



**Think Abouts 07**

**Condensed and annotated  
by  
Jackson Koller**



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### Introduction

Welcome to this collection, one of several in a series. . .

Mostly about life, and living, but some on Nursing, Religion, etc., no jokes here though. These again are mostly from the email circuit, passed around until their origins are lost in the paperless trail!

I hope that they may cause you to pause and consider them as they did for me.

If I feel strongly enough about any essay my comments will follow it!

In thoughts we live,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Jackson Koller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



## FRIENDS WITHOUT FACES

(and some that do)

We sit and we type, and we stare at our screens  
We all have to wonder, what this possibly means.  
With our mouse we roam, through the rooms in a maze  
Looking for something or someone, as we sit in a daze.  
We chat with each other, we type all our woes  
Small groups we do form, and gang up on our foes.  
We wait for somebody, to type out our name  
We want recognition, but it is always the same.  
We give kisses and hugs, and sometimes flirt  
In IMs we chat deeply, and reveal why we hurt.  
We do form friendships - but - why we don't know  
But some of these friendships, will flourish and grow.  
Why is it on screen, we can be so bold  
Telling our secrets, that have never been told.  
Why is it we share, the thoughts in our mind  
With those we can't see, as though we were blind.  
The answer is simple, it is as clear as a bell.  
We all have our problems, and need someone to tell.  
We can't tell real people, but tell someone we must  
So we turn to the 'puter, and to those we can trust.  
Even though it is crazy, the truth still remains  
They are Friends Without Faces, and odd little names.

## Friendship Ball

A ball is a circle,  
No beginning, no end.  
It keeps us together  
Like our Circle of Friends  
But the treasure inside  
for you to see  
is the treasure of friendship  
You've granted to me.  
Today I pass the friendship ball to you.  
Pass it on to someone who is a friend to  
you...

Frogs

**A valuable lesson...**

**A group of frogs was traveling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit.**

**All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the two frogs that they were as good as dead.**

**The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit with all of their might. The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead.**

**Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and gave up. He fell down and died.**

**The other frog continued to jump as high as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and just die.**

**He jumped even higher and finally made it out.**

**When he got out, the other frogs said, “Why did you keep trying?” The frog explained to them that he couldn’t hear what they were saying. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.**

**This story teaches two lessons:**

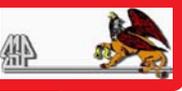
- 1. There is power of life and death in your words. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.**
- 2. A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them. Be careful of what you say to those who cross your path.**

**It is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way. Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to continue in difficult times. Special is the individual who will take the time to encourage another.**

God billboards

**Some new billboards are getting attention in Cleveland. Some reported seeing one or two messages, but the newspaper listed all of them. Here’s a list of all variations of the “God Speaks” billboards. The billboards are a simple black background with white text. No fine print or sponsoring organization is included. These are awesome...enjoy.**

**Let’s meet at my house Sunday, before the game-God**





**C'mon over and bring the kids.-God**

**What part of "Thou Shalt Not..." didn't you understand?-God**

**We need to talk.-God**

**Keep using my name in vain, I'll make rush hour longer.-God**

**Loved the wedding, invite me to the marriage.-God**

**That "Love Thy Neighbor" thing... I meant it.-God**

**I love you and you and you and you and...-God**

**Will the road you're on get you to my place?-God**

**Follow me.-God**

**Big bang theory, you've got to be kidding.-God**

**My way is the highway.-God**

**Need directions?-God**

**You think it's hot here?-God**

**Have you read my #1 best seller? There will be a test.-God**

**Do you have any idea where you're going?-God**

**(And my personal favorite...)**

**Don't make me come down there.-God**

### **God Explained**

**THIS ONE IS FABULOUS!!! It was written by an 8 year old, Danny Dutton of Chula Vista, CA, for his third grade homework assignment.**

**The assignment was to explain God.**

#### **EXPLANATION OF GOD**

**"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way He doesn't have to take up His valuable time teaching**



them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.”

“God’s second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn’t have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because He hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in His ears, unless He has thought of a way to turn it off.”

“God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn’t go wasting His time by going over your Mom and Dad’s head asking for something they said you couldn’t have.”

“Atheists are people who don’t believe in God. I don’t think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren’t any who come to our church.”

“Jesus is God’s Son. He used to do all the hard work like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn’t want to learn about God. They finally got tired of Him preaching to them and they crucified Him. But He was good and kind, like His Father and He told His Father that they didn’t know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.”

“His Dad (God) appreciated everything that He had done and all His hard work on earth so He told Him He didn’t have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So He did. And now He helps His Dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones He can take care of Himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.”

“You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.”

“You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there’s anybody you want to make happy, it’s God. Don’t skip church or do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn’t come out at the beach until noon anyway.”

“If you don’t believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can’t go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He’s around you when you’re scared in the dark or when you can’t swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.”

“But...you shouldn’t just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and He can take me back anytime He pleases. And...that’s why I believe in God.”



### Be Still and Listen

The man whispered, “God, speak to me” and a meadowlark sang. But, the man did not hear.

So the man yelled, “God, speak to me” and the thunder rolled across the sky. But, the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said, “God let me see you.”

And a star shined brightly.  
But the man did not notice.

Then, the man shouted, “God show me a miracle” and, a life was born. But, the man did not know.

So, the man cried out in despair, “Touch me God,  
And let me know you are here.”  
Whereupon, God reached down and touched the man.  
But, the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

Don’t miss out on a blessing because it isn’t packaged the way that you expect.

The world surrounds us with miracles every day. Just being alive is a miracle, because of the tree of life we are all born dumb, deaf and blind. To overcome these handicaps is our life’s goal!

### What goes around. . .

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer.

One day, while trying to eke out a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman’s sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved. “I want to repay you,” said the nobleman. “You saved my son’s life.”

“No, I can’t accept payment for what I did,” the Scottish farmer replied, waving off the offer. At that moment, the farmer’s own son came to the door of the family hovel.

“Is that your son?” The nobleman asked.

“Yes,” the farmer replied proudly.

“I’ll make you a deal. Let me take him and give him a good education. If the lad is anything like his father, he’ll grow to a man you can be proud of.”

And that he did. In time, Farmer Fleming’s son graduated from St. Mary’s



Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterward, the nobleman's son was stricken with pneumonia. What saved him? Penicillin! The name of the nobleman was Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name: Sir Winston Churchill.

Someone once said what goes around comes around.

Work like you don't need the money.  
Love like you've never been hurt.  
Dance like nobody's watching.

