



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!  
**Helping Developing Christians Grow!**  
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## David's Devotional A Turtle & The Birds

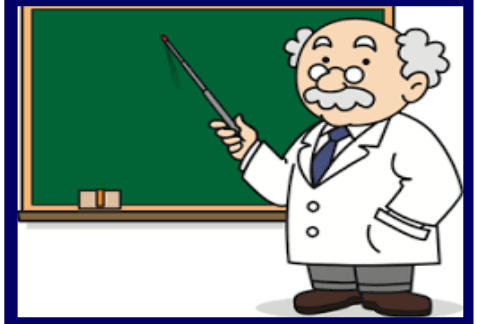
A turtle was tired of living near the pond where he had spent his life. He wanted to move to an area on the other side of the mountain he had seen in the distance. The turtle realized he simply did not have the power to transport himself that far, so he asked an eagle to carry him to his new home. He promised the eagle a rich reward for his trouble. The eagle agreed and seized the turtle by the shell with her talons and flew away.

On their way they met a crow. The crow said to the eagle, "Turtle is good eating!" The eagle replied, "The shell is too hard!" The crow looked way down at the rocks and said, "Those rocks would certainly crack the shell!" The eagle took the hint and let the turtle fall on a sharp rock! The two birds enjoyed a great feast!

A wise owl was watching the whole thing and said, "Never put yourself at the mercy of your enemies!"

Whenever we allow Satan to carry us to dangerous places, thinking that everything will be just fine, he WILL drop us!

Put your trust in God. He WILL show mercy! "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." **Hebrews 4:16** David Conley



### An Interesting Quote:

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

William Arthur Ward

"Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!"  
**II Corinthians 9:1 (ESV)**

We should always express our gratitude! For some reason, people find it difficult to say, "Thank You". Why?

Perhaps it is because it takes humility to say "Thank You". The person who says, "Thank You" is admitting someone else is greater! When we say "Thank You" to someone, it also blesses the one we say it to! They feel uplifted and encouraged! Why don't we give someone a "gift" today and express our gratitude to them with a "Thank You"!

Of course a "Thank You" just doesn't seem to be enough to express our gratitude for what Christ did for us. Say it anyway! The Holy Spirit will take it from there (**Romans 8:26**).  
 David Conley

### Did You Know?

We recognize the word "Christmas" when we see it. It brings certain thoughts and even emotions to the hearts and minds of all who see it. What about the term "Xmas"?

Many think it is a way to exclude Christ from Christmas, replacing Him with an "X" which could mean anything!

Actually, the use of the term 'Xmas' dates back to the 16th century. In Greek, Christ begins with the letter "X" (Χριστός). So, "Xmas" simply means Christmas. (I still like "Christmas" better!)



(Foreground):  
 Debra Conley & Paula Blankenship

(Background): Members from Liberty, Tishomingo, Berea, Snowdown, and other visitors from Sister Congregations!

## What Happened? Tishomingo Church of Christ Gospel Meeting

It was great to be a part of the Gospel Meeting at the Tishomingo Church of Christ! There was Food, Fellowship, and Fun Times, but most of all we Fueled ourselves with the Word of God! Thanks to all who came to support the Meeting!



Visit The Website



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



### **Daddy Knew Us!**

It was Christmas morning! We had told our parents where we wanted Santa to leave our toys.

This was an important thing to do! There were SIX of us kids and only FOUR rooms in the whole house (*the bathroom was outside*). Santa left all the toys in the tiny living room so we had to claim a spot! My spot was the old chair next to the front door. My brother Dale's spot was the rug in front of the wood heater.

Before daylight we all ran to our spots. There, on the chair in my spot, was a BOZO the clown blow up punching bag. It had sand at the bottom and a big red nose on its face. The idea was to hit him in the nose - watch him go to the floor - then he would bounce back up (*because of the sand bottom*). Then you would hit him again. I was so disappointed! I didn't want to hit the thing! What had he ever done to me?!

There on the rug was Dale's toy - a big box of TINKER TOYS! Now THAT'S a great toy! I saw Dale's face, he was so disappointed! Why would he want to sit quietly on the floor building things when he could be up punching my BOZO in that big red nose!

Daddy came into the room. He told us our places had gotten mixed up! I was supposed to be on the rug with the Tinker Toys! Dale was supposed to be on the chair with his BOZO punching thing-a-ma-jig! We were both overjoyed! Years later I realized how wonderful it was that someone (*Santa or someone who wanted to remain anonymous at the time*) knew us so well!

God knows us even better! He knows just what we need! Don't get it all MIXED UP! We will be very disappointed if we do! Remember **Matthew 10:30** "*But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*"

David Conley

### **GIFT IDEAS**

**"A Guidebook for God's Book"**

&

**"Jesus Said The Words In Red"**



### **"A Guidebook for God's Book"**

*This is a Guide to reading the Bible in One Year and a Common Man's Commentary! A passage of scripture is given each day. At the end of the year, the reader will have read the entire Bible. To help the year-long journey, there is also given a brief comment about the day's reading to guide the reader along the way!*

### **"Jesus Said The Words In Red"**

This is a Daily Devotional Book! Each day the reader can read something that Jesus Himself said. Then read a comment to help them appreciate those "Words in Red". Also there is a place to record the day's date and space provided for the reader to make notes, journal thoughts and prayers, or simply record events of the day!

The books are \$15.00 each. Get one for yourself and give them as gifts for as many as you think would enjoy them.

### **Send your check to:**

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Dennis, MS 38838

**The Shipping is FREE!**

*Thank you! David Conley*

### ***A Funny Thing Happened ...***



The preacher listened as a mother talked with her son. "Mommy," the boy asked, "why are there some gray hairs mixed with those brown hairs on your head?" The mother, always looking for an opportunity to encourage good behavior, answered "Each time you misbehave I get a gray hair!" The child thought a minute then asked, "Is that the reason grandmother's hair is ALL GRAY?"

The preacher remembered Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount in **Matthew 7:1-3** "*Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?"*