



2017

Happy Mother's Day

When God Created Woman

by Vivian Ann Moore
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When God created woman
He made a man complete
Life can be sometime bitter
but she can make it sweet

A man can build a house
a woman, a home she'll make
She'll bring life into walls
by the attention that she'll take

A man sees an unplowed field
Wildflowers is what she sees
A man sees just a front porch
She'll see roses in the breeze

A man looks at a picture window
and sees that it's only a window
But she looks right through it
to see a lovely view

When God created woman
He created one as lovely as spring
With both softness and beauty
to make a man's heart sing

When God created a woman
He created the best part of man
No one brightens up his world
Like a woman can

Inspired by Genesis 2:23 "This is now bone
of my bones and flesh of my flesh, she shall be
called woman."

Why Women Cry

A little boy asked his mother, "Why are you crying?"
"Because I'm a woman," she told him.

"I don't understand," he said. His Mom just hugged him and
said, "And you never will."

Later the little boy asked his father, "Why does mother
seem to cry for no reason?"

"All women cry for no reason," was all his dad could say.

The little boy grew up and became a man, still wondering
why women cry. Finally he put in a call to God. When God
got on the phone, he asked, "God, why do women cry so
easily?"

God said, "When I made the woman she had to be special. I
made her shoulders strong enough to carry the weight of
the world, yet gentle enough to give comfort.

I gave her an inner strength to endure childbirth and the
rejection that many times comes from her children.

I gave her a hardness that allows her to keep going when
everyone else gives up, and take care of her family through
sickness and fatigue without complaining. I gave her the
sensitivity to love her children under any and all circum-
stances, even when her child has hurt her very badly.

I gave her strength to carry her husband through his faults
and fashioned her from his rib to protect his heart.

I gave her wisdom to know that a good husband never hurts
his wife, but sometimes tests her strengths and her resolve
to stand beside him unflinchingly.

And finally, I gave her a tear to shed. This is hers exclusively
to use whenever it is needed." "You see my son," said God,
"the beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the
figure that she carries, or the way she combs her hair.

The beauty of a woman must be seen in her eyes, because
that is the doorway to her heart - the place where love re-
sides."

Building a Lasting Marriage - Part 1

Pete and Elaine Johnson look forward to celebrating 50 years of marriage in July.

As Published in the Clanton Advertiser—Religion Section on March 23, 2017

(Interviewed by Chanel Bingham is a freelance writer, blogger and public speaker. She resides in Thorsby with her husband and four children. You can visit Chanel at www.thepolishedcanvas.com or on Facebook at The Polished Canvas.)

According to the American Psychological Association, nearly 40-50 percent of married couples in the United States divorce. When I read such a staggering statistic, I can't help but ask the question, "WHY?" Why do so many couples who start out in a loving and committed relationship end up throwing in the towel only two, five or eight years into their marriage? Of course, if you've been married any length of time, you understand how difficult marriage can be. Simply stated, there are ups and downs, highs and lows. And while I think we are on the right track in asking why so many marriages fall apart, I think the downfall to many of these failed marriages lies in the timing of the question "Why?"

Motivational speaker Andy Andrews shares a simple yet profound principle in his new book, *The Little Things*. He discovered that most people only ask why when something is not working or is broken; yet, they almost NEVER ask why when things are going great. Andrews writes, "If we only ask why when something's wrong, the answers we get only take us back to 'sea level.' But when something really works well, it's not enough to know how it is working. We need an understanding of WHY it is working. The answers you receive to the question "Why?" will provide growth like gasoline poured onto a lighted match."

Think for a moment if we applied this principle to our marriages. Is it possible that we could learn something that might save us from divorce? For example, in following Andrew's principle, I understand that when my marriage is most fulfilling and my family is functioning at optimal level, it is because my husband and I are faithful in praying intentionally for one another and putting each other's needs before our own. Though we sometimes struggle in this area, we both realize that forgiveness must come quickly or we will begin a rapid decent down a very slippery slope that leaves us feeling empty, hurt and angry.

