

JACOBS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



CHAPEL CHATTER

Version 32 June 2024

The Pastor's Pen



1. God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but will ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
2. God won't ask the square footage of your house, but will ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won't ask about the fancy clothes you had in your closet, but will ask how many of those clothes helped the needy.
4. God won't ask about your social status, but will ask what kind of class you displayed.
5. God won't ask how many material possessions you had, but will ask if they dictated your life.
6. God won't ask what your highest salary was, but will ask if you compromised your character to obtain that salary.
7. God won't ask how much overtime you worked, but will ask if you worked overtime for your family and loved ones.
8. God won't ask how many promotions you received, but will ask how you promoted others.
9. God won't ask what your job title was, but will ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
10. God won't ask what you did to help yourself, but will ask what you did to help others.

11. God won't ask how many friends you had, but will ask how many people to whom you were a true friend.
12. God won't ask what you did to protect your rights, but will ask what you did to protect the rights of others.
13. God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, but will ask how you treated your neighbors.
14. God won't ask about the color of your skin, but will ask about the content of your character.
15. God won't ask how many times your deeds matched your words, but will ask how many times they didn't.

Author unknown

We've all heard them—phrases that sound wise, insightful, and biblical. But are they really? Let's look at some common sayings, compare them to the Bible, and see if they hold up.

1. God won't give you more than you can handle.

Yes, He most certainly will. Ask the apostle Paul, who penned these words in 2 Corinthians 1:8-9:

"We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death."

Paul's agonizing choice of words, "under great pressure," "far beyond our ability to endure," and "despairing even of life," show us that the difficulties he and the other disciples experienced were well beyond their human ability to handle.

Then he reveals the reason behind his excruciating trials: "But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead."

The Christian life isn't a journey from dependence to independence. On the contrary, it's a process of moving from our arrogant, human independence to a deep, spiritual dependence on God for everything. A wise Bible teacher once told me, "God allows trials into your life for one of two purposes: either to draw you to Himself or to make you more like Him."

So the next time God gives you more than you can handle, acknowledge your helplessness, and call upon God to carry you through. You'll be amazed at how he answers your prayer.

2. The devil made me do it.

This statement finds its genesis in the Garden of Eden. When Eve ate the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God confronted her about it. She shifted the blame for her sin by saying, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Things haven't changed much over time. In the early 1970s, Flip Wilson, an African-American actor and comedian popularized the contemporary version of this phrase in his comedy show.

As much as we'd like to make Satan the scapegoat for all our bad choices, the concept just isn't biblical. While Satan is the driving force behind much of the evil in our world today, we have our own sinful nature to blame for most of our sins. James 1:14 says, "Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed."

Galatians 5:19-21 spells it out for us, "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these" (Galatians 5:19-21). Notice, it's the "works of the flesh" in this list, not the works of the devil.

While it may seem discouraging to realize the sin we struggle with finds its origin within ourselves, it can also be empowering. Instead of having to battle a satanic attack, all we have to do is battle our flesh.

This is difficult, but it's much easier than going toe to toe with Satan himself. As Christians, we have the Holy Spirit living inside us to help us overcome sin (1 John 4:4), and, as 2 Peter 1:3 states, we have everything we need for life and godliness. Because of this, we can successfully battle our sinful nature as we yield ourselves to God.

3. The temptation was too strong. I couldn't resist it.

When we're in the midst of a temptation, resistance seems impossible. Like iron filings to a strong magnet or kids to cookies, we often feel helpless and powerless. God knows the weakness of our flesh, and he gives us a promise to help us have victory over it.

First Corinthians 10:13 is one of the first verses I memorized as a new believer, and its truth has carried me through many a temptation: "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."

Notice two important parts of this empowering verse. First, God will never allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear. This tells us we can have victory over any temptation we encounter. Nothing is too hard to resist.

Second, God will always provide a way to escape. Joseph is a great example of this. Remember when Potiphar's wife tried to entice him to sleep with her? "My husband is away, and I've ordered all the servants out of the house," she said. "Come to bed with me. No one will ever know..."

I'm sure her offer was mighty tempting. He was young and virile, and she was rich and beautiful. But Joseph knew giving in to his desires would be a sin. Instead of succumbing, he took the "way out" God provided. When Potiphar's wife caught him by his cloak, "he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house" (Genesis 39:12). Not very dignified, but highly effective.

