *Moldy Mick*.

What could be better than that?

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



May 11, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 32

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Soap Opera of Daniel 11—Part 2

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Theother Lyle
- A Mother's Day Story
- Soap Operas—Part 2

A Touching Mother's Day Story

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Mother's Day is special for me. My mother raised three of us boys, of which I was the youngest. We were/are very competitive by nature, and that characteristic taints everything we do. We are all grown now and have comfortable lifestyles.

This year, we decided that we would each get Mom an incredibly expensive gift. My oldest brother built her a house. It is grand and huge! The middle one of us bought her a 2015 S65 AMG Mercedes. And not to be outdone, his gift included a chauffeur to drive her everywhere she wanted to go. That left me with a real challenge. But I believe I rose to the occasion. I found a Tibetan monastery where 22 monks had taught a parrot to recite the entire Bible. It took them 18 years to teach the bird this fabulous trick. All one has to do is name a chapter and verse and the bird recites the passage flawlessly! Amazing, huh? It cost me \$1.2 million, but Mom's eyesight isn't what it used to be, and I thought this would be a great gift.

Mom wrote us a thank you letter. I'd like to quote the key passage from that letter. "Theodore, the house you built for me is huge. I only use one or two rooms, but I still have to clean the whole house. Theobold, I am really too old to travel. I stay home all of the time, so the Mercedes stays parked, and the driver is a bit rude. My dearest Theother, you are the only son to have the good sense to know what your mother likes. That chicken was delicious!"

Happy Mother's Day Mom!!!!

Theother Lyle

The new Facebook page is up and running well. Look for **Theother Lyle**. The last friend count was at 28. This past week—Archeology!

Daniel 11: 2-35

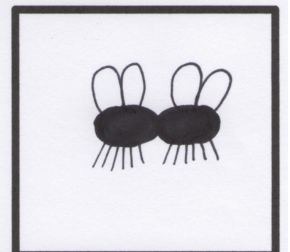
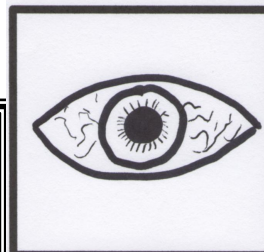
2 "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will arise in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece. 3 Then a mighty king will arise, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. 4 After he has arisen, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others. 5 "The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power. 6 After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power will not last. In those days she will be betrayed, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her. 7 "One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious. 8 He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone. 9 Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. 10 His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress. 11 "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. 12 When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. 13 For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped. 14 "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. Those who are violent among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success. 15 Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their

best troops will not have the strength to stand. 16 The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it. 17 He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans will not succeed or help him. 18 Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back on him. 19 After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more. 20 "His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor. In a few years, however, he will be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle. 21 "He will be succeeded by a contemptible person who has not been given the honor of royalty. He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue. 22 Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed. 23 After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully, and with only a few people he will rise to power. 24 When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. He will plot the overthrow of fortresses—but only for a time. 25 "With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him. 26 Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle. 27 The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the

same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time. 28 The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country. 29 "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. 30 Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant. 31 "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation. 32 With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him. 33 "Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered. 34 When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. 35 Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time.

There are those who question Daniel 11. Because it is so historically accurate, they claim that it could not have been written before these events came to be. The Bible is God's word. He operates outside of the framework of time. He knows the past, present and the future. Those who doubt that reality are not ready to admit that God could ever be that amazing.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



May 18, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 33

Sunday School Times

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- The Internet
- Pretty Dog
- To Tell the Truth

The Baseball Game Found in the King James Bible

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Published almost weekly, but more like whenever, so get used to it, OK?

To Tell The Truth

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

John 13: 36-38

36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place." 37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." 38 "What is truth?" retorted Pilate.

Television in the late 50's and early 60's was much different than it is today. As a child of that era, I grew up enjoying a select few TV shows. One of my favorites was a show simply called "To Tell the Truth". Airing in both an evening and a daytime time slot, it became one of the five most popular game shows of all time.

The premise of the show was quite simple. Three contestants would stand before a panel of well-known Hollywood celebrities who were poised and ready to ask questions of them. The show's announcer would then read a unique or interesting story, many times recalling some strange or bizarre incident or accomplishment. The three contestants would proclaim to the celebrity panel that they were the subject of the story.

Questioning would then begin as the celebrities would try to determine which contestant was indeed telling the truth, and which two were not. The two who were essentially given free license to lie could say anything they liked to try to convince the panel that they were the right choice. Only

the true, central character of the story was sworn to always tell the truth. Often it was remarkably difficult to determine simply from a few questions, who was indeed telling the truth and who was not.

John, in his Gospel, includes a conversation that took place between Jesus and Pilate. As Jesus stood before the Roman who had the power to condemn him to death, the subject of truth came up. Jesus explained to Pilate that there is absolute truth. Not understanding the concept, and probably well acquainted with a pagan world system that excelled at not telling the truth, Pilate responds with one of the most loaded questions recorded in the Bible.

"What is truth?" he asked. Today we still live in a world that struggles to always tell the truth, even when it is inconvenient to do so. As Christians, we are called to always be truthful.

