

## MONDAY

Bible verses through the Gospel of John

**JOHN 7:28-29** *That provoked Jesus, who was teaching in the Temple, to cry out, "Yes, you think you know me and where I'm from, but that's not where I'm from. I didn't set myself up in business. My true origin is in the One who sent me, and you don't know him at all. I come from him—that's how I know him. He sent me here."*

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A former Chaplaincy Board Member who served as Treasurer, Keith Anderson of Tampa, passed away on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Services were held in Blount & Curry Funeral Home on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, with interment at Sylvan Abbey Memorial Park in Clearwater, Florida.

He died at the age of 53 after a prolonged illness with an abdominal cancer, leaving a wife, Joanne; daughter Amanda; granddaughter Chloe; and other family members. We pray for the loss and grief that is being felt by the many that knew and loved him.

*Chaplain Shields Moore*

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"Leadership is the ability to obtain followers." *James C. Georges* "He who thinketh he leadeth and hath no one following him is only taking a walk."

*John C. Maxwell*

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My Parents had not been out together in quite some time.

One Saturday, as Mom was finishing the dinner dishes, my father stepped up behind her. "Would you like to go out, girl?" he asked.

Not even turning around, my mother quickly replied, "Oh, yes, I'd love to!"

They had a wonderful evening, and it wasn't until the end of it that Dad confessed. His question had actually been directed to the family dog, lying near Mom's feet on the kitchen floor. *Laugh & Lift*

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The CEO was scheduled to speak at an important convention, so he asked one of his employees to write. When the CEO returned from the big event, he was furious.

"What's the idea of writing me an hour-long speech?" he demanded to know. "Half the audience walked out before I finished."

The employee was baffled. "I wrote you a 20-minute speech," he replied. "I also gave you the two extra copies you asked for." *Humor*

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My cell phone quit as I tried to let my wife know that I was caught in freeway gridlock and would be late for our anniversary dinner. I wrote a message on my laptop asking other motorists to call her, printed it on a portable ink-jet and taped it to my rear windshield.

When I finally arrived home, my wife gave me the longest kiss ever. "I really think you love me," she said. "At least 70 people called and told me so."

*Laughter for a Saturday*

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YOU KNOW YOU'RE A NORTHERNER WHEN there is a sign outside of McDonalds that says: "Park dog teams in back."

*Preaching Now*

## TUESDAY

**John 7:30-31** *They were looking for a way to arrest him, but not a hand was laid on him because it wasn't yet God's time. Many from the crowd committed themselves in faith to him, saying, "Will the Messiah, when he comes, provide better or more convincing evidence than this?"*

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A woman noticed her husband standing on the bathroom scale sucking in his stomach.

Thinking he was trying to weigh less with this maneuver, she commented, "I don't think that's going to help"

"Sure it does," he grinned, "This way I can see the numbers."

*Humor*

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Liz goes to her first show at an art gallery and is looking at the paintings. One is a huge canvas that has black with yellow blobs of paint splattered all over it. The next painting is a murky gray color that has drips of purple paint streaked across it.

Liz walks over to the artist and says, "I don't understand your paintings."

"I paint what I feel inside me," explains the artist.

"Then, I think you should try some Tums and eat properly!"

*Humor*

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Recently while we were eating lunch after church one Sunday, my youngest son asked me what the highest number I had ever counted up to was.

I said I didn't know. Then I asked him how high he has counted.

5, 372," came the prompt reply.

"Oh," I said. "Why did you stop there?"

"The sermon was over."

*Monday Fodder*

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A woman in our diet club was lamenting that she had gained weight. She'd made her family's favorite cake over the weekend, she reported, and they'd eaten half of it at dinner.

The next day, she said, she kept staring at the other half, until finally she cut a thin slice for herself. One slice led to another, and soon the whole cake was gone. The woman went on to tell us how upset she was with her lack of willpower, and how she knew her husband would be disappointed.

Everyone commiserated; until someone asked what her husband said when he found out. She smiled. "He never found out. I made another cake and ate half!"

*Laugh & Lift*

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Common sense tells us that if we want victory in our thought life, we must exercise discipline over what we read, what we see, and those with whom we fellowship. Spicy books and magazines, Hollywood films, the average TV show offer instant pollution. And there are material objects that awakens lust in people's lives. A good bonfire will help considerably."

*William MacDonald in his book "The Forgotten Command: BE HOLY via Laugh & Lift Daily*

## WEDNESDAY

**John 7:32-34** *The Pharisees, alarmed at this seditious undertow going through the crowd, teamed up with the high priests and sent their police to arrest him. Jesus rebuffed them: "I am with you only a short time. Then I go on to the One who sent me. You will look for me, but you won't find me. Where I am, you can't come."*

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### **The key lessons life taught me:**

Time heals almost everything. Give time time. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.

Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does. Believe in miracles. Your children get only one childhood.

God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.

Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.

All that truly matters in the end is that you loved. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.

If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.

Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need. The best is yet to come. Yield.

No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.

Over prepare, then go with the flow.. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple. The most important sex organ is the brain.

No one is in charge of your happiness but you. Frame every so-called disaster with these words "In five years, will this matter?"

*By Regina Brett, 90 years old, of The Plain Dealer, Cleveland , Ohio shared by John Dahl*

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H. Norman Wright tells of a study that compared happily married couples with unhappily married ones. The study showed that the **happily married couples:**

1. Talked more to each other
2. Conveyed the feeling that they understood what was being said to them
3. Had a wider range of subjects available to them to talk about (joint sharing of church activities, worship and socials.)
4. Preserved the communication channels and kept them open no matter what happened (Saying "I love you" frequently.)
5. Showed more sensitivity to each other's feelings (Avoided negative and accusatory manners of speech.)
6. And made more use of nonverbal techniques of communication. (Like displays of affection.)