As long as we're alive, our sinful nature will tempt us. Notice the wording in the passage above. It doesn't say, "if you are tempted." It says, "when you are tempted." Knowing this, we'd be wise to set up this three-fold defense before we encounter a temptation: First, memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13. Second, look for the way of escape. Third, take it.

4. We're all God's children.

People who make this statement really mean, "God created us all," which is accurate. God is the Father of us all in the sense that he formed us and gave us life. We are not, however, all God's children.

First John 3:10 clearly describes those who have an intimate, personal, familial relationship with God: "This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother."

Because God is a relational being, until we accept his gift of eternal life by confessing and repenting of our sin, accepting Jesus' sacrifice on the cross on our behalf, and surrendering our lives to him, we cannot be his children in the truest, most biblical sense of the word. We are just one of his created beings.

5. God doesn't have favorites.

This belief originates in the biblical truth of Peter's words in Acts 10:34, "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism." He said this when God called him to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles in Cornelius' household. It is true that, regarding salvation, God is all-inclusive. Romans 10:13 tells us, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

It's also true, however, that God bestows special honor to certain exceptionally faithful individuals. He called Moses and Abraham his friends. Scripture refers to Daniel as "highly esteemed" (Daniel 10:11) and Mary, the mother of Jesus, "highly favored" (Luke 1:28).

This "favoritism," is quite different from the way we view favoritism today. While these godly men and women enjoyed close and precious relationships with the Lord, they weren't spared the difficulties that come with being devoted followers.

Abraham endured years of faith-building infertility, and Moses was tasked with wandering in the desert for 40 years with the faithless Israelites. Daniel was thrown into a lion's den for continuing to pray to God, and Simeon told Mary, "a sword would pierce your own soul," (Luke 2:35).

Favoritism with God isn't a golden ticket to a life untouched by sorrow and hardship. It's an indicator that God sees and will one day reward those faithful, courageous individuals who possess it.

6. God helps those who help themselves.

If you believe this proverb originates in the Bible, you're in good company. In a February 2000 Barna Research Group poll*, 53 percent of Christians strongly agreed and 22 percent agreed somewhat that the Bible teaches the phrase.

Others credit the saying to Benjamin Franklin, because he quoted it in Poor Richard's Almanack in 1736. The modern English wording, however, appears even earlier in English political theorist Algernon Sidney's work.

The phrase, which celebrates initiative and hard work, affirms biblical virtues. It's important to note, however, that God is most well known for helping widows, orphans, and other needy individuals who are unable to help themselves. This brings great comfort to many who fall on hard times.

7. "I'm so sorry for your loss. Heaven must have needed another angel."

This is probably the most theologically false condolence I've ever heard. People say it when babies and young children die, but they also use it to explain the deaths of godly adults. Those who say it have good motives. They're trying to say, "Your loved one was too special (pure, innocent, or wonderful) for this world; God needed her in heaven instead."

If you follow this line of thinking, however, this implies that whenever a job opening in heaven comes up, God prowls the earth looking for sweet, innocent children or godly adults to harvest for his heavenly workforce. Not only is this wrong, it's a direct contradiction to what the Bible teaches about angels.

Angels are uniquely created beings, not former humans who have been promoted to heaven (Psalm 148:2,5). Bible scholars agree that there is a fixed number of angels based on several scriptural truths:

We never read in Scripture of God creating any more angels after the original creation in Genesis 1. Jesus said angels do not reproduce themselves (Matthew 22:30), and angels cannot die, therefore do not need to be replaced (Luke 20:36). Therefore, the number of angels is fixed and there is no need to add to this number by drafting humans into heavenly service.

Perhaps a more comforting condolence might be, "I'm so sorry for your loss. I know you're comforted by knowing your loved one is with Jesus."

Well there you have it—seven phrases Christians like to say that simply aren't true. Their popularity reminds us how important it is to think before we speak. As we become students of the Bible and gain wisdom and understanding, our speech will begin to reflect its truth. Then the words we speak will encourage others and honor God.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 1 John, 1 John 3:10, 2 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians 1:8-9, 2 Peter, Acts 10:34, Daniel 10:11, Galatians 5:19-21, Genesis 1, Genesis 39:12, James 1:14, John 3:10, Luke 1:28, Luke 20:36, Luke 2:35, Matthew 22:30, Psalm 148:2, Romans 10:13

By Lori Hatcher - Author, blogger, pastor's wife, and women's ministry speaker.

