



“A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance...”
Proverbs 15:13a

I am deaf, dumb and blind. But I am very shiny and always speak the truth. Who am I?

Unscramble - Things in the Tabernacle

1. TICUSNRA
2. AMLADNPTS
3. RAALT
4. SNECIEN
5. LIVE
6. ETGA
7. BTEAL
8. KAR
9. LOI
10. VRLAE

Riddle me this...

“I am a word of 5 letters and people eat me. If you remove the first letter I become a form of energy. Remove the first two and I’m needed to live. Scramble the last three and you can drink me. What am I?”

Do you know the answer? If you need a clue you can find the answer by reading John 12:20-33 and Acts 27:31-44 and looking for the word that they have in common that fits the riddle.

Lilies of the Valley Newsletter

Luke 12:27-28 "Consider the lilies how they grow"

A Ministry of Blackstone Valley Baptist Church



Challenge Verses:

- Day 1: John 3:16
- Day 2: Proverbs 17:17
- Day 3: Hebrews 13:1
- Day 4: Luke 6:27
- Day 5: 1 John 4:18
- Day 6: 1 John 4:19
- Day 7: Romans 5:8
- Day 8: Matthew 22:37
- Day 9: John 15:12
- Day 10: Ephesians 3:19
- Day 11: Psalm 18:1
- Day 12: Proverbs 10:12
- Day 13: John 13:35
- Day 14: Jeremiah 31:3

February 2014



What Love is...

February 11th

7:00pm

Presented by:

Erica Bissonnette

Upcoming Gatherings:

March - Esther Night

April - Preparing for Emergencies

May - Mother-Daughter Banquet



Ladies Prayer Time.
Tuesday Mornings
at 10:00a.m.



Green and Natural Household Cleaners—Ceiling to Floor

Mirrors/Glass

*Vinegar and water in a spray bottle (or in a bucket for outside windows) always does the trick.

*Use old newspapers to wipe clean.

*My favorite method is just plain water and a microfiber cloth – no product needed, and a perfect shine, every time.

Bathtub/Shower

*Spray with straight vinegar as an after-shower spray that you just leave on. The smell dissipates as soon as it's dry. Some people add a few drops of essential oils for a nicer scent. Especially effective for hard water stains, like on the shower curtain. **Do not use on tile and grout as it may eat away the grout.*

*Scrub with baking soda when you get scum that needs some extra elbow grease.

Toilets

*Straight vinegar in a spray bottle does a fine job cleaning the bowl (double duty for one bottle if you use it in your shower).

*Baking soda and lemon juice make a paste for nasty stains.

*I like the 50/50 hydrogen peroxide solution to clean the outside.

*I collect the family's holey socks and use them to wipe the outside of the toilet. Then I can throw them away and not waste paper towel, but not have to juggle the "which towel color cleans the toilets and never the kitchen???" issue.

Counters

*For a quick clean in the bathroom, I wipe down with a microfiber cloth only.

*When I want to disinfect and really clean, I like a 50/50 solution of hydrogen peroxide and water, followed by a good shine with my microfiber.

*To scrub nasty stains (like Comet): use straight baking soda, sometimes with a bit of water. I keep some in an old Parmesan cheese container under the sink. You can also try oxygen bleach, sold by Biokleen and many other brands. Try an old toothbrush to really get stains out of grout and around sinks and faucets!

*To sanitize after raw meat or the like in the kitchen, you'll need two bottles: one with vinegar and one with hydrogen peroxide. Spray separately, one after the other. You don't need bleach!

*Essential oils offer other options for sanitizing. A few drops of GSE (grapefruit seed extract) or tea tree oil in a bottle of water acts as a disinfectant. I actually like the smell of tea tree oil, but not everyone does.

WHO WERE THEY???

SARAH

There probably isn't anything harder to do than wait, whether we are expecting something good, something bad, or an unknown.

One way we often cope with a long wait (or even a short one) is to begin helping God get his plan into action. Sarah tried this approach. She was too old to expect to have a child of her own, so she thought God must have something else in mind. From Sarah's limited point of view this could only be to give Abraham a son through another woman - a common practice in her day. The plan seemed harmless enough. Abraham would sleep with Sarah's servant girl, who would then give birth to a child. Sarah would take the child as her own. The plan worked beautifully - at first. But as you read about the events that followed, you will be struck by how often Sarah must have regretted the day she decided to push God's timetable ahead.

Another way we cope with a long wait is to gradually conclude that what we're waiting for is never going to happen. Sarah waited 90 years for a baby! When God told her she would finally have one of her own, she laughed, not so much from a lack of faith in what God could do but from doubt about what he could do through her. When confronted about her laughter, she lied - as she had seen her husband do from time to time. She probably didn't want her true feelings to be known.

What parts of your life seem to be "on hold" right now? Do you understand that this may be part of God's plan for you? The Bible has more than enough clear direction to keep us busy while we're waiting for some particular part of life to move ahead.

Strengths and Accomplishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Was intensely loyal to her own child *Became the mother of a nation and an ancestor of Jesus *Was a woman of faith, the first woman listed in the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11
Weaknesses and mistakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Had trouble believing God's promises to her *Attempted to work problems out on her own, without consulting God *Tried to cover the faults by blaming others
Lessons from her life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *God responds to faith even in the midst of failure *God is not bound by what usually happens; he can stretch the limits and cause unheard-of events to occur
Key Verse	"Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised." Hebrews 11:11
Sarah's story is told in Genesis 11:-25. She is also mentioned in Isaiah 51:2; Romans 5:19; 9:9; Hebrews 11:11; 1 Peter 3:6	

Taken from the Life Application Study Bible

Love Is in the Air

By Cathy Irvin

Well folks, it's that time of year again; you know - red hearts, pink roses, balloons, cards, candy, and animals that sing songs of love.

