



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!
Helping Developing Christians Grow!
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David's Devotional I Was Wrong To Be Right

We called Mama's Grandfather "Granddaddy Minor". His name was Mack Minor. He lived in the Red Rock community between Tuscumbia and Cherokee. He and Grandmother Minor worked hard on their farm. Their yard was always neatly kept and the grass was thick, rich, and green.

While visiting us, Granddaddy Minor saw me digging holes in our yard. He told me to stop. He didn't understand that this was not just a hole. It was a tunnel that helped my plastic army man save the world! We dug in our yard all the time! Surely he didn't really mean for me to stop digging, so I didn't. Granddaddy Minor didn't believe in second chances. The next thing I knew, he was swatting my backside with his farm calloused hand! I ran to Daddy and told on him! Daddy would set him straight and explain that it was ok for us to dig in our yard. Daddy said, "Next time I guess you will do what he says."

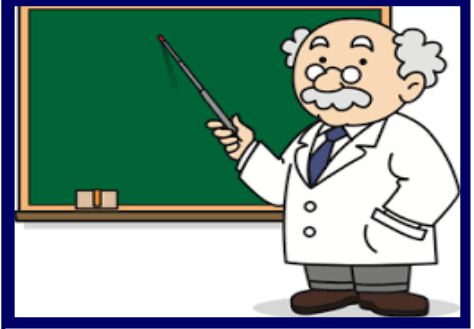
This was a turning point in my thinking. It was true that I could dig in our yard. It was also true that I should do what Granddaddy Minor said. When these two truths opposed each other, what was I supposed to do?

TWO RULES APPLY:

- 1. "Respect for others trumps what you want!"** *"Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." I Corinthians 8:13*
- 2. "Respect for God trumps everything!"** *"Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29*

Someone may ask, "When do I get to do what I want?" The answer is simple. If you serve God and help others get what they need, you will get everything you need!

Luke 6:38 *"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."* David Conley



An Interesting Quote:

"Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing the monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward."
 C. S. Lewis

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

The Hebrew word translated to 'Be still' is "הָרַף פּוּ". It means to stop, cease, relax, and carries the idea of releasing, dropping, or letting go.

By understanding that The Lord is God and will be exalted, we can let go of the things we are clinging to and trust Him to help us move forward! We were never in control in the first place!
 David Conley

Did You Know?

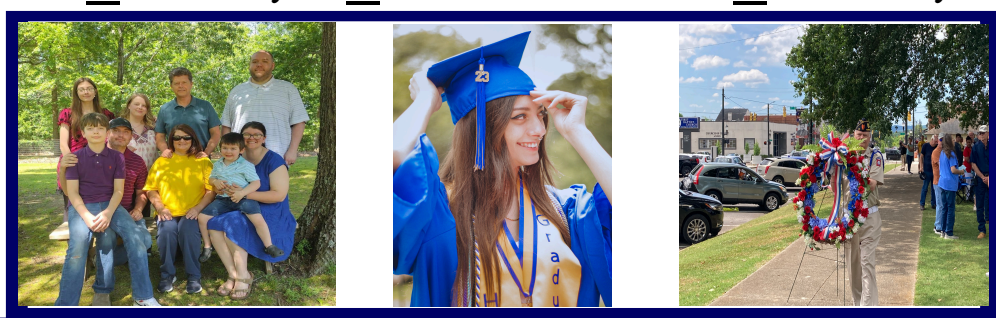
- Many Celebrations in May!**
- May 1st - May Day
 - May 4th - National Day of Prayer
 - May 5th - Cinco de Mayo
 - May 14th - Mother's Day
 - May 29th - Memorial Day
 - Many GRADUATION DAYS!

These celebrations are serious, happy, delightful, honorable, etc.

On a lighter note: May 4th is also "Star Wars Day". Here is a way to remember it:
 "May the 4th be with you!" :)

What Happened? May Was Marvelous

Mothers' Day Madison's Graduation Memorial Day



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Devotional Books by David Conley

Once Upon A Time ...

