

## MONDAY

Bible verses through the Gospel of John

**JOHN 8:39-41** *They were indignant. "Our father is Abraham!" Jesus said, "If you were Abraham's children, you would have been doing the things Abraham did. And yet here you are trying to kill me, a man who has spoken to you the truth he got straight from God! Abraham never did that sort of thing. You persist in repeating the works of your father." They said, "We're not orphans. We have a legitimate father: the one and only God."*

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Jesus and Satan were having an on-going argument about who was better on the computer. They had been going at it for days, and frankly God was tired of hearing all the bickering.

Finally fed up, God said, 'THAT'S IT! I have had enough. I am going to set up a test that will run for two hours, and from those results, I will judge who does the better job.'

So Satan and Jesus sat down at the keyboards and typed away.

They moused.

They faxed.

They e-mailed.

They e-mailed with attachments.

They downloaded.

They did spreadsheets.

They wrote reports.

They created labels and cards.

They created charts and graphs.

They did some genealogy reports.

They did every job known to man.

Jesus worked with heavenly efficiency and Satan was faster than hell.

Then, ten minutes before their time was up, lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, thunder rolled, rain poured, and, of course, the power went off.

Satan stared at his blank screen and screamed every curse word known in the underworld.

Jesus just sighed.

Finally the electricity came back on, and each of them restarted their computers. Satan started searching frantically, screaming: 'It's gone! It's all GONE! I lost everything when the power went out!'

Meanwhile, Jesus quietly started printing out all of his files from the past two hours of work.

Satan observed this and became irate, 'Wait!' he screamed, and 'That's not fair! He cheated! How come he has all his work onscreen, and I don't have any?'

God just shrugged and said, **JESUS SAVES.....** *Kelli*



## TUESDAY

**John 8:42** *"If God were your father," said Jesus, "you would love me, for I came from God and arrived here. I didn't come on my own. He sent me".*

\* \* \* \* \*

After being laid off, Judie papered the town with her resume.

Days passed, and she hadn't received a single phone call. She decided to take a closer look at the copies her husband had printed at his real estate office.

Judie quickly realized that he hadn't put blank paper into the copy machine as she had specifically instructed. At the bottom of each copy, written in bold type, was a common real estate disclaimer:

"The information contained herein, while deemed to be reasonably accurate, cannot be guaranteed."

*Humor*

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Work Wisdom: Kauffman's Paradox of the Corporation: The less important you are to the corporation, the more your tardiness or absence is noticed.

The Salary Axiom: Any pay raise is just large enough to increase your taxes...and just small enough to have no effect on your take-home pay.

*Bill Stebbins*

\* \* \* \* \*

A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog.

The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child.

"No," said another. "He's just for good luck"

A third child brought the argument to a close." They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants." *Unknown*

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A doctor relaxing at home for the evening, answers his phone and hears the familiar voice of a colleague on the other end of the line.

"We need a fourth for poker," said the friend.

"I'll be right over," whispered the doctor.

As he was putting on his coat, his wife asked, "Is it serious?"

"Oh yes, quite serious," said the doctor gravely. "In fact, there are three doctors there already!"

*Humor*

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It is evident that old age is creeping up on us when...

We realize that a stamp today costs more than a picture show did when you were growing up.

We sing along with the elevator music.

We sink your teeth into a steak ...and they stay there.

We sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.

We wake up, looking like our driver's license picture

Our pacemaker raises the garage door when we see a pretty girl go by.

Our secrets are safe with friends because they can't remember them either.

*Unknown*



## WEDNESDAY

**John 8:43** "Why can't you understand one word I say? Asked Jesus. Here's why: You can't handle it. You're from your father, the Devil, and all you want to do is please him."

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The math teacher saw that little Johnny wasn't paying attention in class. She called on him and said, "Johnny! What are 2 and 4 and 28 and 44?"

The young student quickly replied!, "NBC, CBS, HBO and the Cartoon Channels!"

*Humor Letter*

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Traveling through Spain, my friend and I walked into a shop that had the most gorgeous coats. As we tried a few on, we noticed the odd looks we were getting from the shopkeepers.

One kind, English-speaking patron took pity on us: "Excuse me," she said. "This is a dry cleaners."

*Gerry. Wit and Wisdom*

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Two mothers were talking about their sons. The first said, "My son is such a saint. He works hard, doesn't smoke, and he hasn't so much as looked at a woman in over two years."

The other woman said, "Well, my son is a saint himself. Not only hasn't he not looked at a woman in over three years, but he hasn't touched a drop of liquor in all that time."

"My word," the first mother said. "You must be so proud."

"I am," the second mother replied. "And when he's paroled next month, I'm going to throw him a big party." *Humor*

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On a Northwest Airways flight from Atlanta, GA , a well attired middle-aged woman found herself sitting next to a man wearing a kippa ("yarmulke" in Yiddish). She called the attendant over to complain about her seat-mate.

"What seems to be the problem, Madam?" asked the attendant.

"You've sat me next to a Jew!! I can't possibly sit next to this strange man. Please find me another seat!"

"Madam, I will see what I can do to accommodate," the attendant replied, "but the flight is virtually full today and I don't know if there is another seat available."

The woman shoots a snooty look at the snubbed Jewish man beside her (not to mention the surrounding passengers).

