

.my Shepherd

The Lord is *my Shepherd*, I shall not want.

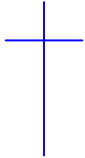
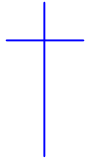


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**BOISE, IDAHO
FEBRUARY 2004**

**VOL. 1 NO. 7
(208) 850-6112**

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PRAY FOR THE SAFETY

OF THOSE WHO SERVE

CAPTAIN JIM KERNS

Badge #390

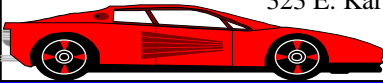
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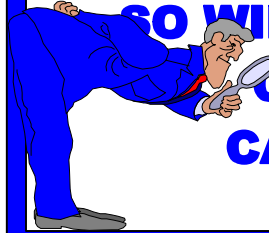
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MYSTERIOUS WAYS



Dustin, my California bred guide dog, was having trouble outside our Lone Island apartment. This was his first snowstorm and he was confused. I'm blind, and I wasn't doing so well either. No one was out, so there were no sounds to steer me. Contrary to what many people think, guide dogs do not find the way for a blind person. The blind person directs the dog.

After a harrowing 45 minutes, Dustin and I finally made it back. But guide dogs must be walked regularly. "Next time why don't you ask God to go with you?" a friend suggested. And so I did. "Lord, go with Dustin and me. The wind is so fierce it's hard to concentrate on our direction. Lead us."

Snow stung our faces and it was difficult to make a path, Dustin whined a little. "Okay, boy," I said to him, "the Lord is with us." And then I gave him a command that a blind person gives only when another person is leading the way; "Dustin, follow!"

Dustin perked up and to my astonishment took off as though he knew exactly where to go. We made it to the street, then headed back to our building-no problem.

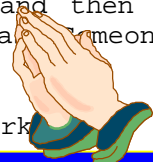
A young woman trudged up and offered to walk us to our door. "We'll just follow your footprints," she said. "Yours and the dog's, and that other person's."

"What other person?" I asked.

"There's a dog's prints. And your prints. And a larger person's prints. Wasn't someone with you?"

I paused for a moment and then I answered, "Oh yes, there was someone with us." There always is.

Sandy Seltzer, Mineola, New York



THANK GOD FOR LITTLE THINGS

Thank you, God, for little things
that often come our way-
The things we take for granted
but don't mention when we pray-
The unexpected courtesies,
the thoughtful, kindly deed-
A hand reached out to help us
in the time of sudden need-
Oh make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces
That come to us with "sweet surprise"
from never-dreamed-of places.
Helen Steiner Rice-A Special Glow



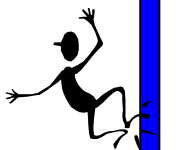
HUMOR

Morbus Sabbaticus-

Morbus Sabbaticus or Sunday Sickness, is a disease peculiar to church members. The attack comes on suddenly on Sundays. No symptoms are felt on Saturday night; the patient sleeps well and awakes feeling well; eats a hearty breakfast, but about church time the attack comes on and continues until services are over for the morning. Then the patient feels easy and eats a hearty dinner. In the afternoon he feels much better and is able to take a walk, automobile ride, go visiting, talk politics and reads the papers; he eats a hearty supper but about church time he has another attack and stays at home. He retires early, sleeps well, and awakes on Monday morning refreshed and able to go to work. He does not feel any of the returned symptoms until the next Sunday.

The peculiar features are as follows:

1. It attacks member of a church.
2. It never makes its appearance except on Sunday.
3. The symptoms vary, but never interfere with appetite and sleep.
4. It never lasts more than 24 hours.
5. It generally attacks the head of the family and continues to spread until every member is affected.
6. No physician is ever called.
7. No remedy is known for it except repentance and prayer.
8. Real heart-felt salvation is the only antidote.



my shepherd is not affiliated with any church or religious belief. Advertising, articles and stories are subject to approval by the owner, Stan Manley, 1103 W. Pine Ave, #222, Meridian, ID. 83642 Ph# (208) 850-6112



Broken Branches

It was Wednesday evening. prayer meeting had just concluded and people were standing outside enjoying the conversation of friends, looking for children and making their way to their cars. Nothing unusual about the scene but as I watched, something was about to happen, not only visually but also spiritually. It would appear to be an insignificant occurrence at first, but to me would have a long lasting impact.