Good read about the truth...

This one is worth the three minutes it takes to read.....

On Thursday, May 27, 1999, Darrell Scott, the father of Rachel Scott, a victim of the Columbine High School Shootings in Littleton, Colorado was invited to address the House Judiciary Committee's subcommittee. What he said to our national leaders during this special session of Congress was painfully truthful.

It needs to be heard by every parent, every teacher, every politician, every sociologist, every psychologist, and every so-called expert!

These courageous words spoken by Darrell Scott are powerful, penetrating, and deeply personal.

There is no doubt that God sent this man as a voice crying in the wilderness. The following is a portion of the transcript:

“Since the dawn of creation there has been both good & evil in the hearts of men and women. We all contain the seeds of kindness or the deeds of violence. The death of my wonderful daughter, Rachel Joy Scott, and the deaths of that heroic teacher, and the other eleven children who died must not be in vain. Their blood cries out for answers.

The first recorded act of violence was when Cain slew his brother Abel out in the field. The villain was not the club he used. Neither was it the NCA, the National Club Association.

The true killer was Cain, and the reason for the murder could only be found in Cain's heart. “In the days that followed the Columbine tragedy, I was amazed at how quickly fingers began to be pointed at groups such as the NRA. I am not a member of the NRA. I am not a hunter. I do not even own a gun. I am not here to represent or defend the NRA, because I don't believe that they are responsible for my daughter's death. Therefore I do not believe that they need to be defended. If I believed they had anything to do with Rachel's murder I would be their strongest opponent. I am here today to declare that Columbine



was not just a tragedy it was a spiritual event that should be forcing us to look at where the real blame lies!

Much of the blame lies here in this room. Much of the blame lies behind the pointing fingers of the accusers themselves. "I wrote a poem just four nights ago that expresses my feelings best. This was written way before I knew I would be speaking here today.

"Your laws ignore our deepest needs  
 Your words are empty air  
 You've stripped away our heritage  
 You've outlawed simple prayer  
 Now gun shots fill our classrooms  
 And precious children die  
 You seek for answers everywhere  
 And ask the question "Why"  
 You regulate restrictive laws  
 Through legislative creed  
 And yet you fail to understand  
 That God is what we need!"

"Men and women are three-part beings. We all consist of body, soul, and spirit.

When we refuse to acknowledge a third part of our make-up, we create a void that allows evil, prejudice, and hatred to rush in and wreak havoc. Spiritual influences were present within our educational systems for most of our nation's history. Many of our major colleges began as theological seminaries. This is a historical fact. What has happened to us as a nation? "We have refused to honor God, and in doing so; we open the doors to hatred and violence.

And when something as terrible as Columbine's tragedy occurs - politicians immediately look for a scapegoat such as the NRA.

They immediately seek to pass more restrictive laws that contribute to erode away our personal and private liberties. "We do not need more restrictive laws. Eric and Dylan would not have been stopped by metal detectors. No amount of gun laws can stop someone who spends months planning this type of massacre. The real villain lies within our own hearts. Political posturing and restrictive legislation are not the answers.

The young people of our nation hold the key. There is a spiritual awakening taking place that will not be squelched!

"We do not need more religion. We do not need more gaudy television evangelists spewing out verbal religious garbage. We do not need more million dollar church buildings built while people with basic needs are being ignored.

We DO need a change of heart and a humble acknowledgment that this nation was founded on the principle of simple trust in God!

"As my son Craig lay under that table in the school library and saw his two friends murdered before his very eyes - He did not hesitate to pray in school. I defy any law or politician to deny him that right! I challenge every young person in America, and around the world, to realize that on April 20, 1999, at Col-



umbine High School - prayer was brought back to our schools. "Do not let the many prayers offered by those students be in vain. Dare to move into the new millennium with a sacred disregard for legislation that violates your God - given right to communicate with Him. To those of you who would point your finger at the NRA - I give to you a sincere challenge.

Dare to examine your own heart before casting the first stone!

My daughter's death will not be in vain. The young people of this country will not allow that to happen!"

Be courageous enough to do what the media did not, let the nation hear this mans speech. Please send this out to everyone you can.!!!

This goes to my views on accountability! I don't believe in any plea bargaining in any trial (in sentencing yes, trial no), either you DID the action accused of, or not! Then circumstances should be reviewed for a proper sentencing after the verdict. As Heinlein said in 'Starship Troopers:'

"There is no such thing as a dangerous weapon...there are only dangerous men!" I.E.: a weapon is not the cause of violence, a weapon is only an object until someone uses it.

#### Good words

I WISH I HAD READ THIS 30 YEARS AGO.

- Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.
- You can't change the past, but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.
- Love .....and you shall be loved.
- God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.
- All people smile in the same language.
- A hug is a great gift ... one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.
- Everyone needs to be loved...especially when they do not deserve it.
- The real measure of a man's wealth is what he has invested in eternity.
- Laughter is God's sunshine.
- Everything has beauty but not everyone sees it.
- It's important for parents to live the same things they teach.
- Thank God for what you have, TRUST GOD for what you need.
- If you fill your heart with regrets of yesterday and the worries of tomorrow, you have no today to be thankful for.
- Happy memories never wear out....relive them as often as you want.
- Home is the place where we grumble the most, but are often treated the best.
- Man looks at outward appearance but the Lord looks within.
- The choice you make today will usually affect tomorrow.
- Take time to laugh for it is the music of the soul.
- If anyone speaks badly of you, live so none will believe it.
- Patience is the ability to idle your motor when you feel like stripping your



gears.

- Love is strengthened by working through conflicts together.
- The best thing parents can do for their children is to love each other.
- Harsh words break no bones but they do break hearts.
- To get out of a difficulty, one usually must go through it.
- We take for granted the things that we should be giving thanks for.
- Love is the only thing that can be divided without being diminished.
- Happiness is enhanced by others but does not depend upon others.
- You are richer today if you have laughed, given or forgiven.
- For every minute you are angry with someone, you lose 60 seconds of happiness that you can never get back.
- Do what you can, for who you can, with what you have, and where you are.
- 
- The best gifts to give:
  - To your friend - loyalty;
  - To your enemy - forgiveness;
  - To your boss - service;
  - To a child - a good example;
  - To your parents - gratitude and devotion;
  - To your mate - love and faithfulness;
  - To all men and women - charity; and
  - To your God - your life.
- May God Bless you and keep you safe.

Great insight....take a minute to read

Since the Pledge of Allegiance and The Lord's Prayer are not allowed in most public schools anymore because the word "God" is mentioned....a kid in Arizona wrote the attached NEW School prayer.