Peace,
P. John

JACOBS CHAPEL FAMILY EVENTS



CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, June 9





NAME THAT TUNE!!

The following lines are from The Faith We Sing. See if you can name the title of each song. Answers on back page.

- 1) Striving to please him in all that I do,
- 2) Lord, you are my mercy. Lord, you are my grace.
- 3) Lord, the light of your love is shining...
- 4) With willing hearts and open arms we come and pray,
- 5) We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
- 6) God's love enfolds us every day.
- 7) Come, without fear. God will forgive you, welcome you here.
- 8) I will enter his courts with praise.
- 9) Mountains bow down and the seas will roar...



TRIVIA QUESTIONS: (Answers on last page)

- (1) In 1994, there was no baseball World Series due to which of the following?
A) Gulf War B) Power Outage C) Earthquake D) Player's Strike
- (2) Which US President was born William Jefferson Blythe III?
A) Thomas Jefferson B) William McKinley C) William Howard Taft D) Bill Clinton
- (3) 19 out of 50 States have declared what as their official state dance?
A) Waltz B) Polka C) Tango D) Square Dance
- (4) In 1993, Bruce Springsteen wrote a song about "the Streets" of what city?
A) Trenton B) Philadelphia C) Jersey City D) San Francisco



MISSION PROJECTS

TRACY PATTON MINISTRIES REACH! FOOD PROGRAM provides food to local children in 22 Southern Indiana Counties, **with each county handling their own food collection and deliveries.** They work mainly through local schools to provide weekend food, summer food, school supplies and hygiene items to children in need. They are a 501c3 nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible. There are no paid staff only faithful volunteers who support this worthwhile organization.

*****Note:** Another Branch of the REACH Food Program for kids has been started in the Jacksonville, Fla. Area. Also plans are in the works for two more cities, one each in North Carolina and New Jersey.

APRIL FOOD COLLECTION



- 9 boxes Rice A Roni
- 5 cans Bergeron
- 5 jars peanut butter
- 3 boxes Pasta Roni
- 5 boxes Pasta Entrees
- 1 box (2 pack) Suddenly Salad
- 1 box Elbow Macaroni
- 1 Box Rotini
- 1 Box Shells
- 11 boxes Mac and Cheese
- 2 boxes Spaghetti
- 3 pkgs Pasta Sides
- 8 boxes Rice sides

- 5 boxes scalloped potatoes
- 5 boxes au gratin potatoes
- 5 boxes pasta
- 5 cans chef boy ar dee spaghetti





MAY FOOD COLLECTION

- 50 mini boxes cereal (2 cases)
- 13 boxes cereal
- 1 box pancake mix
- 1 jug syrup
- 50 packs oatmeal (5 boxes)
- 38 breakfast bars (5 boxes)
- 10 jars peanut butter
- 1 box of 12 toaster pastries
- 17 boxes of 8 pop tarts (136)
- 5 boxes spaghetti
- 26 packs of ramen noodles (12)
- 12 individual applesauce cups



MARCH FOOD COLLECTION



- 47 cans Tuna
- 10 Packages tuna
- 9 (12.5 oz) cans chicken breast
- 2 large 10 oz cans Vienna sausages
- 5 reg. 4.6 oz cans Vienna sausage
- 2 cans chicken 3.25 oz
- 1 can ham. 3.25 oz
- 4 cans soup
- 5 jars peanut butter
- 8 cans chili
- 11 boxes hamburger helper
- 1 box family size Homestyle Bakes
- 12 pk ramen noodles
- 1 25 oz pkg sandwich cookies
- 1 box 10 pkgs oatmeal variety pack
- 7 boxes cereal
- 2 cookie cups



JUNE FOOD COLLECTION - SNACK PACK PUDDINGS, FRUIT CUPS, CANNED FRUIT, TUNA PACKS, VIENNA SAUSAGE, PEANUT BUTTER

JULY FOOD COLLECTION – SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI SAUCES, CANNED PASTAS (SPAGHETTIOS, RAVIOLI, ETC) AND OF COURSE, PEANUT BUTTER

SOUP MINISTRY

Whenever you make soup, make a little extra. Freeze it in a 4 cup container and store it in the freezer in the church kitchen. Whenever someone is sick, has surgery or In need otherwise of a good, nourishing meal, one or two containers can be delivered to them. There is a list on the refrigerator door for who soup is being delivered to. Anyone can deliver. As the first recipient of this mission, I can tell you it was delicious and greatly appreciated.



