

December 27, 2015

Insight...

“The Lord is God and He made His Light shine upon us.”

Psalm 118:27

- ☞ **And if you can play or sing this Christmas counsel you get extra credit.** “Make out your Chopin Liszt early before Debussy season, when you have time to check out Verdi good bargains are, can still get gifts Faure good price, not have to Handel large crowds and have time to give Bach things you decide you don't want.

- ☞ **Not a bad plan...** *“It's been kind of rough, but it's part of life. And you just kind of work through it and trust God's plan.”* A quote from Washington Redskin's quarterback Kirk Cousins on becoming an NFL starter as his father fights cancer.

- ☞ **Being married isn't enough...** being married well does. Science has long confirmed what Christians already know: Married people tend to be healthier and live longer. Recent studies at Brigham Young University discovered that couples in ambivalent marriages – those with more frequent ups and downs than average – had higher blood pressure than couples in stable marriages. Ohio State University researchers found that blister wounds heal more slowly for people who use hostility to deal with marital conflict. University of Utah researches found that lack of affection during spousal arguments negatively affects heart health as much as smoking or high cholesterol. By contrast, University of Virginia researches found that when happily married couples hold hands, it produces the same calming effect on the brain as pain relieving drugs. However, hand holding offered no positive affects for couples who were unhappily married. [World Magazine, pg. 66, 9/12/15.]

- ☞ **Christian...are you tired of being nice to people?** A wife recently asked a similar question to her husband as she struggled to be kind to her father-in-law who had recently moved into their home. His answer? *“So you plan to stop putting on Christ at some point?”* Too often believers forget that our true identity comes from Jesus, our old self is the new imposter. Before our salvation, the pretend righteous person was the imposter. André Seu Peterson reminds of this when she wrote, “But the truth is, I am not my dark side. It is not fraudulent to be slow to speak and gentle of demeanor. To consciously ‘**put on**’ these goldly behaviors is actually a biblical command: Ephesians 4:24 ‘**Put on the new self**.’ Obedience is not hypocrisy.”

☞ **The Pithy One-liner**...Many Christians have enough faith to make them decent but not enough to make them dynamic.

☞ **Trivia Question:** According to the United Kingdom's official health and safety bureaucracy, what are now the most dangerous animals in Britton?

A. cows B. dogs C. badgers D. squirrels

For Prayer...

...Giving thanks for the safe birth of Jermiah Wade born to Rebekah and Adam on Dec. 23rd, weighin 8 lbs., 15 oz. and 20.5 inches.

...Giving thanks also for the safe birth of Jayce William to Lindsey and Jeremy on Sunday at 3:14 pm, 7 lbs. 12 oz., 21 inches.

...Janet niece, Jennifer Carter (33) was found uninjured.

...Continued prayer for Ardyth sister Bonnie.

...Tyler, is very ill. Thank you for your prayers.

...Deloris (Kevin's mom) – doing a little better. Doctors still hope to get her infections under control so that they can do the needed surgery.

...New Years Eve services.

...Youth Pastor search committee and the man they will call...

...Couples who are fighting serious physical illness together.

Christy (Mike)

Sue (John)

Tom (Barb)

Cheryl (Deane)

Ken & Judy

Dave (Jean)

Dale (Connie)

...Our Expectant Mothers

Coty (Steve)

Amber (Keenan)

Johanna (Joshua)

Katie (Kyle)

Sara (Drew)

Jill (Dale)

Claire (Jon)

Rebekah (Adam)

Julia (Mike)

Nicole (Jonathan)

Sarah (Nathan)

Trivia Answer: A. cows

Turnabout...

*"The real problem is not why
some pious, humble,
believing people suffer, but
why some do not."*

C. S. Lewis