A few minutes later the attendant returned and said, "Madam, the economy and club sections are full, however, we do have one seat in First class." Before the lady had a chance to respond, the attendant continued, "It is only on exceptions that we make this kind of upgrade, and I had to ask permission from the captain. But, given the circumstances, the captain felt that no one should be forced to sit next to an unpleasant person..."

The flight attendant turned to the Jewish man sitting next to her, and said: "So if you'd like to get your things, Sir, I have a comfortable seat for you in First class..."

At this point, the surrounding passengers stood up and gave a standing ovation while the Jewish man walked up to the front of the plane.

The lady then said indignantly, "The Captain must have made a mistake.."

To which the attendant replied, "No Ma'am. Captain Cohen doesn't make mistakes."  
*Humor Digest*



## THURSDAY

**John 8:44.** *The devil was a killer from the very start. He couldn't stand the truth because there wasn't a shred of truth in him. When the Liar speaks, he makes it up out of his lying nature and fills the world with lies*

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A minister was planning a wedding at the close of the Sunday morning service.

After the benediction he had planned to call the couple down to be married for a brief ceremony before the congregation. For the life of him, he couldn't think of the names of those who were to be married. So he simply asked: "Will those wanting to get married please come to the front?"

Immediately, nine single ladies, four widows, three widowers, two single men and a lady in a formal wedding gown stepped to the front. *Humor*

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There are way too many young Christians who are out of control in their physical relationship with the opposite sex.

So, mom or dad, here is something you can share with your kids in connection with relating to the opposite sex. Be prepared, I am going to be blunt.

1. Any body part they have that you don't have, don't touch it. Any equipment they have that you don't have, it is hands off!
2. Do not put any part of your body into any part of their body.
3. Do not get horizontal. Don't even sit on the couch watching TV, and lay down in one another's arms. If you do, you know where that can lead.
4. If you are going to kiss, let it be short and meaningful. Don't allow yourselves to get into a wrestling match. Again, it is hard to find the switch to turn it off once you get going. [If you can't do this without being tempted, perhaps you should lay off the kissing altogether!]
5. Finally, let things like holding hands or putting your arm around your boyfriend or girlfriend actually be meaningful.

If you are single, apply these rules, and they could save you a lot of grief!

*Bayless Conley, Chris Long, Laugh & Lift*

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Church sign in Wisconsin: "Thou shall have no other gods before me. Sun worship, 10:30 a.m."  
*Marks' Musings*

\* \* \* \* \*

Yesterday I met a stranger...Today this stranger is my friend. Had I not taken the time to say hello, or return a smile, or shake a hand, or listen, I would not have known this person. Yesterday would have turned into today, and our chance meeting would be gone.

Yesterday I hugged someone very dear to me. Today they are gone... and tomorrow will not bring them back.

Wouldn't it be nice if we all knew tomorrow they would be here? But this is not to be, so take the time TODAY to give a hug, a smile, and "I love you."

....hug a loved one

....don't hold a grudge

....don't be afraid to say "I'm sorry"

....look a child in the eye and tell them how great they are

....look beyond the face of a person into their heart

....make a promise, and keep it. *Godswork.org*



## FRIDAY

**John 8:45-47.** *I arrive on the scene, tell you the plain truth, and you refuse to have a thing to do with me. Can any one of you convict me of a single misleading word, a single sinful act? But if I'm telling the truth, why don't you believe me? Anyone on God's side listens to God's words. This is why you're not listening—because you're not on God's side." I Am Who I Am."*

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According to legend, a Russian countess was driven to the theater in her coach on a bitterly cold evening. To be sure she wouldn't have to wait in the cold when she came out, she ordered the driver and footman to remain outside until she returned.

She cried during the play when an uncaring lord mistreated a loyal servant. When the performance ended, it was snowing heavily outside, and a small crowd had gathered around her carriage. She

demanded to know what was going on. The driver fearfully told her that the old footman had frozen to death. The lady was appalled. How could a sensitive woman who cried at the plight of fictional characters be so callous about the comfort and safety of her own servants?

Sometimes people see only what they want to see and know only what they want to know. It's a form of willful blindness that afflicts many of us who profess grand principles of caring and respect but ignore them when we deal with people in our own lives.

I've seen parents who want their children to be happy, self-confident, and honest, yet brutalize them with relentless criticism and confuse them by cheating on their taxes or lying to get them into better schools.

Sometimes well-intentioned coaches ignore players' injuries, emotionally abuse their athletes, or work them as if they were in a slave-labor camp – all while convincing themselves it's for the athletes' own good.

And I've worked with executives in companies who advocate employee well-being and family values but look the other way when employees, either out of fear or the desire to please, work excessively long hours and neglect their families, causing stress and domestic conflict.

We all have moral blind spots. The challenge is to have the humility to find them and the character to fix them. *Michael Josephson*

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Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end. There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours, or days. All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else. Your wealth, fame, and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed. Your grudges, resentments, frustrations, and jealousies will finally disappear. So, too, your hopes, ambitions, plans, and to-do lists will expire. The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away. It won't matter where you came from or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.

It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant. Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant. So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought but what you built; not what you got but what you gave. What will matter is not your success but your significance. What will matter is not what you learned but what you taught. What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage, or sacrifice that enriched, empowered, or encouraged others to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence but your character. What will matter is not how many people you knew but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone. What will matter is not your memories but the memories that live in those who loved you. What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom, and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident. It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice. Choose to live a life that matters. *Michael Josephson*