This past week, I had the opportunity to interview my sweet friend, Elaine Johnson, who will be celebrating her 50th wedding anniversary this July. Because I don't want to lose any of the nuggets of wisdom she has to offer, I will be sharing our full interview in a two-part series. It is my hope in sharing Elaine's story that we will develop a deeper understanding of the "Why" principle and be strengthened to apply it to our own marriages.

Chanel Bingham: How did you meet?

Elaine Johnson: We met in September 1963. I had graduated that year from high school and went to night school. Pete was in my algebra class. I was on one side of the room and he was on the other. He kept glancing my way because we both had on the same type of red sweater. On break, he came over and asked me about the assignment. We talked, got acquainted and 50 years later, we're still together.

Bingham: When did you know you were in love?

Johnson: We separated for over a year, because he started getting too serious; however, I had written on one of my scratch pads "My Future Husband!" So, one day I called him at work and he asked to come over. Of course, I said yes. When he came over, we talked and he let me know in a serious way that if we got back together, it would be for keeps. He said he didn't want to lose me again. I knew this was the beginning of something special. There were many dates and visits to each other's home. My mom even called his mom to ask if she knew that her son who was a little older was dating her daughter. After sharing thoughts, ideas, and just being friends, I realized this was the man for me. He loved me unconditionally. He was always there when I needed him, and I grew to love him. One important thing for me was that he showed me so much respect.

Bingham: What has been the easiest part of staying married?

Johnson: Being able to share my life, myself, a home and children with my best friend and confidant.

Bingham: What has been the hardest part?

Johnson: You don't always agree and it can be aggravating and frustrating. It gets better as you grow. When you go into a marriage, each one brings their own baggage with them, such as values, ideas, religious beliefs, etc. So consequently, you must learn to agree to disagree.

Bingham: What is the one thing you wish you had known when you got married?

Johnson: I always use to say there was no book to teach you how to be a mother, or to raise your children, but I learned later that GOD gave us an instruction manual, and that's HIS Word, the Bible. I pray that I learned that valuable lesson in time.

Bingham: What is the most important thing for a wife to know?

Johnson: That she is the Queen of the home and he is the King.

Bingham: What method do you use within your marriage to reach a resolution to disagreements?

Johnson: It took some years in the marriage, but we have developed a habit of never going to bed angry. Sometimes it's rough having to admit you were wrong and saying I'm sorry. But, you must swallow your pride. The Bible says, "A man's pride shall bring him low." (Prov. 29:23)

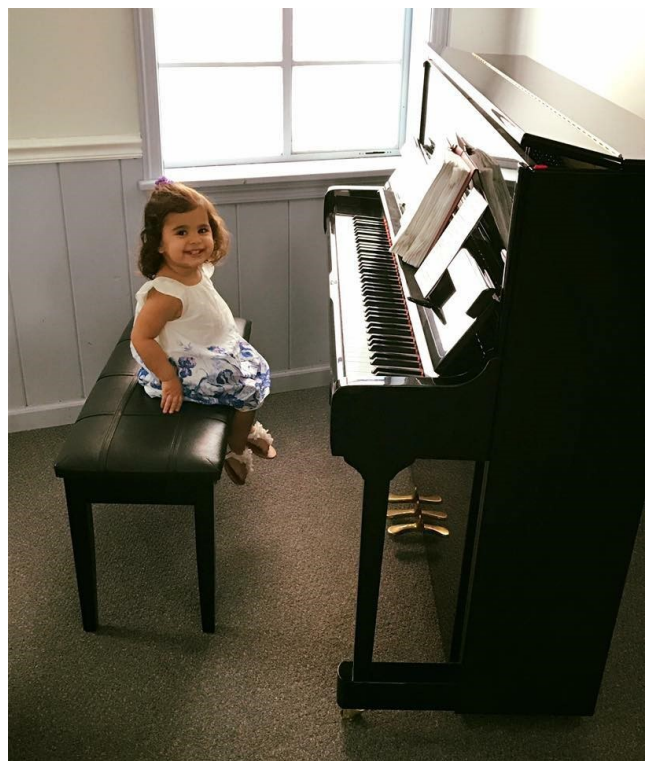
Check back next month when *Building a Lasting Marriage* will continue with the second part of its series.