The people gathered (*Numbers 11.32*) to see the battle (*1 Sam. 14.28*). Eli sat upon a seat by a post (*1 Sam. 1.9*) and he stretched himself (*1 Kgs. 17.21*) that he may see good. (*Ps. 34.12*) So the people shouted: (*Joshua 6.20*) "Where are the nine? (*Luke 17.17*) Let the young men now arise and play before us." (*2 Sam. 2.14*)

The first came out (*Gen. 25.25*) and went into the field (*Num. 22.23*) and stood every man in his place. (*Jdg. 7.21*) And Peter called, (*Mk. 14.72*) whether it be good or bad. (*Lev. 27.12*) As one mocketh, another do (*Job 13.9*) with loud voices: (*Lk. 23:23*) "Thou art blind!" (*Rev. 3.17*) And he stooped to (*1 Sam. 28.4*) make clean...the platter. (*Lk. 11.39*) And the trumpeters sounded: (*2 Chron. 29.28*) "Kohath shall pitch." (*Num. 3.29*) And Samson went and caught. (*Jdg 15:4*)

David was up (*2 Sam. 24.11*) on the left side (*Eze. 1.10*) and he struck it into the pan (*1 Sam. 2.14*) foul. (*Matt. 16.3*) The second was offered; (*Jdg. 6.28*) he striketh-- (*Job 34.26*) he missed! (*1 Sam. 20.18*) On the third (*Gen. 22.4*) he struck him out! (*2 Sam. 20.10*) So Levite went in; (*Jdg. 17.10*) he stood and measured the earth; he beheld, and drove (*Hab. 3.6*) for an homer. (*Hos. 3.2*) And all the people shouted with a great shout. (*Ezra 3.11*) And Noah went in, (*Gen. 7.7*) and did fly (*2 Sam. 22.11*) into the field. (*Num. 22.23*) And Jotham ran away (*Jdg. 9.21*) and looking back (*Lk. 9.62*) gathered it. (*Isa. 62.9*) And Aaron went in, (*Ex. 5.1*) and he worketh it (*Isa. 44.12*) two and two. (*Gen. 7.9*) And Samson said: (*Jdg. 15.3*) "Strike it!" (*Ex. 12.7*) And Aaron spake: (*Ex. 4.30*) "A good man would (*Rom. 5.7*) be not one of them that strike." (*Prov. 22.26*) And the man refused to smite. (*1 Kgs 20.35*) And Aaron took, (*Numbers 16.47*) and he walked. (*1 Kgs. 15.3*) Amon sacrificed (*2 Chron. 33.22*) and Aaron ran (*Num. 16.47*) into the second, (*Heb. 9.7*) and overran! (*2 Sam. 18.23*) And with the bag (*Micah 6.11*) afar off-- (*Gen. 22.4*) a good man out. (*Matt. 12.35*)

Now Jeremiah came in; (*Jer. 37.4*) then he went out, (*Gen. 31.33*) being caused to fly, (*Daniel 9.21*) And the men of Israel retired. (*Jdg. 20.39*) Then the Philistines went up (*Jdg. 15.9*) And Joseph was...captain (*Gen. 39.1*) of the Philistines. (*Jdg. 3.31*) And Absalom pitched. (*2 Sam. 17.26*)

Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks. (*Gen. 42.25*) Shimei came forth (*2 Sam. 16.5*) and stood and walked. (*Acts 3.8*) The pitcher (*Ecclesiastes 12.6*) looked this way and that; (*Ex. 2.12*) He stretched out (*Hos. 7.5*) and threw. (*Acts 22.23*) And Archers hit. (*1 Sam. 31.3*)

And it came to pass on second (*Lk. 6.1*) Job caught (*Job 38.5*) the line (*1 Kgs. 2.28*) and threw (*2 Sam. 16.13*) at the first; (*Gen. 13.4*) Therefore David ran and stood upon (*1 Sam. 17.51*) the first, (*Gen. 13.4*) put forth his hand, and caught (*Ex. 4.4*) the toss. (*Jer. 5.22*) This is the second death. (*Rev. 20.14*) Then Joseph could not refrain himself, and he cried: (*Gen. 45.1*) "Goodness, if thou continue in (*Rom. 11.22*) going down, (*Gen. 15.12*) our hope is lost (*Eze. 37.11*) and my garments (*Isa. 63.3*) and job." (*Job 32.3*)

And Abram went up (*Gen. 13.1*) and Abram drove (*Gen. 15.11*) into the air. (*Acts 22.23*) And Judah came in (*Gen. 38.8*) under it, (*Dan. 4.14*) and through idleness of the hands (*Ecc. 10.18*) the fly (*Isa. 7.18*) droppeth through (*Ecc. 10.18*) giving him a double. (*Lev. 21.17*) Abraham took wood and (*Gen. 22.6*) caught hold of (*2 Sam. 18.9*) an hard (*Matt. 25.24*) and high (*Rev. 21.12*) delivery (*Isa. 26.17*) and smote it (*Jdg. 7.13*) into left. (*Lev. 14.15*) Thus and thus (*Jdg. 18.4*) Israel fought against (*Josh. 10.29*) the Philistines (*1 Sam. 19.8*) till the ninth. (*Lev. 25.22*) For each, one (*Num. 7.3*) in the first, (*Jer. 25.1*) and seven times (*Lev. 25.8*) after that they (*Ecc. 9.3*) gathereth eggs. (*Isa. 10.14*)

In the ninth, (*1 Kgs. 25.1*) Israel went out (*1 Kgs. 20.21*) in a row, (*1 Kgs. 7.3*) and none came in. (*1 Sam. 18.13*) He sent divers sorts of flies among them (*Ps. 78.45*) And they caught them every one. (*2 Sam. 2.6*) The first man (*1 Cor. 15.45*) for the Philistines (*1 Sam. 28.15*) drew the third, (*Rev. 12.4*) and the fourth (*Dt. 28.20*) came to the outside; (*Jdg. 7.19*) he walketh. (*Job 22.14*) The pitcher (*Ecc. 12.6*) climbed up upon (*1 Sam. 14.13*) the mount (*Dt. 1.7*) and pitched. (*Ex. 19.2*) And Moses put it on a pole (*Num. 21.9*) for an homer, (*Hos. 3.2*) and Israel was beaten. (*2 Sam. 2.17*)

And behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter (*Eze. 9.11*) and wrote it in a book. (*1 Sam. 10.25*)

What The Internet Was Like When I Was Young

Google Mail

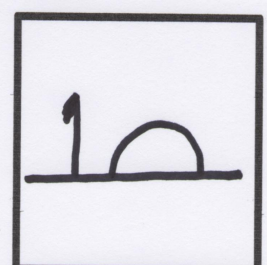
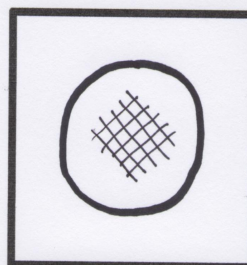
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1800 Amphitheater Parkway
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Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



June 1, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 34

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Did you know
- Butterfly safety
- The last word

Butterfly Safety

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

The world that we live in is filled with mystery. One of the most misunderstood creatures on earth today is the butterfly. It is not the innocent creature many think it to be. It is nature's most gifted illusionist. Most think it to be a flying insect of some kind. It is, however, a creature that completely lacks the ability to fall gracefully, fluttering spastically to the ground EVERY time! The predatory instinct present in these insects is frightening. The wise will brush these carnivorous brutes aside and run for their life. Especially at risk are the young, but with proper training they can survive the holocaust facing them. Standard thought is to train the young to respond with screams when threatened by one of the beasts.



Did You Know...

that if a tree falls in the forest and there is nobody there to hear it, the tree will begin to hum "Old McDonald" until someone approaches within earshot!

The Last Word

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Malachi 4:6

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Malachi's soliloquy is the concluding scene in the final act of the Old Testament. As the curtain begins to descend, the closing expression we hear, the last word spoken by God, is *curse*. The audience sits in reverent silence, unsure if applause is appropriate at this point. The lights go down; it is a somber ending to the story to be sure. Four hundred years of silence follow. God will say nothing more until His Son steps out onto center stage in Matthew.

The Old Testament would seem to be merely backdrop scenery, were it not for the New Testament. It is there that we realize what God was doing, and why. The panoramic background on the stage is filled with the colors and subtle hues and tints that point to the person of Jesus Christ. We began this exercise with a study of the first word in Genesis. It would be appropriate to consider the final word found in the Old Testament.

Verse four, of the fourth chapter of Malachi, is a reminder that the Law given to Moses was much more than just a piece of legislation. David reassures us in the Psalms that the decrees of God are wonderful and are to be studied and meditated upon, and that a close walk with the Lord is predicated on that truth. They are a *lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path*. The godly coordinate their lives by the commandments of the Lord. But as we have found, many of those laws also prefigure the person of the Messiah, making them doubly delightful to contemplate and reflect upon.

God's warning in the last verse is delivered with a cautionary portent. His exact words are, *lest I come and smite the earth with a curse*. That final word immediately takes us back to the Garden of

Eden and the fall of man. When Adam and Eve sinned, a curse was pronounced by God upon mankind, as well as all of creation. Since that moment, the scourge of sin and the consequences of the judgment of God plague our daily existence. But our merciful God foreknew that, and planned a solution in eternity past. Salvation, and the eventual complete redemption of man from that curse, is the central theme of the Bible, from cover to cover.

In the original language, the word translated *curse* is quite interesting. It carries with it the subtle idea of a net or snare. Picture, if you will, a fisherman along the shore, working with a casting net. His polished technique is evident as the net unfurls in the toss and then drops into the water. Attached to his hand is a cord which he deftly begins gathering back towards himself. As the net descends around an unsuspecting fish, he has already drawn the bottom closed, sealing off any chance of escape for his prey. Likewise, if the hearts of God's people are not focused upon Him, His judgment will be a shocking, sure, deadly surprise to the unprepared.

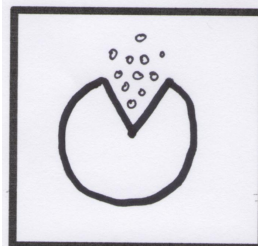
The common usage of this word also takes us into the realm of the camel driver. The more stubborn of these animals, at times, require a supplementary method of persuasion to submit to the master. The process of placing a large round guide ring through the soft cartilage between the nostrils is a bit unpleasant to imagine, and God is warning His people that He will administer the painful implantation of devices that will coerce obedience if necessary. God demands compliance with His Laws.

In addition to these nuanced definitions, the clear warning God communicated was a direct reference to

Leviticus 27:29. In times past, as the Israelites were conquering and occupying the Promised Land, God had specific requirements assigned to individual battles for various reasons. In some instances, as in the case of the battle for Jericho, everything was to be *devoted* to the Lord. The identical Hebrew term translated as *curse* in Malachi, is translated differently in Leviticus. Everyone *devoted* to the Lord was to be killed. All that was flammable was to be burned. Nothing in the plunder could be ransomed, no one could be redeemed. Every living thing died, every combustible thing was destroyed, and anything that was left after those two ravages, was God's. Consider the fact that those who were *cursed* or *devoted* to the Lord were not eligible for redemption. No price could be paid to bring them into a condition of relationship. Here we find the most significant concern of God. If His people were distracted and unconcerned with God and His love for them, they might miss the gift that was to come. He was planning to send a Savior, Jesus the Messiah, who would voluntarily go to a cross and shed His blood, and pay the necessary redemption price for all mankind who would accept the offer extended to them. Those not watching, those not attentive, would suffer the *curse* and miss the only possibility of redemption from sin.