Don't forget to take a coin tube and fill with quarters (it holds \$10.00 worth) for the Red Bird Mission. Return it by Sept 22 so we will have time to convert it to \$\$\$\$. We will present to the speaker from Red Bird when he is here on 9/29.

Thank You

Barbara Harvey (Joyce's sister) and her family thank you so much for all the prayers and cards she has received. She was recovering nicely from her breast cancer/chemo treatments and had been declared cancer free. Then she was struck with an unknown infection which paralyzed her from neck down. Surgery was scheduled and then rescheduled several times, and was finally done on Wednesday, June 12. The doctor told her an hour before surgery that she had a 50% chance of dying on the table and he was not sure it should be done. Her words: "God's Got This. Let's do the surgery". After almost a 5 hour surgery, the doctor came out, said she stayed stable throughout. He removed, replaced with donor bone, and fused 8 discs from C2 thru T2 that were pinching the spinal cord and causing the paralysis. Until the test results came back, they still did not know what caused it. 3 days later, the tests showed "staphylococcus intermedius" which is rare in humans, caused by a dog scratch or bite on an immunocompromised person (which she is because of the cancer) and which her 80 pound dog (who thinks he is a lap dog) had unintentionally done when he climbed into her lap. She was moved on Tuesday evening, June 18, to **Healthwin Rehab Hospital Room 262 Parkview 20531 Darden Road South Bend, Indiana 46637** where she is showing gradual improvement although there is no guarantees that she will recover completely. She is on IV antibiotics for another 6-8 weeks and getting intensive physical and occupational therapy daily. I will be going back and forth to South Bend as needed. We all appreciate the prayers and ask that you continue them for her recovery. Her faith has never wavered during all the medical trials she has faced in the last 8 years which include a major heart attack which the Doctor said she should not have survived, the breast cancer and chemo treatments and now this. She just says "God is not through with her yet."

Jacobs Chapel family and Pastor John
 Weather Situations around the country and the world
 Our Community and Country as Covid, Flu and RSV cases grow
 All front line workers and first responders
 Our Government Leaders
 The Ukraine Crisis.
 The Israel/Hamas/Gaza Strip Crisis
 (Our Shut – Ins) Nancy Eiler, Maria Roseberry, Melba Jenney,
 Norma Chastain and Betty Poole
 Pastor John’s Sister, Carolyn, looking for employment
 Pastor John’s Sister-in-Law, Sherry, recovery from surgery
 Car Jackings/Gun violence/victims in Louisville
 U of L staff as they deal with hospital construction
 Pastor John as he deals with medical issues
 Marille’s daughter, Betty Poole – for continued improvement
 Ruth Luker as she deals with chemo side effects
 Carl Luker as caretaker for Ruth
 Marille Poole – medical issues
 Marille Poole’s mother
 Nan Duncan, dealing with Long Covid issues
 Phil Duncan, dealing with medical issues
 Glenda’s brother, Terry, recovery from kidney transplant
 Barb Harvey – in Rehab Facility at least thru July
 Norma Chastain – not feeling up to par

CONCERNS



JOYS

Mission work done by this church

Special Thanks to everyone who has been supplying Sunday Morning treats

Thanks to those providing fresh flowers each week to add to the beauty of the sanctuary.

Ruth Luker has completed final chemo treatment.

Glenda is totally off oxygen.