PASTOR'S CORNER



We have something to look forward to, our newest pianist to be... Hope she sounds as pretty as she looks... Emma enjoying the view at a ball game. Hope you all enjoy seeing Emma, next time maybe we can see the Pastor & Elizabeth also.



Thanks be to God, who . . . uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. 2 Corinthians 2:14

Author Rita Snowden tells a delightful story about visiting a small village in Dover, England. Sitting outside a café one afternoon enjoying a cup of tea, she became aware of a beautiful scent. Rita asked a waiter where it was coming from, and was told it was the people she could see passing by. Most of the villagers were employed at a nearby perfume factory. As they walked home, they carried the fragrance that permeated their clothes out into the street.

What a beautiful image of the Christian life! As the apostle Paul says, we are the aroma of Christ, spreading His fragrance everywhere (2 Cor. 2:15). Paul uses the image of a king returning from battle, his soldiers and captives in tow, wafting the smell of celebratory incense in the air, declaring the king's greatness (v. 14).

Lord Jesus, make us carriers and communicators of Your beauty.

We spread the aroma of Christ in two ways. First, through our words: telling others about the One who is beautiful. Second, through our lives: doing deeds of Christ *****like sacrifice (Eph. 5:1-2). While not everyone will appreciate the divine fragrance we share, it will bring life to many.

Rita Snowden caught a scent and was driven to seek its source. As we follow Jesus we too become permeated with His fragrance, and we carry His aroma into the streets through our words and deeds.

Lord Jesus, make us carriers and communicators of Your beauty to the people in our homes, offices, and neighborhoods.

We are the aroma of Christ to others.

INSIGHT:

When a Roman general won a significant victory, he would be granted the honor of a triumphal parade in the streets of Rome. Citizens of Rome would line the streets and shout words of praise. Pagan temples would offer up fragrant incense that flooded the parade with sweet-smelling aromas in honor of the event. Paul uses this imagery to stunningly illustrate the spiritual victory of Christ in securing our redemption. Having won the victory over sin and death, Jesus is our triumphant leader. The spiritual aroma of Christ is sensed by the spiritual condition of those we encounter. For those who are to be saved, new life in Christ carries spiritual vitality. But for those who reject God's light, the aroma is objectionable.

What are some ways you can spread the aroma of Christ to others?

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WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND...

One day a man saw an old lady, stranded on the side of the road, but even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her. Even with the smile on his face, she looked worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He didn't look safe; he looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened, standing out there in the cold. He knew how she felt. It was that chill which only fears can put in you.

He said, 'I'm here to help you, ma'am. Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm? By the way, my name is Bryan Anderson.' Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt.

As he was tightening up the lug nuts, she rolled down the window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid.

Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. The lady asked how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Bryan never thought twice about being paid. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty, who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way.

He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance they needed, and Bryan added, 'And think of me.'

He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight.

A few miles down the road the lady saw a small café... She went in to grab a bite to eat, and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant. Outside were two old gas pumps. The whole scene was unfamiliar to her. The waitress came over and brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn't erase. The lady noticed the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger. Then she remembered Bryan .

After the lady finished her meal, she paid with a hundred dollar bill. The waitress quickly went to get change for her hundred dollar bill, but the old lady had slipped right out the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back. The waitress wondered where the lady could be. Then she noticed something written on the napkin.

There were tears in her eyes when she read what the lady wrote: 'You don't owe me anything. I have been there too. Somebody once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you Really want to pay me back, here is what you do: Do not let this chain of love end with you.'

Under the napkin was four more \$100.

Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through another day. That night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could the lady have known how much she and her husband needed it? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard...