The Old Testament begins with a subtle reference to the person of Jesus, and ends with a warning not to miss the Messiah and the redemption plan of God. Jesus Christ must be the focus of our lives. I trust that as you continue in your walk with God, your fascination with the Savior never ends, and that the reading and study of the Word of God become an ever increasing part of your life.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



June 8, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 35

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Inmates of "Prison le DeVil"

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

A fictitious story is told of a notorious prison in France near the turn of last century. "Prison le DeVil" was a hideous place to be, and anyone incarcerated by the French justice system hoped that they would never be sent there.

It seems that when Jean Pierre LaFayette became the newly elected president of France, he decided to exercise a constitutional authority granted to him by virtue of his position. He had the power to pardon anyone he chose. That meant that if he so decreed, the person or persons of his choosing would be allowed out of prison, their criminal record expunged, and granted a new life in France!

He carefully chose three individuals and sent their official documents of pardon to the prison by messenger. As the messenger approached the cell door of the first recipient of pardon, he loudly proclaimed the good news.

The prisoner's response was surprising. In a shout of rage and disgust, he let the messenger know in no uncertain terms that he wanted nothing to do with a

president who could issue pardons, and to leave him alone forever!

Somewhat in shock, the messenger then went on the second cell door. He called out the same greeting—he had brought a pardon from the president.

This belligerent prisoner immediately began an argument. You see, he did not believe in presidents, or pardons. He had never seen a president or a pardon before and was convinced that they were just some made-up story. He refused because he doubted their existence.

Unable to convince the inmate of the truth, the messenger reluctantly went on the third recipient. And as he approached, he called out his news of a pardon.

The cell window came open as the news was proclaimed. Unfortunately, this inmate had other ideas as well. His cell was immaculate! So clean and shiny that anyone could have eaten off of the floor! But he refused his pardon as well. He explained to the messenger that he felt that one day the Warden would come down to visit

and would see all of the work he had put into keeping his cell clean. His belief was that the Warden would be so impressed that he would be granted release from prison.

The messenger bowed his head in disbelief. How could these naïve people turn down the greatest gift possible?

The world around us is lost in sin—in a prison of sin. And God has graciously extended to every human being walking the face of the earth a pardon. Jesus paid for our sins, he took the punishment, and we can go free—genuinely free!

Do you recognize the inmate's reactions as being parallel to reactions of people that you meet each day?

Some despise the Gospel and do not want to hear anything about it. Others say that they don't trust in a God they can't see and don't believe exists. And of course there are those who are trying to work their way into Heaven by living as cleanly as possible.

There is only one way out of "Prison le DeVil". A pardon from Jesus Christ!

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Been there...
- "Prison le DeVil"
- Questions and Answers

Been There?

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Been there and done that. And been there a dozen times more. 'Cause apparently I never learn.

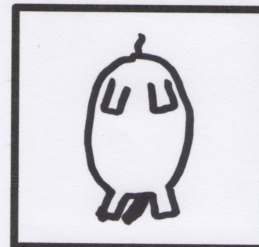
This week a bird pooped on my nicely cleaned car. So I ate a breakfast of scrambled eggs on the front porch just so he would know what I was capable of.

Many years ago, Matthew Henry, a well-known Bible scholar, was once robbed of his wallet. Knowing that it was his duty to give thanks in everything, he meditated on this incident and recorded in his diary the following: Let me be thankful, first, because he never robbed me before; second, because although he took my purse, he did not take my life; third, because although he took all I possessed, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed.

Questions and Answers

Today we begin this semester's Q and A time!!!!!!

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



June 15, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 36

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- A Father's Story
- Thanks Dad
- KLEW

Thanks Dad

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Dad,
thanks for never missing
a display of the
disappointing athleticism
I inherited from you!

Dad,
I love how
we don't even need
to say out loud
that I'm your
favorite child!

Dad,
you're the
World's Greatest Dad...
although my
frame of reference
is rather limited!

Dad,
thanks for
never taking me
to the zoo.
I remember
how you used to say
"If they want him,
they'll come and get him!"

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 28: 19-20

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

In 1944 England, World War II was an ever-present concern. When air raid alarms would sound, people scrambled for shelters and sat. Anthony Pratt decided a new board game might amuse some folks and help pass the interminable time. Originally titled "Murder", it was later published in England as "Cluedo" and in America, marketed as "Clue".

I grew up playing this game at family gatherings and such. We didn't own a copy of our own, so it was a treat to play it with family.

I have re-engineered the basic game to fit our Sunday School format. It's new name is KLEW. That is an acronym for "Keep Living an Excellent Witness".

The basic premise of the game is that someone became a Christian! And it is up to the contestants in the classroom to determine who was saved, where did they make their decision for Christ, and what brought about their choice.

The cast of characters include All American Billy Boy Bob, Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice Young Yolanda Yorgensen, Grumpy Old Man Mr. Humph, Weaqlthy Businessman Mr. Dollar Bill, Alcoholic Loser Gwatno Name, and Road Hog Mike on a Bike.

KLEW

Their conversion took place at one of these places: at a ballgame, at church, at school, at the shopping center, at home, in Africa, in jail, or while on vacation.

And something you did led them to realize they needed Christ as their Savior. Was it your Bible, your personal testimony, your lifestyle, your friendship, your inviting them to church, or your help in sending a missionary?

We are called to tell the world about Jesus. In our culture, that is becoming more and more difficult to do. KLEW focuses more on our day to day witness than the mission trips we might take on occasion. I do not want to take away from those at all. But this is where we live and walk each day and where we can have a profound effect on those around us.