Now I sit me down in school  
 Where praying is against the rule  
 For this great nation under God  
 Finds mention of Him very odd.

If Scripture now the class recites,  
 It violates the Bill of Rights.  
 And anytime my head I bow  
 Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,  
 That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.  
 The law is specific, the law is precise.  
 Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall  
 Might offend someone with no faith at all.



In silence alone we must meditate,  
God's name is prohibited by the state.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,  
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.  
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.  
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.

We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,  
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.  
It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong,  
We're taught that such "judgments" do not belong.

We can get our condoms and birth controls,  
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.  
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,  
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,  
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.  
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:  
Should I be shot; My soul please take!

Amen

Great time of year for this one

.....sometimes it doesn't take much.

Ruth went to her mail box and there was only one letter. She picked it up and looked at it before opening, but then she looked at the envelope again.

There was no stamp, no postmark, only her name and address. She read the letter:

Dear Ruth:

I'm going to be in your neighborhood Saturday afternoon and I'd like to stop by for a visit.

Love Always, Jesus

Her hands were shaking as she placed the letter on the table. "Why would the Lord want to visit me?

I'm nobody special. I don't have anything to offer."

With that thought, Ruth remembered her empty kitchen cabinets. "Oh my goodness, I really don't have anything to offer. I'll have to run down to the store and buy something for dinner." She reached for her purse and counted out its contents. Five dollars and forty cents. "Well, I can get some bread and cold cuts, at least."



She threw on her coat and hurried out the door.

A loaf of French bread, a half-pound of sliced turkey, and a carton of milk...leaving Ruth with grand total twelve cents to last her until Monday.

Nonetheless, she felt good as she headed home, her meager offerings tucked under her arm.

“Hey lady, can you help us, lady?”

Ruth had been so absorbed in her dinner plans, she hadn’t even noticed two figures huddled in the alleyway. A man and a woman, both of them dressed in little more than rags “Look lady, I ain’t got a job, ya know, and my wife and I have been living out here on the street, and, well, now it’s getting cold and we’re getting kinda hungry and, well, if you could help us. Lady, we’d really appreciate it.”

Ruth looked at them both.

They were dirty, they smelled bad and frankly, she was certain that they could get some kind of work if they really wanted to.

“Sir, I’d like to help you, but I’m a poor woman myself. All I have is a few cold cuts and some bread, and I’m having an important guest for dinner to-night and I was planning on serving that to Him.”

“Yeah, well, okay lady, I understand. Thanks anyway.”

The man put his arm around the woman’s shoulders, turned and headed back into the alley.

As she watched them leave, Ruth felt a familiar twinge in her heart.

“Sir, wait!” The couple stopped and turned as she ran down the alley after them. “Look, why don’t you take this food. I’ll figure out something else to serve my guest.”

She handed the man her grocery bag.

“Thank you lady. Thank you very much!”

“Yes, thank you!” It was the man’s wife, and Ruth could see now that she was shivering. “You know, I’ve got another coat at home. Here, why don’t you take this one.” Ruth unbuttoned her jacket and slipped it over the woman’s shoulders. Then smiling, she turned and walked back to the street...without her coat and with nothing to serve her guest.

“Thank you lady! Thank you very much!”

Ruth was chilled by the time she reached her front door, and worried too. The Lord was coming to visit and she didn’t have anything to offer Him.

She fumbled through her purse for the door key. But as she did, she noticed another envelope in her mailbox.

“That’s odd. The mailman doesn’t usually come twice in one day.” She took the envelope out of the box and opened it.

Dear Ruth:

It was so good to see you again. Thank you for the lovely meal. And thank you, too, for the beautiful coat.

Love Always Jesus

The air was still cold, but even without her coat, Ruth no longer noticed.

Happiness

We convince ourselves that life will be better after we get married, have a baby, then another. Then we are frustrated that the kids aren't old enough and we'll be more content when they are. After that, we're frustrated that we have teenagers to deal with. We will certainly be happy when they are out of that stage. We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together when we get a nicer car, are able to go on a nice vacation, when we retire. The truth is, there's no better time to be happy than right now. If not now, when?

Your life will always be filled with challenges. It's best to admit this to yourself and decide to be happy anyway. One of my favorite quotes comes from Alfred D. Souza. He said, "For a long time it had seemed to me that life was about to begin - real life. But there was always some obstacle in the way, something to be gotten through first, some unfinished business, time still to be served, or a debt to be paid. Then life would begin. At last it dawned on me that these obstacles were my life". This perspective has helped me to see that there is no way to happiness.

Happiness IS the way. So, treasure every moment that you have and treasure it more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time....and remember that time waits for no one.

So, stop waiting until you finish school, until you go back to school, until you lose ten pounds, until you gain ten pounds, until you have kids, until your kids leave the house, until you start work, until you retire from work, until you get married, until you get divorced, until Friday night, until Sunday morning, until you get a new car or home, until your car or home is paid off, until spring, until summer, until fall, until winter, until you are off welfare, until the first or fifteenth, until your song comes on, until you've had a drink, until you've sobered up, until you die, until you are born again to decide that there is no better time than right now to be happy.

Happiness is a journey, not a destination.

**What KEEPS you from being happy?**

Thought for the day:

Work like you don't need money,  
Love like you've never been hurt,  
And dance like no one's watching.....

Have a great day

This story put another light on pennies for me. I always thought it was someone from heaven saying "hello", but never thought of this possibility. Enjoy.

Several years ago, a friend of mine and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home.





**My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend.**

**The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.**

**The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live.**

**The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.**

**As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband. He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment.**

**Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts.**

**Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny. He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure.**

**How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?**

**Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it no longer. She causally mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been valuable.**

**A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before. What was the point of this? "Look at it," he said. "Read what it says." She read the words "United States of America." "No, not that; read further." "One cent?" "No, keep reading."**

**"In God we Trust?"**

**"Yes!"**

**"And?"**

**"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin.**

**Whenever I find a coin, I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it.**

**God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him.**

**Who am I to pass it by?**

**When I see a coin, I pray, I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful."**



When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I cannot change I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh.

Yes, God, I get the message. It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful. And God is patient.

Author Unknown

### HEALTH WARNING

C.N.N. REPORTS A NEW VIRUS HAS BEEN DISCOVERED RECENTLY. ONE PERSON CAN PASS IT ON TO MILLIONS AS IT IS VERY CONTAGIOUS. THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL HAS REPORTED THIS WEEK THAT THE VIRUS SPREADS VERY RAPIDLY FROM ONE PERSON TO THE NEXT.