Store shelves overflow with symbols of love. They began the day after New Year's to get ready for Valentine's Day. Do you know that more roses are sold on that day than any other day in the year? All over the world, it is the day that people show their love for someone special.

Most mothers and wives hope to receive a loving memento, perhaps dinner in a nice restaurant, or to have a meal cooked for them. It is a great occasion to express love and appreciation for any of your loved ones, but it is just as important to show little acts of kindness the other 364 days of the year.

I can do without a dancing gorilla singing Love Me Tender, but I sure would miss getting that hug or kiss from my little great granddaughter when she says, "I love you GiGi." Or my son's nightly ritual when he says, "Good Night Mom. I love you." He says those are the last words he speaks when he is at home. I guess that is because we only have today. We are not promised tomorrow.

When my daughter calls she always says "Bye, I love you." This is the best gift, day after day, just to know that I am loved.

It means a lot when family and friends want to spend time with you, share a meal, or just talk. God tells us in His Word how much He loves us. He promises never to leave or forsake us, to answer us when we call, day or night. He never slumbers nor sleeps. We need to tell Him how much we love Him 365 days a year as well.

Flowers will die. Candy gets eaten. Balloons will pop. Stuffed animals may stop singing. Cards may get lost or thrown away, but the love that is shared with one another, and God's love for us, will never pass away. *For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.* (Isaiah 54:10)

May you find little ways to show some acts of kindness to those you love before and after Valentine's Day this year. *And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:* (Hebrews 10:24)

Let Love be in the air at all times! 1 Corinthians 13

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.



Where is your joy? This is the question I would like to ask of my co-workers. It is not something I would actually say to them but I say it over and over to myself. Their constant complaining is a daily event. I try to say things to help them see the positive side but that is not what they need. I know they can have no joy without the Lord Jesus Christ. I wait for times

when I can be with them on a one on one basis and say what I can to point them to the Lord. *Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.* Psalms 16:11

There is a difference between my unsaved co-workers and the people I know that are saved. My co-workers expect to get their joy from other people in their lives. They treasure their children and some are content with their spouses. They base their joy on how they interact with others. The unmarried women expect Mr. Wonderful to come along and make them happy. The divorced women sneer and say forget the idea of a happy marriage. I hear these conversations and I want to tell them that I know the true source of joy.

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Romans 14:17

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Psalms 51.12

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. Romans 15:13

In my Christian family and among my Christian friends I have witnessed true joy. Family members have recently experienced sickness and loss of jobs. Others have been temporarily parted from loved ones because of death. I know of families that have had brothers and sisters estranged from one another and then because of their faith and trust in God they have recently reunited in love and joy. Everybody experiences disappointments, loss, sickness, and sometimes discontentment but as a Christian we have a special peace that allows us to experience Joy even as we are enduring the trials and tribulations.

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24

February is a month designated for the theme of love but the Lord impressed me with the idea of true Joy. May you find the Joy of the Lord in every moment of your life and share the true Joy with everyone God brings into your life.

Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. Acts 2:28

Jesus said, And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. John 17:13

Written By: Mrs. Ellen Bissonnette



Notes from the Lilies of the Valley Breakfast Meeting

Did you fill out your Women's Ministry Surveys??? If you have not could you please fill it out and hand it to Mrs. Kathy Lewis. We are trying to plan meetings and activities according to the needs of the ladies and this survey will help direct us. If you have not received one see either Mrs. Kathy Lewis or Mrs. Erica Bissonnette.

Did you sign your email address and name up for the take them a meals list? If you did not receive information on this see Mrs. Erica Bissonnette for more information.

We are trying a new system for meals signups. It is called "Take them a Meal." When there is a need for a meal an invitation will be sent out to those who signed up via email. Once you receive that email you will be invited to the website that will have all the information you need to provide a meal for the family in need. If you do not have an email address you will receive a phone call.

There are several opportunities to serve within the Lilies Ministry. We are looking for people to take over some responsibilities.

Coordinators - The coordinator does not have to do everything on the list. They would be in charge of others who have that ministry under them. Some of the opportunities are already being done, there are still a lot of choices for you to be a part of:

Encouragement Coordinator - Hospital and shut-in visits, organizing meals, birthday cards to members, phone calls or post cards to absentee members

Events Coordinator - Planning LOV meetings, banquets, bridal showers, baby showers, and other special events throughout the year.

Service Coordinator - Nursery & Beginner care, decorating inside the church, garden maintenance, seasonal decorating projects (fellowship hall and classrooms).

Missions Coordinator - Promoting missions, prayer needs of missionaries, missionary cards and/or emails, hosting missionaries.

Spiritual Growth Coordinator - Prayer group, disciplining, Bible studies, counseling.

Other Ministries:

Nursery Workers

Someone to clean the nursery toys 1x month

Fellowship set-up/clean-up

Baptisms - wash towels, robes

Plant flowers (seasonal)

Church cleaning

Meal preparation

If you see an area that you feel the Lord wants you to be a part of please see Mrs. Kathy Lewis.