You may not know who, but there is someone watching you. Someone who maybe even looks up to you. Are you the example that you should be—always?

Be a good example of what a Christian should look like. Live as though someone is watching your every move. Not because you have to, but because of what Jesus did for you many years ago when He went to a cross and paid for your sins and mine. Good News!

A Father's Story

A young woman brought home her fiance to meet her parents. After dinner, her mother told her father to find out about the young man. The father invited the fiance to his study for a talk.

"So what are your plans?" the father asked the young man.

"I am a Bible scholar," he replied.

"A Bible scholar. Hmmm," the father said. "Admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in, as she's accustomed to?"

"I will study," the young man replied, "and God will provide for us."

"And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring, such as she deserves?" asked the father.

"I will concentrate on my studies," the young man replied, "God will provide for us."

"And children?" asked the father. "How will you support children?"

"Don't worry, sir, God will provide," replied the fiance.

The conversation proceeded like this, and each time the father questioned, the young idealist insisted that God would provide.

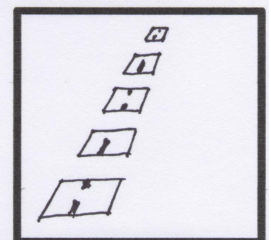
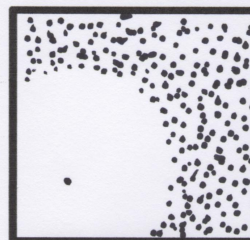
Later, the mother asked, "How did it go, Honey?"

The father answered, "He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I'm God."

Questions and Answers

Postponed one week. We'll take up on them next time.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

The Fisherman Who Mumbled

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

When I was in High School, I had an incredible summer job. I worked for a custom wheat harvesting crew. You see, in the plains states, wheat ripens as early as May in the South, and as the summer progresses, the wheat crop ripens later the farther North you travel.

This unique feature allows custom wheat harvesting crews to travel all through the summer, following the ripening and cutting the wheat with large combines.

Typically we started in southern Oklahoma in mid May, and followed the process all the way to northern Montana by Mid August. It was 3 months of brutally hard work, 100 hours a week many times, very little if any time off, but excellent pay!

Because it was important for the farmer to get his wheat harvested in a very short time, we traveled with as many as 10 combines, 10 large trucks, and 4 travel campers to sleep in. Meals were brought out to the field, and we were relieved by someone of our combine driving responsibilities just long enough to eat—the machines never stopped running! We traded drivers on the go.

I noticed one week that the owner was relieving me each day at exactly 12:00. That was odd

So, after several days of this strange behavior, I asked him why. He admitted to me that a radio personality named Paul Harvey had been telling the same joke all week long but never gave the punch line. He really wanted to know the punch line of that joke, and my combine had the only working radio!

Well, Paul Harvey finally gave the punch line and my boss then could tell me the entire joke. It is one of the best I've ever heard, and I still use it to this day as a Sunday School lesson.

It is all about a fisherman who did an amazing job of catching fish on very cold mornings. No one else

seemed able to land anything, but he was doing incredibly well. When all of the other fishermen asked him his secret, he just mumbled. This went on for days. Finally they could take it no longer and the empty handed fishermen demanded of the successful man to know his secret.

He slowly leaned over, removed something from his mouth, and then very distinctly said "The secret is to keep the worms warm."

We are called to share the Gospel with others. Jesus called it fishing for men. You have to have the right "bait". Are you willing to do what is necessary to "keep the worms warm?"

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Where's Waldo?
- Mumbling Fisherman
- Questions

Running the Race

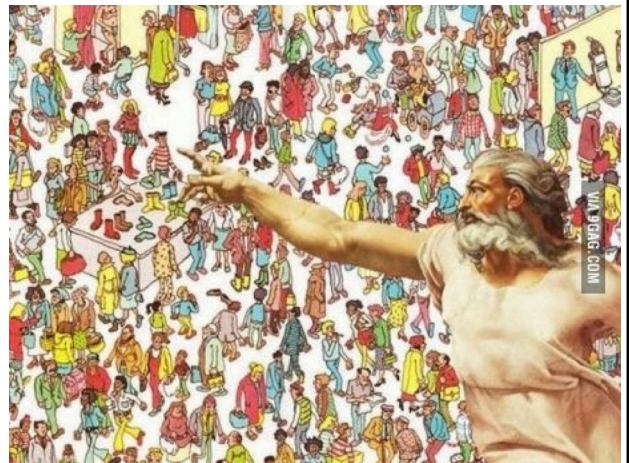
By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)



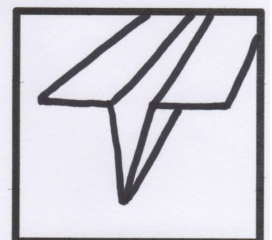
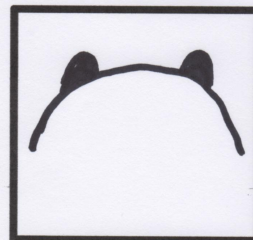
Questions and Answers

If you haven't had the chance to write down your question, please do so with Ms Jeanette.

God Always Knows!



Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Cyrus Brown's Prayer

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Philippians 4: 6

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

A Prayer Poem

The proper way for a man to pray,
Says Deacon Lemuel Keys,
And the only proper attitude
Is down upon his knees.

No, I should say the way to pray,
Says Reverend Doctor Wise
Is standing straight with outstretched arms
And rapt and upturned eyes.

Oh, no, no, no, said Elmer Slow.
Such posture is too proud.
A man should pray with eyes fast closed
And head contritely bowed.