She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a soft kiss and whispered soft and low, 'Everything's going to be all right... I love you, Bryan Anderson.'

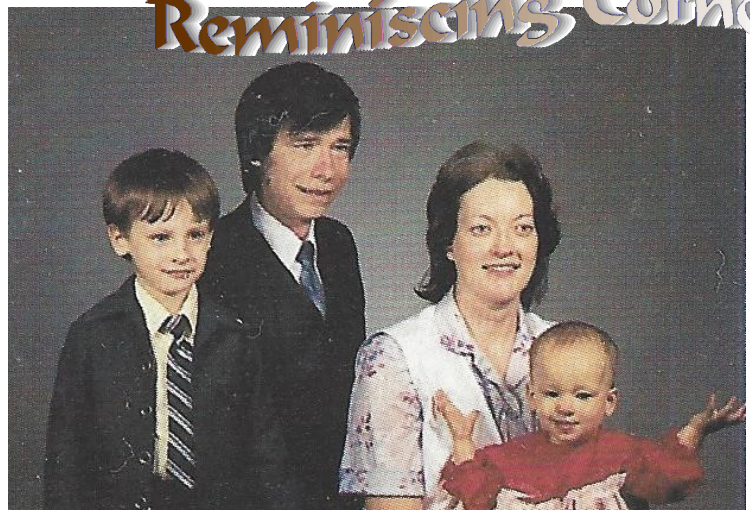
There is an old saying... 'What goes around comes around.' Today I send you this story, and I'm asking you to pass it on. Let this light shine. God works in mysterious ways and sometimes puts people in our lives for a reason.

May Birthdays

- 1— Brent Chrishon
- 3— Maxine Plier
- 4 - Sarah Langham
- 8 - Elijah Graves
- 11 - Donna Ernest
- 14 - Pamela Jackson
- 22 - Marilyn Vaught
- 25 - Marcus Christensen
- 26 - Carissa Abbott
- 29 - Natalie Smith
- 31 - Tom Bates, Samuel Chrishon (5/31/06)

Anniversaries—None known

Happy, Happy Birthday to everyone this month. Don't forget if you have a birthday that hasn't been turned in to me, please do so and we promise to try and send you a birthday card on your special day.



How many guessed that was Terry & Kay Cheser back in 1985 when they got married? This picture was found in a closet recently and was taken in 1986. I think everyone here will know who this lovely couple was. Don't forget to turn your picture in so we can all enjoy. Until next month, Brenda

Tentative Speaker Schedule: April: 29th - Pastor Rodriguez plus meeting after fellowship meal to plan Evangelism meetings. May: 6 - Treva Radford regarding Medical Missionary Training School; 13 - Pastor Rodriguez; 20 - Unknown; 27 - Bill Wiese; June: 3 - Ted Winslow; 10 - Ralph Sheperd; 17 - Pastor Rodriguez; 24 - Shawn Smith

Calendar of Events

Weekly: Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays at 6:00 PM -

Monthly: **Each Sabbath after Fellowship meal:**

Sabbath School Visitation: 1st Sabbath

Nursing Home Visitation: 4th Sabbaths

May 24-27th we will be worshipping at BASS Memorial Academy for the second portion of our Camp Meeting. Beginning on that Wednesday and Thursday evening we will have Elder Jim Gilley who has served his Lord in many positions, but we will probably remember him best for his time as president of 3ABN. Our main speaker over the weekend will be Dr. Joseph Kidder from Andrews Seminary. Destiny Works will be taking over again for the youth, and we will also have the same team of Sabbath School teachers coming for the entire camp meeting. Please think of these Camp Meeting events as a time for recommitting ourselves to Jesus and to the work he has entrusted us with. For some of us that means taking back what we might have lost, and for others it means finding the Savior for the first time. Again the registration form is in the latest issue of GSC Today or call the office to ask for more information.