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

Decisions

Mama worked from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am at the Nursing Home. On rare occasions she would bring home two boxes of Corn Flakes cereal. This was a real treat!



Looking back, she may have been treating herself by not having to cook breakfast for eight people after a long night at work! She would set the table with the plastic butter bowls she had saved. There was just enough in those two boxes to fill eight bowls. Sometimes Mama would bring one box of Cheerios and one box of Rice Krispies. The decision was pure torture!

Keith Woodley was one of my best buddies in school. He lived with his mother in a small house in Tuscumbia. It wasn't much larger than ours, but with only two living there (*instead of eight*), it seemed like a mansion! He invited me to spend the night at his house. He lived close to the Spring Park. We explored the water's edge, the city's large drain system, the old bridge, and even got around to swinging, sliding, and see-sawing. What an adventure! But the REAL adventure came at breakfast the next morning. Mrs. Woodley put FOUR boxes of cereal on the table. Corn Flakes, Cocoa Puffs, Captain Crunch, and Lucky Charms! The decision was almost unbearable! I quickly dismissed Corn Flakes and narrowed my decision to three. The chocolate in the Cocoa Puffs was tempting and the Captain called my name, but it was the tiny little marsh mellow in the Lucky Charms that I had to try! They were great, though they were not great for me! The dye, sugar, preservatives, and whatever else that little leprechaun put into the cereal had me bouncing off the wall that day!

We are faced with choices every day. Don't let the *"tiny little marsh mellow"* that Satan and the world offer cause us to make the wrong choice. Be sure to follow Joshua's advice: **Joshua 24:15** *"... choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*
 David Conley

Trying To Get A Response

A woman went to the pet store and bought a parrot to keep her company. She took the parrot home, but returned to the store the next day.

"This parrot won't talk", she complained.

"Well", said the pet store owner, *"does your parrot have a mirror for its cage? Parrots love to look at themselves in a mirror. They will soon begin talking as they attempt to have a conversation with their own reflection."* The lady purchased the mirror and placed it in the cage with the parrot.

The next day she returned to the pet store. *"The parrot still won't talk."* The owner then said, *"You need to purchase this ladder for your parrot. Parrots love walking up and down ladders. This will make him happy and happy parrots talk!"* She purchased the ladder and installed it in the parrot's cage.

The following day she returned to the pet store. *"I can't get the parrot to talk"* the woman sadly reported. *"Nothing we've done is working!"* The pet store owner thought for a moment and then told her she needed to purchase a swing for the parrot's cage. *"This will cause him to relax and he will be talking very soon!"* She bought the swing and ran home to install it for the parrot.

When she came to the pet store the next day she was very sad. *"The parrot died"* she reported. *"I'm so sorry,"* the pet store owner said, *"did he ever say anything at all?"* *"Yes,"* she replied, *"Just before he died, the parrot asked, 'Don't they sell any food at that pet store?'"*

We truly want people to respond to the Gospel, but too often we try to *"entice"* and *"entertain"* them. We try everything to get them to feel comfortable and happy, but what they really need is food! The Word of God itself will generate a response if the person is going to respond at all! *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* **Romans 10:17**
 Be sure to feed the folks! That's what they need! David Conley

A Funny Thing Happened ...

The preacher knew a man who only bathed once a month! His name was Joe. He traveled with two friends. One was a Jew and the other a Hindu. They came upon a Farm House and asked the farmer if they could spend the night. The farmer agreed, but only had room in the house for two. One would have to sleep in the barn. The Jew agreed to spend the night in the barn. However, he returned to the house refusing to be near the pig in the barn. The Hindu volunteered to go to the barn. When he saw there was a cow there, he returned, refusing to share the barn with a cow. Joe said he would sleep in the barn. A few minutes later there was a knock at the door. It was the pig and cow!

The preacher thought of **Psalms 51:7** *"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."* The blood of Jesus will cleanse us far more than soap and water! We will be accepted by God even if we are rejected by the world!