It seems to me his hands should be
Austerely clasped in front.
Both hands pointing toward the ground,
Said Reverend Doctor Blunt.

Last year I fell in Hitchkins' well,
Head first, said Cyrus Brown.
And both my heels were stickin' up,
And my head was pointing down.

And I made a prayer right then and there,
The best prayer I ever said.
The prayin'est prayer I ever prayed
Was standin' on my head.

Prayer is a great gift that God
has given to each of us. We
have the opportunity to talk to
God directly from anywhere at
anytime and we are allowed to
talk for as long as we want.
Your cell phone contract doesn't
even come close to that!

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- Chocolate Chip
- Porpoise stuff
- Prayer
- Questions

Cleaning House and Had Some Leftover Porpoise Stuff

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

1. Old sailors never die, they just lose their porpoise.
2. I know a guy that works at Sea World, but I don't think it's on porpoise.

A Porpoise Named Purpose

A porpoise named "Purpose"
On purpose, I'm sure, was
Perplexingly perfect,
And persistently pure.

Now "Purpose" would purpose
To perform and be sweet,
And purchase a purple
Paraguayan parakeet.

It came in a parcel
Portrayed to be porous
And written on the side
"Hi, my name is 'Porpoise'"

So "Purpose" had "Porpoise"
And "Purpose" had purpose:
A Porpoise with purpose;
A Porpoise with "Porpoise"

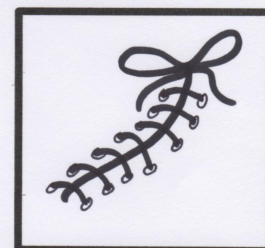
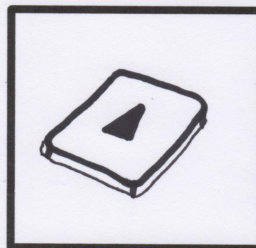
Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1.) 532.35 ml starch/cellulose fiber/gluten compound
- 2.) 4.9 ml NaHCO₃
- 3.) 4.9 ml refined NaCl
- 4.) 236.6 ml partially hydrogenated tallow triglyceride
- 5.) 177.45 ml crystalline C12H22O11
- 6.) 177.45 ml unrefined C12H22O11
- 7.) 4.9 ml methyl ether of protocatechuic aldehyde
- 8.) Two calcium carbonate-encapsulated avian albumen-coated embryonic gestation units (remove coating first)
- 9.) 473.2 ml theobroma cacao
- 10.) 236.6 ml de-encapsulated deciduous legume meats (sieve size #10)

To a 2-liter jacketed round reactor vessel (reactor #1) with an overall heat transfer coefficient of about 100 Btu/F-ft²-hr, add ingredients one, two and three with constant agitation. In a second 2-l reactor vessel with a radial flow impeller operating at 100 rpm, add ingredients four, five, six, and seven until the mixture is homogenous. To reactor #2, add ingredient eight, followed by three equal volumes of the homogenous mixture in reactor #1. Afterward, add ingredients nine and ten slowly, with constant agitation. WARNING: Care must be taken at this point in the reaction to control any temperature rise that may be the result of an exothermic reaction involving the product mixture. Using a #4 nodulizer, place the mixture in a series of approximately equal apportionments on a 316SS sheet (300 x 600 mm), spacing the nodules on 54.5mm (8mm) centers. Heat in a 769K oven for a period of time that is in agreement with Frank & Johnston's first order rate expression (see JACOS, 21, 55), or until golden brown (albedo 7.9 1 on the Ractageno scale). Once the reaction is complete, place the sheet on a 25C heat-transfer table, allowing the product to come to equilibrium before dispensing.

Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess



Questions and Answers

If you haven't had the chance to write down your question,
please do so with Ms Jeanette.

July 13, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 39

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Divine Wood Cutters

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Philippians 1: 12

But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel.

Paul is in prison in Rome, writing to his friends the Philippians. He is assuring them that the circumstances in which he finds himself are contributing to, rather than hindering, the advance of the Gospel. He says in this passage that the things that have happened to him have fallen out rather to the furtherance of the Gospel.

The word "furtherance" is from a Greek word used in the first century to refer to a company of woodcutters preceding the progress of an army. You see, with far fewer roads, an army often traveled cross country. The woodcutters would go ahead of an advancing army, clearing away trees and brush, creating a road capable of handling everything that an army might wish to carry with them.

So what was Paul saying when he said his circumstances were divine woodcutters? His liberty was gone. He was chained to a Roman soldier night and day. God had built a fence around the apostle. He had put limitations about him. He had placed handicaps upon him. And Paul says that these were God's woodcutters making a road for the Gospel.

The Gospel was now being proclaimed from the pulpit in the

Roman empire. The Praetorium guard of 10,000 hand picked Roman soldiers was hearing the Good News from the soldiers chained to Paul. The jealous brothers in Rome were preaching Christ more energetically, out of envy of course, but yet preaching about Him. And the friends of Paul were even more zealous in their preaching.

And so it is in every Christian's life. The things that hedge us in, the things that handicap us, the tests that we all go through, are all divinely appointed woodcutters used by God to hew a path for our presentation of the Gospel to those we meet each day.

It may be that our fondest dreams are not realized. We may be in difficult circumstances. Illness may be our lot. Yet if we are in the center of God's will, all these are contributing to the progress of the Gospel.

They draw us closer to God, so that the testimony of our lives will count for more.

Thank God for the handicaps and problems you face. They are blessings in disguise. When we have limitations imposed upon us we do our best work for the Lord, for it is then that we are most

dependent upon Him.

Paul told the Corinthians, "Most gladly therefore will I glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (II Cor. 12:9).