THEY HAVE PUT A VERY INTERESTING NAME  
ON THIS VIRUS. IT IS CALLED.....

>

>

>

A SMILE

- -

o o

-

∪

UH! OH! TOO LATE!!!  
I SEE IT ON YOUR FACE ALREADY!

YOU'VE GOT THE VIRUS!!!!!!

HAVE A GREAT DAY AND PASS IT ON!!!



## Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago.

One day I saw a sign that read, "HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE."

As I got a little closer, the door opened wide, and then I found myself standing inside. I saw a host of ANGELS. They were standing everywhere.

One handed me a basket and said, "My Child, shop with care."

Everything a human needed was in that grocery store.

And if you couldn't carry all, you could come back the next day for more.

First, I got some PATIENCE.

LOVE was in the same row.

Further down was UNDERSTANDING: you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH.

I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST, for it was all over the place. I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE TO HELP ME RUN THIS RACE.

By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed some GRACE. I didn't forget SALVATION, for SALVATION was free.

So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill. For I thought I had everything to do the MASTER'S will.

As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER; and I just had to put that in, for I knew when I stepped outside, I would run into sin.

PEACE and JOY were plentiful; they were last on the shelf.

SONG and PRAISE were hanging near, so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now, how much do I owe?" He smiled again and said,

"MY CHILD, GOD PAID YOUR BILL A LONG, LONG TIME AGO."

We walk by faith, the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, and not by sight.

### Hello Friend,

Around the corner I have a friend,  
 In this great city that has no end,  
 Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,  
 And before I know it, a year is gone  
 And I never see my old friends face,  
 For life is a swift and terrible race,  
 He knows I like him just as well  
 As in the days when I rang his bell,  
 And he rang mine.

Once, we were younger then,  
 And now we are busy, tired men.  
 Tired of playing a foolish game,  
 Tired of trying to make a name.  
 "Tomorrow" I say "I will call on Jim"



**“Just to show that I’m thinking of him”  
 But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,  
 And the distance between us grows and grows.  
 Around the corner - yet miles away,  
 “Here’s a telegram sir-” “Jim died today.”  
 And that’s what we get and deserve in the end.  
 Around the corner, a vanished friend.**

**If you love someone, tell them. Remember always to say what you mean.  
 Never be afraid to express yourself.**

**Take this opportunity to tell someone what they mean to you.**

**Seize the day and have no regrets.**

**Most importantly, stay close to your friends and family, for they have helped make you the person you are today and that’s what it’s all about anyway.**

**Pass this along to your friends. Let it make a difference in your day and theirs.**

**The difference between expressing love and having regrets which may stay around forever.**

**Take this opportunity to set a new trend.**

**May love litter your life with blessings!!!!!!**

**Here’s the thought for the day!!**

**Not Saving a Thing**

**I’m reading more and dusting less. I’m sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden.**

**I’m spending more time with my family and friends and less time at work.**

**Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure.**

**I’m trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.**

**I’m not “saving” anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom.**

**I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries.**

**I’m not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for the**



clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank.

“Someday” and “one of these days” are losing their grip on my vocabulary.

If it’s worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now.

I’m not sure what my cousins would’ve done had they known that they wouldn’t be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted.

I think they would have called family members and a few close friends.

They might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner, or for whatever their favorite food was. I’m guessing; I’ll never know.

It’s those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn’t written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn’t tell my wife/husband and parents often enough how much I TRULY LOVE them.

I’m trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

And every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special.

Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God.

If you received this, it is because someone cares for you. If you’re too busy to take the few minutes that it takes right now to forward this, would it be the first time you didn’t do the little thing that would make a difference in your relationships?

I can tell you it certainly won’t be the last. Take a few minutes to send this to a few people you care about, just to let them know that you’re thinking of them.

People say true friends must always hold hands, but true friends don’t need to hold hands because they know the other hand will always be there.”

author unknown



## High ground

The rain came pelting down, for days and days it poured. And her neighbors came by in a 4x4 and said to the little old Granny, “Best you flee to high ground!”

“No,” she says. “I have faith. God will take care of me. The Lord will provide.”

And the rains continued. Her pigs were swept away and her cow was treading water in the barn. Up the flooded road comes a boat. The driver stops by her porch and shouts, “Granny! The place’s flooding! You must leave!”

“No,” she says. “I have faith. God will take care of me. The Lord will provide.”

The waters continue to rise, and she’s forced to retreat to the rooftop with her chickens. A helicopter swoops down to hover just above her and its pilot says, “Gran, we’re here to save you, get in!”

Again, she says. “No. I have faith. God will take care of me. The Lord will provide.”

But, the waters kept rising and Granny drowned. She goes up to Heaven and the Lord’s waiting there to meet her and, boy is Granny mad! She gets right in the Lord’s face and shouts, “How could you, Lord?! The one time I ask you for help - and you’re not there!”

The Lord looks at her and He’s sorely puzzled.

“Granny, how can’t you say I didn’t provide? I sent you a 4x4, a boat and a helicopter!”

### Quotes

“Hope is the feeling you have that the feeling you have isn’t permanent.”—Jean Kerr

“Rudeness is the weak man’s limitation of strength.”—Eric Hoffer

“If you are sure you understand everything that is going on, you are hopelessly confused.”—Walter Mondale

Make this fact part of your philosophy of life: people change:

“The old woman I shall become will be quite different from the woman I am now. Another I is beginning.”—George Sand



**“Readjusting is a painful process, but most of us need it at one time or another.”—Arthur C. Benson**

**“We most always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden.”—Johann von Goethe**

**“Our very business in life is not to get ahead of others, but to get ahead of ourselves.”**

**—Thomas L. Monson**

**“Consistency is contrary to nature, contrary to life. The only completely consistent people are the dead.”—Aldous Huxley**

**“Boldness be my friend.”—William Shakespeare (from Cymbeline)**

**Happiness is a state of mind, so move to that state:**

**“The greatest part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions, and not our circumstances.”—Martha Washington**

**“The most unhappy of all men is he who believes himself to be so.”—David Hume**

**“Happiness is not a matter of events, it depends upon the tides of the mind.”—Alice Meynell**

**“I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble.”—Helen Keller**

**“Worry is interest paid on trouble before it comes due.”—William R. Inge**

**“I have always been waiting for something better – sometimes to see the best I had snatched from me.”—Dorothy Reed Mendenhall**