Spending more time together is equally important for strengthening family relationships. When couples are too busy for this, they are too busy. When a couple insist they have never had a disagreement, they are lying, have poor memory, or one partner has been made a zero in the relationship," says Clark Hensley, director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission. Wherever people live together some conflict is inevitable. *Daily Encounter*

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**Bulletin Bloopers-** Head Deacon and Dead Deaconess; Tonight, Pastor will preach on "Diving Healing."; - For the word of God is quick and powerful...piercing even to the dividing asunder of soup and spirit. - I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

*Monday Fodder*

## THURSDAY

**John 7:35-36** *The Jews put their heads together. "Where do you think he is going that we won't be able to find him? Do you think he is about to travel to the Greek world to teach the Jews? What is he talking about, anyway: 'You will look for me, but you won't find me,' and 'Where I am, you can't come?'"*

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I had stopped by a burger drive-through for lunch to eat on the way back to work. I ordered the #1 combo (burger, fry, coke) for \$4.29 ... no biggie size. She said "that'll be \$4.83, please drive forward."

\$4.83? for a \$4.29 meal? That's 54 cents tax! That can't be right! My mind raced. Tax is 8 cents on the

dollar and for 4 dollars that would be 35 cents max. I'd heard of window workers overcharging drive through customers and skimming the money for themselves. Someone did just that to me at a Hardees couple of years ago.

I mentally estimated this as 12 percent tax! When I got to the window I handed her a 5 and said "what's the sales tax?"

She didn't know.

I said "12 percent tax can't be right. Can I talk to the manager?" So the manager comes over.

I ask what the sales tax is, and she says 8 percent.

I say, "I just paid \$4.83 for a \$4.29 meal and that's over 12% sales tax."

She checked my receipt and admitted it was supposed to be 4.63, and opened the drawer to give me my extra change.

"HA!" I thought to myself. "Six years engineering school has so heightened my mental mathematical adeptness that I can do percentages in my head and my superior intellect has foiled a feeble attempt by a drive-through worker to overcharge me." I took the twenty cents she handed me, proud of my staggering genius, and smugly drove off ... without my food.

*Lorrie J and Humor Digest*

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You are driving along in your car on a wild, stormy night. You pass by a bus stop, and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An old lady who looks as if she is about to die.
2. An old friend who once saved your life.
3. The perfect man (or) woman you have been dreaming about.

Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car. Think before you continue reading. This is a moral/ethical dilemma that was once actually used as part of a job application.

You could pick up the old lady, because she is going to die, and thus you should save her first; or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back. However, you may never be able to find your perfect dream lover again.

The candidate who was hired (out of 200 applicants) had no trouble coming up with his answer.

He simply answered: "I would give the car keys to my old friend, and let him warm up while taking the old lady to the hospital. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the woman of my dreams."

*Humor*

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The number one failure among all church congregations is apathy, but no one seems to care. The majority of religious leaders in Jesus' day were doctrine centered. That is, they loved their doctrinal teachings more than they loved people--and used their teachings to control and condemn people. Some religious leaders still do this today.

Other leaders love their programs and use people to support and work their programs. Not good. Instead

of loving people and using programs, they love programs and use people. *Daily Encounter*

## FRIDAY

**John 7:37-39** *On the final and climactic day of the Feast, Jesus took his stand. He cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Rivers of living water will brim and spill out of the depths of anyone who believes in me this way, just as the Scripture says." (He said this in regard to the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were about to receive. The Spirit had not yet been given because Jesus had not yet been glorified.)*

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A new minister was walking with an older, more seasoned minister in the garden one day.

Feeling a bit insecure about what God had for him to do, he was asking the older preacher for some advice. The older preacher walked up to a rosebush and handed the young preacher a rosebud and told him to open it without tearing off any petals.

The young preacher looked in disbelief at the older preacher and was trying to figure out what a rosebud could possibly have to do with his wanting to know the will of God for his life and ministry.

But because of his great respect for the older preacher, he proceeded to try to unfold the rose, while keeping every petal intact. It wasn't long before he realized how impossible this was to do.

Noticing the younger preacher's inability to unfold the rosebud without tearing it, the older preacher began to recite the following poem...

"It is only a tiny rosebud, A flower of God's design; But I cannot unfold the petals with these clumsy hands of mine.

The secret of unfolding flowers Is not known to such as I. GOD opens this flower so easily, But in my hands they die.

If I cannot unfold a rosebud, This flower of God's design, Then how can I have the wisdom To unfold this life of mine?

So I'll trust in God for leading Each moment of my day. I will look to God for guidance In each step of the way.

The path that lies before me, Only my Lord knows. I'll trust God to unfold the moments, Just as He unfolds the rose."

*Sam Hartsell and DM Xander*

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We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the 'seniors' special' was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$2.99.

'Sounds good,' my wife said.. 'But I don't want the eggs.'

'Then, I'll have to charge you \$3.49 because you're ordering a la carte,' the waitress warned her.

'You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?' my wife asked incredulously.

'YES!!' stated the waitress.

'I'll take the special then,' my wife said.

'How do you want your eggs?' the waitress asked.

'Raw and in the shell,' my wife replied. She took the two eggs home and baked a cake. DON'T MESS WITH SENIORS!!!

Humor Digest

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I wish to commend Mr. Louis Miller, Director of Tampa International Airport, for appreciation of a well-done job during his administration. He was responsible for developing a transportation facility that is state-of-the-art and second to none. I wish him well and God speed in the next assignment he may secure. Thanks for his hand in beginning and establishing the Chapel in Tampa Airport. I know, personally, he was a frequent visitor. *Chaplain Shields Moore*