Paul had plenty of woodcutters.

The Chicken in the Library

A chicken marches into the library, walks up to the library desk, and says: "Book, book, BOOK!"

The librarian hands over a couple of slim children's paperbacks, and watches the chicken as it leaves the library, walks across the street, through a field, and disappears down the hill.

The next day, the chicken is back. And walks right up to the librarian, drops the books on her desk, and says, "Book, Book, BOOK, BOOK!" The librarian hands over a few books and again watches the chicken drag them away.

The next day, the chicken comes for a third time. Drops the books on the desk, and says, "Book, Book, Book, BOOK!"

This time, once the chicken is out the door, the librarian follows — across the street, through a field, and down the hill to a small pond.

On a rock on the edge of the pond is the biggest frog the librarian has ever seen. The chicken walks up to the frog, drops the book on the pond's edge, and says, "Book, Book, Book!"

The frog hops over, uses the front leg to push through the pile, and says: "Read it, read it, read it..."

Stuff For Today

- Wait, Wait, Let Me Guess!
- History
- My Little Poem Corner
- Questions and Answers

Today In History

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

1836-US patent #1 for locomotive wheels. (After 9,957 unnumbered patents.)

1865-Horace Greely advises his readers "Go west young man."

1898-Marconi patents the radio.

1908-Women compete in the Olympics for the first time.

1923-The Hollywood Sign is officially dedicated above Hollywood, Los Angeles. It originally read "Hollywoodland".

1925-Walt Disney gets married to Lillian Bounds.

1930-1st ever World Cup begins in Uruguay.

1970-J Edgar Hoover names the Black Panther Party as the most dangerous terrorist group in existence then.

1977-New York City experiences a 25 hour blackout. Riots and mayhem ensue.

1985-George Bush becomes acting president for a day while Ronald Reagan has surgery.

2014-Sunday School continues at First Baptist Church and Question and Answer time continues.

Questions and Answers Continue

We continue with our questions today. If you have not had a chance to write your question down, see Mr. Lyle and get a piece of paper, write down your question and place it in the bucket where all of the other remaining questions are.

My Little Poem Corner
Donkey of brown please let me know
Why it is you go so slow?
He turned round and gently said
"We're in a boat you stupid head!"



Stuff For Today

- My Little Poem Corner
- Corner idioms
- Gravity Corner

Corner Idioms Found In Our Culture

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

How many of these do you know?

1. To corner the market
2. To back someone into a corner.
3. To cut corners.
4. From the four corners of the world.
5. To have someone in your corner.
6. Out of the corner of ones eye.
7. To turn the corner.
8. To be in a tight corner
9. Catty-corner
10. To paint into a corner.
11. To be around the corner.
12. A corner kick.
13. The corner pocket.
14. A cornerback
15. Bringing in the corners
16. A corner throw
17. Riding a good corner.
18. Long and short corners
19. Cow corner.
20. A neutral corner.
21. The corner rule.
22. Kings in the corner.
23. Corner chess.
24. Lutz corner.

Question:

What is red and sits in the corner?

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Gravity Corner

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 10:16

16 "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

Hands down, the most trying, difficult, and physically demanding object lesson I have ever done has to be a short movie I made called "Gravity Corner".

I came up with the idea from a Saturday Night Live skit I had seen in 1986. Comedy magicians Penn and Teller were featured that night and one of their best moments involved them doing various basic tasks, but with very unique twists. Gravity did not work normally for them that night.

Fast forward in time about 15 years. Imagine a 45 year old guy building a set based on that old Penn and Teller skit, and convincing his kids to help him film one of the silliest things he has ever tried to do!

The preparation took several days, planning everything in detail. There were safety concerns to be addressed as well. The result was an unedited 10 minute video that took a total of 45 minutes to record. It was the most physically demanding thing I have ever done in my life!

It was filmed in a VHS format, so the quality is a bit lacking. I wish I could have a do-over and get a nice digital version, but I am not sure that I could do it again at my present age.

If I could have an entertainment themed television show, this movie would be my first episode. Spoiler alert—the show is all about gravity!

When you begin watching the movie, you may genuinely be amazed at what I was able to do. Eventually though, you will probably figure things out, and not be quite as amazed, but hopefully still entertained.

The world you live in is genuinely difficult to understand at times. It can look impossible at first. But understand that God is in control of everything, and He knows what is going on. The good thing is that we have been given a behind the scenes look at this world and how it operates. It is commonly called "The Bible".

God has spelled out in remarkable detail what we can expect here on this earth. He has also given us everything we need to know to deal with the difficulties handed to us. Use the resource He has given you. Read and study your Bible!

So Where Did The Word "Corner" Come From?

To answer that question, we travel back in time to the Roman Empire. The Latin word used to describe a projecting point or a horn was *cornu*. The French picked it up as *corne* hundreds of years later. By the 1300's, through use and the natural changes that a living language normally undergoes, the French had modified it to become the word *cornere*. We Englishmen borrowed it from the French and made it ours by deleting the e.

My Little Poem Corner

A candy bar.
A piece of cake.
Two liter Coke.
A chocolate shake.

Crème filled Long Johns.
Oreos.
Two dozen glazed
Doughnut holes.

A slice of pie
Make it two.
I'll have another.
Three will do.

Vanilla wafers.
Cherry punch.
My wife slept in
While I made lunch



Stuff For Today

- My Little Poem Corner
- Impossible stuff
- Six impossible things

Alice's Six Impossible Things

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Near the end of the 2010 movie remake of "Alice in Wonderland", Alice is about to fight the dreaded *Jabberwocky*. As she prepares herself mentally for the battle, she counts six impossible things that she now believes in:

1. There is a potion that can make you shrink
2. There is a cake that can make you big.
3. Animals can talk
4. Cats can disappear.
5. There is a place called Wonderland.
6. And she completes her list by admitting to herself that she can indeed dispatch the ugly *Jabberwocky*.