**Keep trying!**

**“The secret of success is constancy of purpose.”—Benjamin Disraeli**

**“With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable.”—Sir Thomas Foxwell Buxton**

**“I realized early on that success was tied to not giving up. Most people in this business gave up and went on to other things. If you simply didn’t give up, you would out last the people who came in on the bus with you.”**

**“Sharing what you have is more important than what you have.”—Albert M. Wells, Jr.**



**“I don’t believe in pessimism.”—Clint Eastwood**

**“Once the ‘what’ is decided, the ‘how’ always follows. We must not make the ‘how’ an excuse for not facing and accepting the ‘what.’”—Pearl Buck**

**Sometimes it’s better to stop talking and listen — if there’s something worth hearing:**

**“Oh...I listen a lot and talk less. You can’t learn anything when you’re talking.”—Bing Crosby**

**“There’s nothing like eavesdropping to show you that the world outside your head is different from the world inside your head.”—Thornton Wilder**

**“No one really listens to anyone else, and if you try it for a while you’ll see why.”**

**—Mignon McLaughlin**

**“There is nothing mysterious about originality, nothing fantastic. Originality is merely the step beyond.”—Louis Danz**

**“It is awfully important to know what is and what is not your business.”—Gertrude Stein**

**“We learn the rope of life by untying its knots.”—Jean Toomer**

**Don’t eat with total abandon:**

**“Gluttony is not a secret vice.”—Orson Welles**

**“Another good reducing exercise consists in placing both hands against the table edge and pushing back.”—Robert Quillen**

**“Never eat more than you can lift.”—Miss Piggy**

**“All problems become smaller if you don’t dodge them, but confront them.”—William F. Halsey**

**“Pain is the root of knowledge.”—Simone Weil**

**“The ideal never comes. Today is ideal for him who would make it so.”—Horatio W. Dresser**

**Encourage achievement by letting people know you think they’re up to it:**

**“Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”—Lady Bird Johnson**



**“A great manager has a knack for making ballplayers think they are better than they think they are. He forces you to have a good opinion of yourself. He lets you know he believes in you. He makes you get more out of yourself. And once you learn how good you really are, you never settle for playing anything less than your very best.”—Reggie Jackson**

**“However much we guard against it, we tend to shape ourselves in the image others have of us.”—Eric Hoffer**

**“Ideas won’t keep; something must be done about them.”— Alfred North Whitehead**

**“Shared joy is a double joy; shared sorrow is half a sorrow.”— Swedish proverb**

**“Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine.”— Robert C. Gallagher**

**Whatever you do in life, don’t get stuck:**

**“If you don’t like something change it; if you can’t change it, change the way you think about it.”— Mary Engelbreit**

**“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”— George Bernard Shaw**

**“You live longer once you realize that any time spent being unhappy is wasted.”— Ruth E. Renkl**

**“There is perhaps nothing so bad and so dangerous in life as fear.”— Jawaharlal Nehru**

**“Walk away from it [your problems] until you get stronger. All your troubles will be there when you get back, but you’ll be better able to cope.”—Lady Bird Johnson**

**“One thing at a time, all things in succession. That which grows slowly endures.”**

**—J. G. Hubbard**

**Get out of your rut:**

**“Very often a change of self is needed more than a change of scene.”— Arthur Christopher Benson**

**“A person needs at intervals to separate himself from family and compan-**



ions and go to new places. He must go without his familiars in order to be open to influence, to change.”—Katherine B. Hathaway

“There is nobody who totally lacks the courage to change.”—Rollo May

### The Hospital Room

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room’s only window.

The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end.

They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation. And every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color of the rainbow. Grand old trees graced the landscape, and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn’t hear the band - he could see it in his mind’s eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Then unexpectedly, a sinister thought entered his mind. Why should the other man alone experience all the pleasures of seeing everything while he himself never got to see anything? It didn’t seem fair.

At first thought the man felt ashamed. But as the days passed and he missed seeing more sights, his envy eroded into resentment and soon turned him sour. He began to brood and he found himself unable to sleep. He should be by that window - that thought, and only that thought now controlled his life.

Late one night as he lay staring at the ceiling, the man by the window began to cough. He was choking on the fluid in his lungs. The other man watched in the dimly lit room as the struggling man by the window groped for the button to call for help. Listening from across the room he never moved: never pushed his own button which would have brought the nurse running in. Less than five minutes later, the coughing and choking stopped, along with the sound of breathing. Now there was only silence.

The following morning the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths. When she found the lifeless body of the man by the window, she was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take it away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window.



The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. Finally, he would have the joy of seeing it all himself. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed.

It faced a blank wall.

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Epilogue. . . .

You can interpret the story in any way you like. But one moral stands out: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all of the things you have that money can't buy.

#### How to handle a Pacifist

What to do if you happen upon a peace rally by stupid, naive, hemp-shirt-wearing idiots, to teach them why force is sometimes needed:

- 1) Approach the lead idiot talking about "peace" and saying there should be, "no retaliation."
- 2) Engage in brief conversation, ask if military force is appropriate.
- 3) When he says "No," ask, "Why not?"
- 4) Wait until he says something to the effect of, "Because that would just cause more innocent deaths, which would be awful and we should not cause more violence."
- 5) When he's in mid sentence, punch him in the face as hard as you can.
- 6) When he starts to get back up, point out that it would be a mistake to fight back and contrary to his values to strike you, because that would, "be awful and he should not cause more violence."
- 7) Wait until he agrees that he has pledged not to commit additional violence.
- 8) Help him back to his feet.
- 9) Punch him in the face again, harder this time.

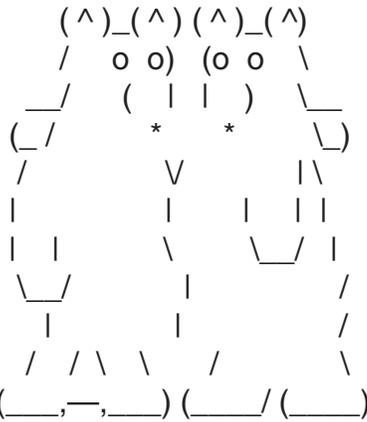
Repeat steps 5 through 9 until they understand that sometimes it is necessary to punch back.



Just for you!