The children were playing on a branch that encloses a beautiful flowering fruit tree. At one point a child reached out and was swinging on a branch of the beautiful little tree. The branch suddenly broke and the girl, along with the branch full of beautiful blossoms, fell to the ground unintentionally attracting the attention of everyone in the courtyard.

The little girl was unhurt, however her face showed the embarrassment and humiliation she must have felt. One little finger found its way to her mouth and she began nervously pulling on her lower lip.

At her feet lay the beautiful branch full of blossoms, damaged beyond repair. Very quickly everyone returned to what they were doing and the various scenes returned to normal.

It was then that it happened, giving me an experience still fresh in my mind and an impression forever in my heart. A young man emerged from one of the small groups of adults and approached the circle of children and the girl. She stood at the foot of the tree with the look of hurt in her eyes.

He reached down and picked up the broken branch and began to remove the smaller branches and twigs. After collecting a handful he presented the girl with a beautiful bouquet of blossoms, buds and leaves. As she reached out to accept the gift, a beautiful smile broke across her face and warmth filled my spirit.

I watched as the young man proceeded to give bouquets to all the other children. The courtyard was soon filled with children running to their parents, and playing, still clinging to their beautiful bouquets of flowers.

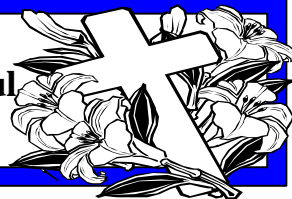
My thoughts quickly went to the broken branches in my life. So many times Jesus came, and out of the embarrassment and hurt, presented me with a beautiful bouquet. He did not condone the deed, but influenced the circumstances to effect the results, so that I might enjoy His glory.

Out of the struggles of life, if the struggles are committed to Him, there is no failure in defeat or glory in victory, only service to the King. Release to Him today, all our broken branches and receive His beautiful bouquet.

Stan Manley, ...my Shepherd newsletter

You can do the wrong thing for the right reasons, you cannot do the right thing for the wrong reasons.- Stan

MISSION STATEMENT:
To Encourage the Faithful
To Save the Lost.



For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16 NIV

It's your responsibility, do it today.



ONLY ON SUNDAY

The Sunday school teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and suddenly turned into a pillar of salt.

"My mother looked back once while she was driving." Contributed little Johnny, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

LOUDSPEAKER

In announcing the church's new public address system, the pastor told the congregation that the microphone and wiring had been paid for out of church funds. Then he added, "The loudspeaker had been donated by a member of the congregation in memory of his wife."

The Tote Bag

My eighty-eight-year-old mother-in-law, who stands all of 4 feet 10 inches and weighs 80 pounds, has a habit of carrying an old supermarket sack with her whenever we go anywhere. This is in addition to her large handbag. So on her birthday, I decided it would be a lot better if she had a small tote bag in which to carry her extra stuff. Somehow the days got away from me and I found myself running from store to store on her birthday looking for what I thought would be an easy to find purchase. To my dismay, I discovered that small tote bags are almost nonexistent!

My last stop was a local bookstore as I had an appointment and knew that if I didn't find a tote bag there, I would have to abandon the whole idea. After searching through the store and seeing no tote bags, I started for the door when a book caught my eye entitled Small Miracles. I grabbed the book and got in line at the cashier's. After he rang up the sale, you can imagine my astonishment when he pulled out a small tote bag from behind the counter and announced that it was free with the purchase of the book!

The message on the bag?

"I believe in Small Miracles."

Kathleen Rosenau-Small Miracles of Love & Friendship

A pastor went to see a family. Before leaving he asked if they would like for him to read from the Bible. The lady of the house said to one of the boys-"Go bring the Big Book we read out of so much!"

The boy brought the Sears-Roebuck catalogue.

The effect isn't always a true representation of the effort. Stan