



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!
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David's Devotional *Herbs or Ox?*

"Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." Proverbs 15:17

WOW! What a profound statement that is! Give it some REAL thought!

We often measure value by the things we have! If one is eating a stalled ox (we may say *"the fatted calf"*) we may consider him wealthy! Nice juicy steaks; filet mignon; ribs;... what more could one ask for?

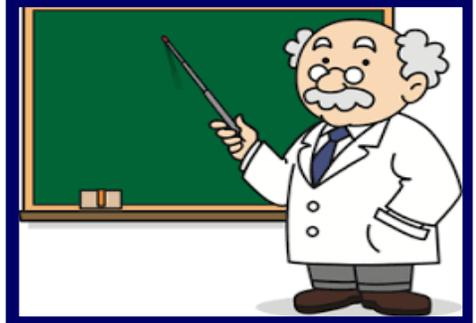
However, if one is eating herbs (vegetables) we may say he is poor. Beans; potatoes; corn; ... poor old thing!

Wouldn't we rather have beans & taters with loving family and friends than to have steak with people who hate us and want to harm us!

Peace of mind and loving relationships are far better than things & stuff!

How sad it is when folks are surrounded by all kinds of wonderful things, but have no love in their life!

David Conley



An Interesting Quote:

"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."

Carl Sagan

"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100:3

We love to learn. We want to know. That is the nature of human beings. We ask these questions all the time ... Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How?

Of all the truths that has been learned and is yet to be learned by mankind, knowing God is the greatest truth of all! Do we know that? Are we learning about Him?

David Conley

What Happened?



Our grandson, Landen, graduated from the 6th grade!

He will be attending the high school next year. Wasn't he in 1st grade last year?

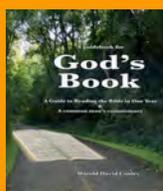
Needless to say, we are very proud of Landen! Time is marching on...

Did You Know?

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. That's because it was originally celebrated by decorating the graves of soldiers who lost their lives.

Columbus, Mississippi is cited as one of the earliest locations of the holiday's celebration, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate graves in 1866.

Leave it up to Mississippi Women to lead the way to one of the greatest celebrations in America! Perhaps they will be among those who celebrate a Great Awakening in America. Who knows?



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Once Upon A Time ...

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

**Smoking**

Daddy smoked. He smoked Lucky Strikes, Pall Malls, Marlboros, Kents, etc.

Since Raleigh put a coupon on the back of their pack, he smoked them most often (*non-filtered of course*). Daddy redeemed several items from these coupons. Whenever he didn't have a store-bought cigarette, he would roll his own with cigarette papers and a can of Prince Albert. As amazing as it was to watch him roll cigarettes at lightning speed, it was even more incredible to see the "smoke rings" he could produce with tiny puffs from his lips.

One evening Daddy finished one of his many cigarettes from the day. After taking the final draw, he flipped the tiny butt that was left into the yard and went into the house. I watched where it landed. There was a stream of smoke ascending from the grass. It was my lucky day! Daddy normally crushed out his cigarettes before disposing of them. This one was still lit! I took the tiny butt between my fingers and ran behind the house to smoke! I had never smoked (*except all of the second-hand smoke I had inhaled over the years*), but I had seen Daddy do it thousands of times. It would be simple, put my lips on the end of the cigarette and suck!

As the smoke entered my pure, pink lungs an unbearable burning filled my chest! I threw the cigarette to the ground and ran to the outside water faucet. There was always a garden hose hooked to it. I turned on the water and thrust the end of the hose pipe into my mouth. To my dismay the water did not seem to go to the spot of the burning! No matter how much water I consumed, I could not get relief!

When the pain finally subsided, I decided, then and there, that I would never smoke again! I could not see why Daddy would even do such a thing! I suppose King David was right when he said in **Psalm 119:71** *"It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes."*

David Conley

Our Father

I caught a glimpse of myself as I walked by a mirror the other day, my heart skipped a beat! I thought it was Daddy!

The older I get, the more like him I become! Think about it. His seed is in me. I am an offspring of his seed.

When you look at a kernel of corn, doesn't it look like, taste like, feel like, the corn that it sprang from? Now we know it is not the same corn, but it is the seed of the type of corn that produced it!

We are like our father, and his father before him, and his father before him, etc. all the way back to Adam! Yes, Adam is our father, and we are from his seed!

What kind of man was Adam? He broke God's commandment, he did not take responsibility for his own actions, he blamed his wife for his problem, he got "fired" from a great job (*keeping the perfect garden*), he raised a murderer (*Cain*), and he lived 930 years and still couldn't achieve perfection!

Can we be anything different? Yes! Through Christ we can be "Born Again". We can become a "New Creature". We can be like our Father in heaven!

David Conley

A Funny Thing Happened ...

The preacher loved his parrot. He had taught him to talk and was always proud to show him off to his friends.

A new neighbor moved in and walked by the preacher's house on her way to work. The parrot told her, "You sure are ugly!" She ignored the insult and walked on. The next day, the parrot said the same thing. She angrily hurried past the house.

On the third day the parrot said, "Yep, you are still ugly!" This upset her so much she went to the preacher and demanded he do something. The preacher was humiliated and threatened his parrot telling him never to say that again. The next day, the lady anxiously walked past the house and waited for the parrot to say something. The parrot simply said, "You know ...!"

The preacher thought of **Luke 6:45** "... for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."