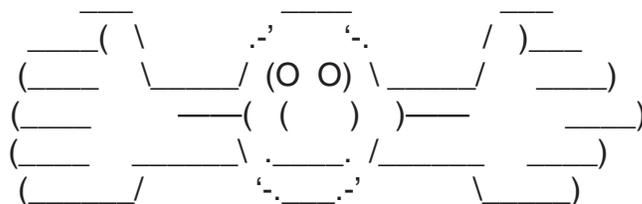
No moving parts, no batteries.  
 No monthly payments and no fees;  
 Inflation proof, nontaxable,  
 In fact, it's quite relaxable;  
 It can't be stolen, won't pollute,  
 One size fits all, do not dilute.  
 It uses little energy,  
 But yields results enormously.  
 Relieves your tension and your stress,  
 Invigorate your happiness;  
 Combats depression, makes you beam,  
 And elevates your self esteem!  
 Your circulation it corrects without unpleasant side effects  
 It is, I think, the perfect drug: May I prescribe, my friend...  
 the hug! (and, of course, fully returnable!)  
 My Friend: Hope your day is good for you.  
 It is a well known fact that we each need at least 7 hugs a day for good  
 health. Most of us never reach that goal.

**HAVE YOU HUGGED A FRIEND TODAY?**



I will not play Tug O' War,  
 I'd rather play Hug O' War;  
 Where everyone hugs, instead of tugs,  
 And everyone giggles and rolls on the rug.  
 Where everyone kisses,  
 and everyone grins;  
 everyone cuddles,  
 and everyone wins.

- Shel Silverstein





\*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*  
 \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*  
 \*Hug\*Hug\*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*  
 \*Hug\*Hug\*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*  
 \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*   \*Hug\*

**You have just been hugged!!**  
**That's right, there's no getting out of it this time!!**  
**This is the start of a full-scale Hug O' War!**  
**So hug everyone you know!!!**

**A hug, any physical contact goes a looooong ways...**

### I am God

**I am God. Today I will be handling all of your problems. Please remember that I do not need your help.**

**If life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. All situations will be resolved, but in My time, not yours.**

**Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it by worrying about it. Instead, focus on all the wonderful things that are present in your life now.**

**If you find yourself stuck in traffic; don't despair. There are people in this world for whom driving is an unheard of privilege.**

**Should you have a bad day at work; think of the man who has been out of work for years.**

**Should you despair over a relationship gone bad; think of the person who has never known what it's like to love and be loved in return.**

**Should you grieve the passing of another weekend; think of the woman in dire straits, working twelve hours a day, seven days a week to feed her children.**

**Should your car break down, leaving you miles away from assistance; think**



of the paraplegic who would love the opportunity to take that walk.

Should you notice a new gray hair in the mirror; think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she had hair to examine.

Should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what is life all about, asking what is my purpose? Be thankful. There are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity.

Should you find yourself the victim of other people's bitterness, ignorance, smallness or insecurities; Remember, things could be worse. You could be one of them!

Should you decide to send this to a friend Thank you, you may have touched their life in ways you will never know.

Live Well - Laugh Often - Love Much  
The BOSS

I am the flag!



*I Am the Flag of the* **UNITED STATES** *Of America*

*I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's halls of justice. I fly majestically over institutions of learning. I stand guard with power in the world. Look up and see me. I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice. I stand for freedom. I am confident. I am arrogant. I am proud..*



*When I am flown with my fellow banners, My head is a little higher, My colors a*

*little truer. I bow to no one! I am recognized all over the world. I am worshipped - I am saluted. I am loved - I am revered. I am respected - and I am feared. I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years. I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Appamatox. I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, in the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome and the beaches of Normandy. Guam, Okinawa, Korea and KheSan, Saigon, Vietnam know me. I was there. I led my troops, I was dirty, battleworn and tired, But my soldiers cheered me and I was proud. I have been burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries I have helped set free. It does not hurt for I am invincible. I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and trampled in the streets of my country. And when it's done by those Whom I've served in battle - it hurts. But I shall overcome - for I am strong. I have slipped the bonds of Earth and stood watch over the uncharted frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon. I have borne silent witness to all of America's finest hours. But my finest hours are yet to come. When I am torn into strips and used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the battlefield, When I am flown at half-mast to honor my soldier, Or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent at the grave of their fallen son or daughter, I am proud.*

*Please forward my message to all who still love and respect me that I may fly proudly for another two hundred years.*



The Bricks of Life

About ten years ago, a young and very successful executive named Josh was traveling down a Chicago neighborhood street.

He was going a bit too fast in his sleek, black Jaguar XKE, which was only two months old.

He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no child darted out, but a brick sailed out and WHUMP! It smashed into the Jag's shiny black side door! SCREECH...!!!! Brakes slammed!

Gears ground into reverse, and tires madly spun the Jaguar back to the spot from where the brick had been thrown. Josh jumped out of the car, grabbed the kid and pushed him up against a parked car. He shouted at the



kid, “What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing?!”

Building up a head of steam, he went on. “That’s my new Jag, That brick you threw is gonna cost you a lot of money. Why did you throw it?”

“Please, mister, please..I’m sorry! I didn’t know what else to do!” Pleaded the youngster. “I threw the brick because no one else would stop” Tears were dripping down the boys chin as he pointed around the parked car.

It’s my brother, mister,” he said. “He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can’t lift him up.”

Sobbing, the boy asked the executive, “Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He’s hurt and he’s too heavy for me.”

Moved beyond words, the young executive tried desperately to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat.

Straining he lifted the young man back into the wheelchair and took out his handkerchief and wiped the scrapes and cuts, checking to see that everything was going to be OK. He then watched the younger brother push him down the sidewalk toward their home.

It was a long walk back to the sleek, black, shining 12 cylinder Jaguar XKE — a long and slow walk. Josh never did fix the side door of his Jaguar. He kept the dent to remind him not to go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at him to get his attention...

Some bricks are softer than others.

Feel for the bricks of life coming at you.

### Positive answers

For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves, God has positive answers:

You say: “It’s impossible.”

God says: All things are possible. (Luke 8:27)

You say: “I’m too tired.”

God says: I will give you rest. (Matthew 1:28-30)

You say: “Nobody really loves me.”

God says: I love you. (John 3:16 John 13:34)

You say: “I can’t go on.”

God says: My grace is sufficient. (II Corinthians 12:9 Psalm 91:15)

You say: “I can’t figure things out.”

God says: I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

You say: “I can’t do it.”

God says: You can do all things. (Philippians 4:13)

You say: “I’m not able.”

God says: I am able. (II Corinthians 9:8)

You say: “I’m not worth it.

God says: It will be worth it. (Romans 8:28)

You say: “I can’t forgive myself.”