And having convinced herself, she slays the horrible animal.

Health and Safety is My Life!

Danger: handle with care! If mishandled or used carelessly, this paper can cause paper cuts leading to loss of blood and in extreme cases a long, slow, painful "good by". I highly recommend a "paper use safety training course". The life you save could be your own. Thank you.

Published almost weekly, but more like.....whenever, so get used to it, OK?

Six Impossible Things

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Matthew 19:26

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

In Lewis Carroll's sequel to *Alice in Wonderland* called *Through the Looking Glass*, Alice is complaining to the White Queen. "There is no use trying", she says, "one can't believe impossible things."

But the White Queen responds, "I daresay you haven't had much practice. When I was your age, I always did it for half-an-hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

I believe in six impossible things, and I didn't have breakfast today, so it still counts, right?! Here is my list.

1. God created this universe, and everything in it, from nothing. He spoke it all into existence in six, literal, days. That's impossible.

2. God created humans with a free will to do as they wish. We failed, we sinned, and God still loved us. That's impossible.

3. God loves us so much that He made a plan to redeem us so that we can live forever with Him in Heaven. That's impossible.

4. Jesus, who is God, came to this earth, laying aside His Heavenly prerogatives while

He was here, and lived a perfect sinless life as an example to us. That's impossible.

5. He died and was buried and rose again. He still lives! That's impossible.

6. He is coming again some day to take all believers to be with Him forever. And we will live happily ever after FOREVER! That's impossible.

I hope you understand I am being facetious as I recount these things as impossible. The world we live in counts all of these six items to be preposterous and blatantly impossible to even consider. However, for the Christian, these impossible things are the very basis of everything that we believe. Without them, we have nothing.

As you continue your walk with the Lord, cement these six "impossibles" into the foundation of everything that you believe. Don't allow the world to create doubts in your mind. All things are possible with God—even the impossible things! He tells us that all we need do is to believe.

That's a bit tough in our world. Many have the erroneous idea that visual proof is necessary before they can believe. Our senses will fool us. Many a magician has made a very good living capitalizing on that idea. The only thing that is solid and completely trustworthy is God's word, the Bible.

I believe in as many as six impossible things before breakfast. I hope you will also.

Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small men who find it easier to live in the world they have been given, than to explore the power they have to change it. **Impossible** is not a fact, it is an opinion.

Impossible is not a declaration. It is a dare. **Impossible** is potential. **Impossible** is temporary. **Impossible** is nothing.

My Little Hippo Poem

My hippo has the hiccups
And his hiccups shake the ground.
The floor is always rumbling
When my hippo is around.

I bought him at the pet store
But I missed a small detail.
I didn't see the sign that said:
"Hiccupotamus for sale."

August 10, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 42

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more likewhenever, so get used to it, OK?

Stuff For Today

- Remembering
- Graduation
- Goodbye!

Today's Graduation Ceremony

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

Welcome and Prayer

Pomp and Circumstances beyond our control

The Reading of the Sunday School Times

Announcements

Address by Class Valasalutadictatorian Magnanimous Canunimous Laudinum

Presentation of Diplomas and Various Other Unsundry Items

Closing Prayer

You're Outa Here!

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)

How many of these lessons do you remember?

1. Finding a watch under one of three cups.
2. George Wilson's pardon.
3. Prince Charmin.
4. The rat trap
5. Hu Waru
6. The celebration of COTSA
7. Jesus' first sermon
8. Funeral for a friend
9. The story of Ruth
10. A Kroger Christmas
11. Famous artist Ly Lé
12. The Gospel in the gates of Jerusalem
13. Four faced creatures
14. The impossible football game
15. RATZ: Reveal Another Terrific Zero
16. The 100 mm canon
17. Kung Fu Moses
18. Magnets
19. The cabbage coupon
20. Pencil parable
21. Four letter Latin swear word
22. Picking the Lamb
23. Hatfileds and McCoys
24. William Tell
25. First and last word in the Old Testament
26. The soap opera
27. To Tell the Truth
28. Gravity Corner
29. Keep Living an Excellent Witness
30. Really lame magic tricks—and one disappearing Coke bottle
31. And who can forget those amazing "Wait, Wait Let Me Guess"

A World of -Infinite- Possibilities -Awaits You- -Will Might One Day Await You	Graduation Cards Are So Difficult To Writel
A World of -Infinite- Possibilities -Awaits You- Will One Day Await You	Life Is Hard!
A World of -Infinite- Possibilities Awaits You	A World of -Infinite- Possibilities- -Awaits You- -Will Might One Day Await You
A World of Infinite Possibilities Awaits You	A World of -Infinite- Possibilities Awaits You -Will Might One -Day- -Awaits You-

Good Bye

See you later, alligator
After awhile, crocodile
In an hour, sunflower
Toodle-oo, kangaroo
Gotta go, buffalo
Adios, hippos
Chow chow, brown cow
See ya soon, baboon
Adieu, cockatoo
Better swish, jellyfish
Chop chop, lollipop
Bye Bye, butterfly
See ya mañana, iguana
Give a hug, ladybug
Can't stay, blue jay
Farewell, gazelle
Take care, brown bear
Stay loose, bull moose
Good wishes, little fishes
Gonna hit the road, spotted toad
I'm outa here, white tailed deer

I would just like to take a few moments to congratulate myself on sitting through your graduation ceremony.