

Once Upon A Time ...

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:1



Almost Home

It was not the sight of the long gravel road before us that I remember most.

It was not the sound of the gravel crunching beneath the tires of our car that first comes to mind. It was not having to roll down the windows of the car because of the sweltering heat I felt on my skin. It was not the taste of the dust in my mouth generated by the ride down the old road. What I remember the most ... was the SMELL! Daddy had gotten a job at a DAIRY FARM!

Abramson's Dairy Farm was located west of Florence, AL near a community called Rhodesville. We were fortunate to live in one of the houses on the farm. Whenever we would go to church, school, or the rare occasional trip to town, I never knew where I was or where I was going (*I trusted Mama and Daddy for that*), but I always knew when I got close to home; I could smell it!!!! (*It was home, so it smelled good to me!*)

Heaven is far beyond the human experience. If we could see, hear, or even smell heaven with our human senses, I believe it would be too wonderful to comprehend. However, there is a sense that believers have that yearns for heaven. It is a spiritual sense!

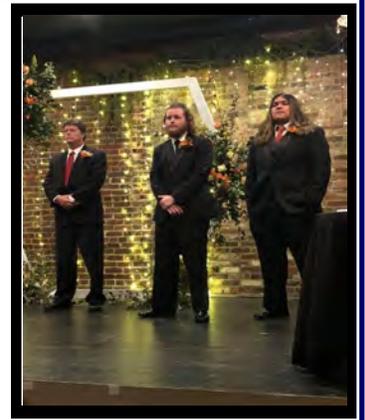
Paul puts it like this in **Romans 8:23** "*And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body*".

We often do not know where we are or where we are going in this life (*we trust God for that*), but we know we are getting close to home! Can't you "smell" it?

David Conley

"Believe It"

Nathan Scott
was married to
Mallory Reed
in October.



Nine-year-old Nathan was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely.

Then, he radioed head quarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved!"

"Now, Nathan, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom" he confessed. *"But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!!"*

Marriage is the very first institution God set up between people. It is even older than the Church itself (*although God had the Church in His mind before the world began*).

Marriage is wonderful. It is designed to fulfill very basic needs we have as human beings. If we trust God and believe what He says about Marriage (*and all other aspects of physical and spiritual life*), we may find it hard to believe how happy we can be!

Don't believe those who tell us that Marriage is dull, difficult, or even dangerous! They don't believe God's design! It should be full of love, laughter, and life!

We don't have to make up "*believable*" stories about Marriage or anything else. Believe what God says in His Bible, and see what can happen in our lives!

David Conley

A Funny Thing Happened ...



The preacher was talking to a friend who had trouble remembering things. He ask if he were doing better.

"Yes, sir!" his friend exclaimed. "The doctor put me on a new medicine. It works!"

"What is the name of the medicine?" the preacher asked.

After a minute, the friend asked the preacher, "What is the name of that flower that grows on a bush, has thorns on the stem, and smells nice?" The preacher answered, "Do you mean a Rose?" "That's it!" Then he called to his wife,

"Hey Rose, what is the name of the medicine the doctor put me on?"

The preacher thought to himself, "But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;" **Jude 1:17**