God says: I FORGIVE YOU. (I John 1:9 Romans 8:1)

You say: “I can’t manage.”

God says: I will supply all your needs. (Philippians 4:19)



**You say: "I'm afraid."**

**God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear. (II Timothy 1:7)**

**You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated."**

**God says: Cast all your cares on ME. (I Peter 5:7)**

**You say: "I don't have enough faith."**

**God says: I've given everyone a measure of faith (Romans 12:3)**

**You say: "I'm not smart enough."**

**God says: I give you wisdom. (I Corinthians 1:30)**

**You say: "I feel all alone."**

**God says: I will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5)**

**Justice - When you get what you deserve**

**Mercy - When you don't get what you deserve**

**Grace - When you get what you don't deserve**

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIFE**

- 1. Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk.**
- 2. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.**
- 3. Follow the three Rs: Respect for self, Respect for others, and Responsibility for all your actions.**
- 4. Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.**
- 5. Learn the rules so you know how to break them properly.**
- 6. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.**
- 7. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.**
- 8. Spend some time alone.**
- 9. Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.**
- 10. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.**
- 11. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll be able to enjoy it a second time.**
- 12. A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life. Do all you can to create a tranquil, harmonious home.**
- 13. In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation.**



**Don't bring up the past.**

14. Share your knowledge. It's a way to achieve immortality.
15. Be gentle with the earth.
16. Once a year, go someplace you've never been before.
17. Remember that the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.
18. Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.
19. Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

**Again, worth repeating. In another book attributed to the Dali Lami. When it comes down to it there are NO Instructions For Life, except what your Religion and conscience dictate.**

### Psych Profile

Here's something that you may find interesting...psychological profile...don't be overly sensitive!

The following is pretty neat, fun, and very accurate. And it only takes 2 minutes. Don't peek but begin the test as you scroll down and answer.

Answers are for who you are now ... not who you were in the past. Have pen or pencil and paper ready. This is a real test given by the Human Relations Dept. at many of the major corporations today. It helps them get better insight concerning their employees and prospective employees. It's only 10 simple questions, so ... grab a pencil and paper, keeping track of your letter answers.

Ready?? Begin ...

1. When do you feel your best?
  - (a) in the morning
  - (b) during the afternoon &and early evening
  - (c) late at night
  
2. You usually walk
  - (a) fairly fast, with long steps
  - (b) fairly fast, with little steps
  - (c) less fast head up, looking the world in the face
  - (d) less fast, head down
  - (e) very slowly



3. When talking to people you
- (a) stand with your arms folded
  - (b) have your hands clasped
  - (c) have one or both your hands on your hips
  - (d) touch or push the person to whom you are talking
  - (e) play with your ear, touch your chin, or smooth your hair

4. When relaxing, you sit with
- (a) your knees bent with your legs neatly side by side
  - (b) your legs crossed
  - (c) your legs stretched out or straight
  - (d) one leg curled under you

5. When something really amuses you, you react with
- (a) a big, appreciative laugh
  - (b) a laugh, but not a loud one
  - (c) a quiet chuckle
  - (d) a sheepish smile

6. When you go to a party or social gathering
- (a) make a loud entrance so everyone notices you
  - (b) make a quiet entrance, looking around for someone you know
  - (c) make the quietest entrance, trying to stay unnoticed

7. You're working very hard, concentrating hard, and you're interrupted; Do you:

- (a) welcome the break
- (b) feel extremely irritated
- (c) vary between these two extremes

8. Which of the following colors do you like most?

- (a) red or orange
- (b) black
- (c) yellow or light blue
- (d) green
- (e) dark blue or purple
- (f) white
- (g) brown or gray

(9. When you are in bed at night, in those last few moments before going to sleep, you lie

- (a) stretched out on your back
- (b) stretched out face down on your stomach
- (c) on your side, slightly curled
- (d) with your head on one arm
- (e) with your head under the covers

10. You often dream that you are



- (a) falling
- (b) fighting or struggling
- (c) searching for something or somebody
- (d) flying or floating
- (e) you usually have dreamless sleep
- (f) your dreams are always pleasant

**POINTS:**

1. (a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 6
2. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 7 (d) 2 (e) 1
3. (a) 4 (b) 2 (c) 5 (d) 7 (e) 6
4. (a) 4 (b) 6 (c) 2 (d) 1
5. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 3 (d) 5 (e) 2
6. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 2
7. (a) 6 (b) 2 (c) 4
8. (a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 5 (d) 4 (e) 3 (f) 2 (g) 1
9. (a) 7 (b) 6 (c) 4 (d) 2 (e) 1
10. (a) 4 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 5 (e) 6 (f) 1

Now add up the total number of points.

**OVER 60 POINTS:** Others see you as someone they should “handle with care”. You’re seen as vain, self-centered, and who is extremely dominant. Others may admire you, wishing they could be more like you, but don’t always trust you, hesitating to become too deeply involved with you.

**51 TO 60 POINTS:** Others see you as an exciting, highly volatile, rather impulsive personality; a natural leader, who’s quick to make decisions, though not always the right ones. They see you as bold and adventuresome, someone who will try anything once; someone who takes chances and enjoys an adventure. They enjoy being in your company because of the excitement you radiate.

**41 TO 50 POINTS:** Others see you as fresh, lively, charming, amusing, practical, and always interesting; someone who’s constantly in the center of attention, but sufficiently well-balanced not to let it go to their head. They also see you as kind, considerate, and understanding; someone who’ll always cheer them up or help them out.

**31 TO 40 POINTS:** Others see you as sensible, cautious, careful & practical. They see you as clever, gifted, or talented, but modest ... Not a person who makes friends too quickly or easily, but someone who’s extremely loyal to friends you do make and who expect the same loyalty in return. Those who really get to know you realize it takes a lot to shake your trust in your friends, but equally that it takes you a long time to get over it if that trust is ever broken.

**21 TO 30 POINTS:** Your friends see you as painstaking and fussy. They see you as very cautious, extremely careful, a slow and steady plodder. It’d really



surprise them if you ever did anything compulsively or on the spur of the moment, expecting you to examine everything carefully from every angle and then, usually decide against it. They think this reaction is caused partly by your careful nature.

**UNDER 21 POINTS:** People think you are shy, nervous, and indecisive, someone who needs looking after, who always wants someone else to make the decisions

& who doesn't want to get involved with anyone or anything. They see you as a worrier who always sees problems that don't exist. Some people think you're boring. Only those who know you well know that you aren't.