Test Your Bible Knowledge! For young & old alike

1. Which book has "To every thing there is a season"?
Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes
2. Which book has "Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging"?
Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes
3. Which book has "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth"?
Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes
4. What is the shortest book in the Bible? _____
5. Who wrote the book of Acts? _____
6. Which book has "A soft answer turneth away wrath"?
Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon
7. Which book has "Behold how good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"?
Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon
8. Which book has "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he"?
Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon
9. Which book has "My beloved is mine and I am his"?
Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon
10. Which book has "Let the day perish wherein I was born"?
Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes

The Tongue Can Be Your Worst Enemy!

Your words, your dreams, and your thoughts have power to create conditions in your life. What you speak about, you can bring about. If you keep saying **You can't stand your job**, you might lose your job. If you keep saying **you can't stand your body**, your body can become sick. If you keep saying **you can't stand your car**, your car could be stolen or just stop operating. If you keep saying **you're broke**, guess what? You'll always be broke. If you keep saying **you can't trust a man or trust a woman**, you will always find someone in your life to hurt or betray you. If you keep saying **you can't find a job**, you will remain unemployed. If you keep saying **you can't find someone to love you or believe in you**, your very thought will attract more experiences to confirm your beliefs. If you keep talking about a **divorce or break up in a relationship**, then you might end up with it. Turn your **thoughts and conversations** around to be **more positive** and power packed with **faith, hope, love and action**. Don't be afraid to **believe that you can have what you want and deserve**.

Watch your Thoughts, they become words. **Watch your Words**, they become actions. **Watch your Actions**, they become habits. **Watch your Habits**, they become character. **Watch your Character**, for it becomes your **Destiny**.

The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less that you settle for. Thought I would share this with you. **In the search for me**, I discovered Truth. **In the search for Truth**, I discovered Love. **In the search for Love**, I discovered GOD **And in God, I have found Everything**. Be blessed. Watch how your **circumstances** and **situations** begin to **change** when you change the way you speak and think.

When I found the thoughts from above, I felt like the quotes from Kathy's Sabbath School program would be very appropriate to add: We need a constant sense of the ennobling power of pure thoughts. The only security for any soul is right thinking. As a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7. The power of self-restraint strengthens by exercise. That which at first seems difficult, by constant repetition grows easy, until right thoughts and actions become habitual. If we will we may turn away from all that is cheap and inferior, and rise to a high standard; we may be respected by men and beloved of God. – {MH 491.3}

As a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he." Many thoughts make up the unwritten history of a single day; and these thoughts have much to do with the formation of character. Our thoughts are to be strictly guarded; for one impure thought makes a deep impression on the soul. An evil thought leaves an evil impress on the mind. If the thoughts are pure and holy, the man is better for having cherished them. By them the spiritual pulse is quickened, and the power for doing good is increased. And as one drop of rain prepares the way for another in moistening the earth, so one good thought prepares the way for another. – {MYP 144.1}

(MH - Ministry of Healing & MYP - Messages to Young People, published works of Ellen G White)

Websites Bill Weise has set up & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.

www.steppingupward.org www.egwhiteclassicquotes.org <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>

We have a website!! <http://clantonsda.org/>, Tony Plier has posted sermons, music & a lot of info, look under Newsletters to find this publication on line each month. Tony has made it so the previous couple years there also. Also a Face Book page has been set up for the Clanton Sda church, log on and find information posted there regularly. Thanks for communicating and sharing what you want to put in the Newsletter each month. Don't forget it is YOUR/OUR newsletter... let's share each month. Thanks to those that do regularly. **Let me know if you don't want to get one anymore, via email or US Mail.** Also need to know if you moved or any other reason to not be sending the newsletters. Thanks Brenda

Answers to Test your Bible Knowledge: (1). Ecclesiastes 3:1, (2). Proverbs 20:1, (3). Ecclesiastes 12:1, (4). 3rd John, (5). Luke, (6). Proverbs 15:1, (7). Psalms 133:1, (8). Proverbs 23:7, (9). Song of Solomon 2:16, (10). Job 3:3.

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