

# JEWELS FOR HIS CROWN

A PERIODICAL FOR  
CHRISTIAN YOUNG  
LADIES.



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012



## Visit our Blogs!

Bro. Mike has started a blog for our church at:

[straightpathsbiblechurch.blogspot.com](http://straightpathsbiblechurch.blogspot.com)

where he has already posted many great devotions for you to read. And now, I also have a blog at:

[jewels1959.blogspot.com](http://jewels1959.blogspot.com)

where I will be posting devotions, thoughts for the day, poems and sometimes a craft or two. So come by now and then and see what is happening on our new blogs. Please leave a comment or two while you are there!

~T. Miller

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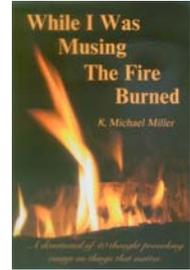
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Now available, "As The Days Go By", a collection of poems by Sis. Teresa Miller. The book is a 68-page paperback edition of original poetry. The cost is \$6.95 plus sh/hdl charges.

Also available, "While I Was Musing, The Fire Burned", a book of devotions written by Bro. Mike Miller, which many have already found a great blessing. The cost is \$9.95 plus sh/hdl charges.



You may order both books for \$15 plus sh/hdl by writing with your request to the address found on the back cover, or you may send an email to:

[teresa3@vamex.com](mailto:teresa3@vamex.com)

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*If you cannot be contented in singleness,  
you will not be contented in marriage...  
No one person can be the source of your  
contentment. Contentment comes only  
from God, and the sooner we start  
seeking it in Him, the better off we will  
be.*

*Richard D. Phillips and Sharon L.  
Phillips*

Keep from me Thy loveliest creature,  
till I prove Jesus' love infinitely sweeter.

Charles Wesley

(Written during his courtship.)

Let them also

that love thy name

be joyful in thee.

*Psalms 5:11b*



Sit still, my daughter! Just sit calmly still  
Nor deem these days—these waiting days—  
as ill!

The One who loves thee best, who plans thy  
way,

Hath not forgotten thy great need today!  
And, if He waits, 'tis sure He waits to prove  
To thee, His tender child, His heart's deep  
love.

Sit still, my daughter! Just sit calmly still!  
Thou longest much to know they dear Lord's  
will!

While anxious thoughts would almost steal  
their way

Corrodingly within, because of His delay—  
Persuade thyself in simple faith to rest  
That He, who knows and loves, will do the  
best.

Sit still, my daughter! Just sit calmly still!  
Nor move one step, not even one, until  
His way hath opened. Then, ah then, how  
sweet!

How glad thy heart, and then how swift they  
feet!

The inner being then, ah then, how strong!  
And waiting days not counted then too long.

Sit still, my daughter! Just sit calmly still!  
What higher service could'st thou for Him  
fill?

'Tis hard! Ah yes! But choicest things must  
cost!

For lack of losing all how much is lost!  
'Tis hard, 'tis true! But then—He giveth grace  
To count the hardest spot the sweetest place.

~J. Danson Smith

[A godly single] answers God's calling  
in her life while single, not waiting for  
marriage to give her happiness or  
purpose.

Richard D. and Sharon L. Phillips

**BIBLE WORD SEARCH!**  
BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

G	E	N	T	I	L	E	B	I	B	L	E	D
O	B	A	A	B	R	T	J	E	M	D	I	I
D	P	I	E	S	I	M	N	I	P	B	N	
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	J	A	H
H	R	P	S	H	L	H	R	P	I	E	P	O
E	S	R	A	L	V	E	A	N	S	R	T	L
F	E	A	C	E	A	H	C	A	T	U	I	Y
A	C	Y	R	H	T	O	L	Z	R	S	Z	S
T	U	E	I	E	I	L	E	A	Y	A	E	P
H	T	I	F	M	O	Y	J	R	H	L	N	I
E	E	S	I	N	N	A	J	E	W	E	H	R
R	W	E	C	L	F	A	I	T	H	M	L	I
B	S	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

JESUS CHRIST	PRAY	MIRACLE
SALVATION	TITHE	NAZARETH
JEW	MINISTRY	BETHLEHEM
GENTILE	BIBLE	JERUSALEM
HOLY SPIRIT	HOLY	BAPTIZEM
GOD THE FATHER	SACRIFICE	TEMPTATION
PERSECUTE	FAITH	SIN

CREATED BY MELINDA SKAGGS

**A** vital Christian, radiating that  
hidden beauty of the heart, is more  
attractive to the right sort of  
Christian man (the only kind you  
want) than the raving beauty who is  
hollow within. A woman who is  
developing her domestic abilities,  
who is reasonably attractive, and  
who is a vital Christian in her own  
right is an irresistible person.

Jay E. Adams

# *The Magic Thread*

(Condensed from the story told in “The Book of Virtues” by William J. Bennett)

This is a story of a little boy named Peter, who was strong and able, yet sadly flawed by an attitude of impatience. Always dissatisfied with his present condition, Peter spent his life daydreaming about the future.

One day while wandering in the forest, Peter met a strange old woman who gave him a most tantalizing opportunity—the chance to skip the dull, mundane moments of life. She handed Peter a silver ball from which a tiny gold thread protruded. “This is your life thread,” she explained. “Do not touch it and time will pass normally. But if you wish time to pass more quickly, you have only to pull the thread a little way and an hour will pass like a second. But I warn you, once the thread has been pulled out, it cannot be pushed back in again.”