At one time in my life I was a ten, now I'm a comfortable 43+!

### I WISH YOU ENOUGH!!

By Bob Perks, Professional Speaker, Author, and vocalist, member National Speakers Assoc. and National Writers Assoc.

Recently I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together. They had announced her departure and standing near the security gate, they hugged and he said, "I love you. I wish you enough."

She in turn said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy."

They kissed and she left. He walked over toward the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?"

"Yes, I have," I replied. Saying that brought back memories I had of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me. So I knew what this man experiencing.

"Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-by?" I asked.

"I am old and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead, and the reality is, the next trip back will be for my funeral," he said.

"When you were saying good-bye I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"

He began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looking up as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled even more. "When we said 'I wish you enough,' we were wanting the other person to have



a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them,” he continued and then turning toward me he shared the following as if he were reciting it from memory:

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright.  
I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more.  
I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive.  
I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger.  
I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.  
I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.  
I wish enough “Hello’s” to get you through the final “Good-by.”

He then began to sob and walked away.  
I wish you enough...

### CATCH A RAINBOW

IF I COULD CATCH A RAINBOW  
I WOULD DO IT JUST FOR YOU  
AND SHARE WITH YOU ITS BEAUTY  
ON THE DAYS YOU’RE FEELING BLUE  
IF I COULD BUILD A MOUNTAIN  
YOU COULD CALL YOUR VERY OWN  
A PLACE TO FIND SERENITY  
A PLACE TO BE ALONE  
IF I COULD TAKE YOUR TROUBLES  
I WOULD TOSS THEM IN THE SEA  
BUT ALL THESE THINGS I’M FINDING  
ARE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME  
I CANNOT BUILD A MOUNTAIN  
OR CATCH A RAINBOW FAIR  
BUT LET ME BE WHAT I KNOW BEST  
A FRIEND THAT’S ALWAYS THERE.

Shorts

**“If you don’t do it excellently, don’t do it at all. Because if it’s not excellent, it won’t be profitable or fun, and if you’re not in business for fun or profit, what the hell are you doing there?”—Robert Townsend**

**“. . . this thing we call ‘failure’ is not falling down, but the staying down.”—Mary Pickford**

**“Rosiness is not a worse windowpane than gloomy gray when viewing the world.”—Grace Paley**

Gun Control

**“In 1929, the Soviet Union established gun control.**

**From 1929 to 1953, about 20 million dissidents, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“In 1911, Turkey established gun control.**

**From 1915 to 1917, 1.5 million Armenians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“Germany established gun control in 1938.**

**From 1939 to 1945, 13 million Jews and others who were unable to defend themselves were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“China established gun control in 1935.**

**From 1948 to 1952, 20 million political dissidents, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“Guatemala established gun control in 1964.**

**From 1964 to 1981, 100,000 Mayan Indians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“Uganda established gun control in 1970.**

**From 1971 to 1979, 300,000 Christians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.**

**“Cambodia established gun control in 1956.**

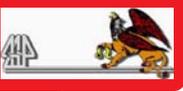
**From 1975 to 1977, one million ‘educated’ people, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.”**

**Defenseless people rounded up and exterminated in the 20th Century because of gun control: 56 million.**

**The next time someone talks in favor of gun control, ask them “Who do YOU want to round up and exterminate?”**

**With guns, we are citizens. Without them, we are subjects.**





## Inspiration

I am a mother of three (ages 14, 12, 3) and have recently completed my college degree. The last class I had to take was Sociology. The teacher was absolutely inspiring with the qualities that I wish every human being had been graced with.

Her last project of the term was called “Smile.” The class was asked to go out and smile at three people and document their reactions. I am a very friendly person and always smile at everyone and say hello anyway, so, I thought, this would be a piece of cake, literally.

Soon after we were assigned the project, my husband, youngest son, and I went out to McDonald’s one crisp March morning. It was just our way of sharing special playtime with our son. We were standing in line, waiting to be served, when all of a sudden everyone around us began to back away, and then even my husband did.

I did not move an inch...an overwhelming feeling of panic welled up inside of me as I turned to see why they had moved. As I turned around I smelled a horrible “dirty body” smell, and there standing behind me were two poor homeless men. As I looked down at the short gentleman, close to me, he was “smiling”. His beautiful sky blue eyes were full of God’s Light as he searched for acceptance. He said, “Good day” as he counted the few coins he had been clutching. The second man fumbled with his hands as he stood behind his friend. I realized the second man was mentally deficient and the blue-eyed gentleman was his salvation.

I held my tears as I stood there with them. The young lady at the counter asked him what they wanted. He said, “Coffee is all Miss” because that was all they could afford. (If they wanted to sit in the restaurant and warm up, they had to buy something. He just wanted to be warm).

Then I really felt it - the compulsion was so great I almost reached out and embraced the little man with the blue eyes. That is when I noticed all eyes in the restaurant were set on me, judging my every action. I smiled and asked the young lady behind the counter to give me two more breakfast meals on a separate tray. I then walked around the corner to the table that the men had chosen as a resting spot. I put the tray on the table and laid my hand on the blue-eyed gentleman’s cold hand. He looked up at me, with tears in his eyes, and said, “Thank you.”

I leaned over, began to pat his hand and said, “I did not do this for you. God is here working through me to give you hope.” I started to cry as I walked away to join my husband and son. When I sat down my husband smiled at me and said, “That is why God gave you to me, Honey. To give me hope.”

We held hands for a moment and at that time we knew that only because of



the Grace that we had been given were we able to give. We are not church goers, but we are believers. That day showed me the pure Light of God's sweet love.

I returned to college, on the last evening of class, with this story in hand. I turned in "my project" and the instructor read it. Then she looked up at me and said, "Can I share this?" I slowly nodded as she got the attention of the class. She began to read and that is when I knew that we, as human beings and being part of God, share this need to heal people and be healed.

In my own way I had touched the people at McDonald's, my husband, son, instructor, and every soul that shared the classroom on the last night I spent as a college student.

I graduated with one of the biggest lessons I would ever learn:

**UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE.** Much love and compassion is sent to each and every person who may read this and learn how to **LOVE PEOPLE AND USE THINGS - NOT LOVE THINGS AND USE PEOPLE.**

I hope I've left you on a positive note.

There are several songs out that propose that the vagabond, cripple, goof-ball that you see might really be an angel and you are being judged on how you treat them in a despicable guise.

How do you?

Do you treat ALL creatures as beings of God, or do you let your prejudices get in the way?