***Note – this list of joys and concerns is not all inclusive. If you know of someone you want on the list, please let me know. Thanks!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June, July & August

Lauren Fogelman 6/2 Marla Fogelman 6/8 Nan Duncan 7/7 Maria Roseberry 8/5
 Wilma Bone 8/6 Ron Neely 8/10 Norma Chastain 8/16 Mary Lee Fisher 8/17



Phil & Shirley Van Winkle 6/21 Will & Lois Barger 7/18



“SIGNS OF THE TIMES” (submitted by Joyce Vibbert)



*SPECIAL DAYS AND/OR HOLIDAYS DURING
JUNE, JULY & AUGUST*

Friday, June 14 Flag Day In the United States, Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

Sunday, June 16 Father's Day Father's Day is a holiday honoring one's father, as well as fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. In Catholic countries of Europe, it has been celebrated on 19 March as Saint Joseph's Day since the Middle Ages. In the United States, Father's Day was founded in the state of Washington, United States, by Sonora Smart Dodd in 1910.

Wednesday, June 19 Juneteenth Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day and Cel-Liberation Day, is an American holiday celebrated on June 19. On June 19, 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation— which had been issued on January 1, 1863— was read to enslaved African Americans in Texas by Gordon Granger.

Thursday, July 4 Independence Day, known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America.

Wednesday, July 17 Ashura is the tenth day of Muharram in the Islamic calendar. For Shi'a Muslims, Ashura marks the climax of the Remembrance of Muharram, and commemorates the death of Husayn ibn Ali, the grandson of Muhammad at the Battle of Karbala on 10 Muharram in the year 61 AH.



TRIVIA QUESTION ONE – ANSWER – PLAYER’S STRIKE

In 1994, there was no baseball World Series due to a players' strike that began on August 12 and ultimately led to the cancellation of the remainder of the season, including the World Series. This labor dispute, primarily centered around issues such as salary cap proposals, revenue sharing, and arbitration, was one of the most significant work stoppages in the history of Major League Baseball. Despite efforts to reach a resolution, negotiations failed to yield an agreement, marking the first time since 1904 that the World Series was not held.

TRIVIA QUESTION TWO – ANSWER – BILL CLINTON

William Jefferson Blythe III, better known as Bill Clinton, was born on August 19, 1946, in Hope, Arkansas. His father, William Jefferson Blythe, Jr., was a traveling salesman who tragically died in a car accident three months before Bill's birth. His mother, Virginia Dell Cassidy, remarried Roger Clinton in 1950, when Bill was four years old. After turning fifteen, he adopted the surname Clinton as a gesture toward his stepfather. In 1992, Bill Clinton would be elected as the 42nd president of the United States, serving two terms from 1993 to 2001.

TRIVIA QUESTION THREE - ANSWER - SQUARE DANCE

If you live in the United States, chances are high that, growing up, you had to take square dancing in gym class. A square dance is a dance for four couples (eight dancers in total) arranged in a square, with one couple on each side, facing the middle of the square. Square dancing is strongly associated with the United States. Nineteen out of fifty U.S. states have designated it as their official state dance. From 1973 to 2003, there were over 30 bill proposals to make square dance the official folk dance of the United States.

TRIVIA QUESTION FOUR - ANSWER - PHILADELPHIA

Bruce Springsteen's song "Streets of Philadelphia" was written for the Tom Hanks film "Philadelphia" in 1993. The movie delved into the life of Andrew Beckett (portrayed by Hanks), a lawyer who faced discrimination and injustice due to his HIV-positive status. Critics called the song "somber" and "powerful," much like the tragic film in which it plays. With haunting melodies and soul-stirring lyrics, the song delves into themes of isolation, hope, and the indomitable human spirit amidst adversity. Springsteen won four Grammys for his performance, as well as the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Name That Tune Answers - from "The Faith We Sing"

- 1) Page 2149 "Living For Jesus"
- 2) Page 2167 "More Like You"
- 3) Page 2173 "Shine, Jesus, Shine"
- 4) Page 2207 "Lord, Listen to Your Children"
- 5) Page 2223 "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"
- 6) Page 2247 "Wonder of Wonders"
- 7) Page 2265 "Time Now to Gather"
- 8) Page 2270 "He Has Made Me Glad"
- 9) Page 2074 "Shout to the Lord"

Thanks to all who contributed to the newsletter. To me, it is so much more interesting with pictures and stories about the church family than being filled with things found on the internet. Please continue to submit pictures, articles or anything you think might interest our Jacobs Chapel Family. My email is joycevibbert@outlook.com, cell phone# 502-939-2932 or snail mail address - 8240 Rachel Lane Sellersburg, In 47172. The next newsletter will be in August 2024.