This magical thread seemed to be the answer to all of Peter’s problems. It was just what he had always wanted. He took the ball and ran home.

The following day in school Peter had his first opportunity to put the silver ball to use. The lesson was dragging, and the teacher scolded Peter for not concentrating. Peter fingered the silver ball and gave the thread a slight tug. Suddenly the teacher dismissed the class, and Peter was free to leave school. He was overjoyed! How easy his life would now be. From that moment, Peter began to pull the thread a little every day.

But soon Peter was using the magic thread to rush through larger portions of life. Why waste time pulling the thread just a little every day when he could pull it hard and complete school altogether? He did so and found himself out of school and apprenticed

in a trade. Peter used the same technique to rush through his engagement to his sweetheart. He could not bear to wait months to marry her, so he used the gold thread to hasten the arrival of his wedding day.

Peter continued this pattern throughout his life. When hard, trying times came, he escaped them with his magic thread. When the baby cried at night, when he faced financial struggles, when he wished his own children to be launched in careers of their own, Peter pulled the magic thread and bypassed the discomfort of the moment.

But, sadly, when he came to the end of his life, Peter realized the emptiness of such an existence. By allowing impatience and discontentment to rule him, Peter had robbed himself of life’s richest moments and memories. With only the grave to look forward to, he deeply regretted ever having used the magic thread.

While walking through the same part of the woods he had walked as a boy, he met the old woman who had given him the ball and begged that she take it back and give him one more chance to have his life back the way it should have been. She agreed, and reached out for the ball. Thankfully, it so happened that Peter awoke from this terrible dream to find himself home again as a boy. Peter was never so impatient again and loved the life that God had given him as each day passed by.

*“Too often, people want what they want (or what they think they want, which is usually “happiness” in one form or another) right now. The irony of their impatience is that only by learning to wait, and by a willingness to accept the bad with the good, do we usually attain those things that are truly worthwhile.” ~W.J. Bennett*



# Prince Charming

*(Whom you are waiting for and what is most important?)*

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.” (Proverbs 12:15)

The music stops as you come into the room. All heads are turned towards you as you meekly make your way down the long staircase, your eyes searching out one face. Then, you see him at about the same time as he sees you, and it is as if the rest of the room disappears. He waits for you at the bottom of the stairs, takes your hand and brushes it gently with his lips. He holds out his arms to invite you to dance and as soon as you touch his proffered hand, the music begins in earnest. You were made for each other, waltzing around and around. His gaze says he will never leave you and your smile is radiant. He is perfect, everything you ever dreamed he would be.

But what of next week when the wedding is over and life’s demands take him away for hours on end? What do you do when his focus is not directly on you and you have endless hours to fill until he comes home to you again? How will you feel when he comes home from work tired and hungry, wanting dinner and rest, and does not feel like talking but would rather be left alone? “Well, he should consider that I have been here all day waiting for him with nothing to do! I have needs, too, you know and he should be considerate of them! I thought he loved me!”

Many a young bride has come through months of courtship and being the center of all the attention, only to find that after the wedding has been cleared away, real life comes pouring in like a flood. The dream-world of the “knight in shining armor” has evaporated and all that is left is the day to day business of life, and the girl who has sat around for years dreaming of a “garden of Eden” married life comes to the cruel awakening of reality. The climax of all her dreams took place on her wedding day, so what does she have to look forward to now?

This is not a new problem; it has been going on for years. Unfortunately, it seems to be getting worse instead of better. Books and movies pick out only the highlights of anyone’s life, never the everyday journey that is real. Girls sit for hours pouring over wedding dress magazines, wedding planners, and honeymoon vacation pamphlets, dreaming of the perfect wedding day. But is this what you should be focusing on? What is *most* important to you? The latest style of dress? The way you want to fix your hair? The number of bridesmaids that you want and what color they will wear?

It is a sad realization that most young people get married and find that after all the excitement of the courtship and wedding are past, they really do not know each other at all. She may find him to be very spoiled and lazy, maybe thoughtless or careless, and these are some of the traits that she had wanted to avoid in her

husband. He may find that she is whiny and demanding, inconsiderate of his needs, and careless in her appearance now that they are married; things that he had detested in the wives of his friends. But why did they not see these things before the wedding day? Where is this perfect mate that they married, the one that was always trying to please and look nice? The dream is gone, reality hits and it is not very pretty.

How can you avoid a nightmare like this? The Bible says that if we are going to make it in this world the right way, we must be sober. (*1 Peter 5:8*) Soberness, according to Webster, is to be free from inordinate (irregular and excessive) passions and overheated imagination. The world today is filled to the brim with excessive silliness, lack of accountability (accepting blame for the wrongs they do), wild imaginations and a lack of serious conversation. No one can be serious. They consider a serious conversation boring and “no fun”. Since when did everything have to be fun to be worth doing? Being serious does not mean being sad, dull or boring. This is a serious world that we live in and if we do not get serious about the way that we live, the devil has the advantage over us and sets our course on the paths of hell. *That is serious!*

So, let us think about this seriously. What should be our main focus when thinking about marriage? It seems to me that there are three main focuses that you should consider before you think of marriage: him, you, and marriage itself.

First, what are you looking for in a husband? Everyone has ideas about what they think would be the ideal husband; tall, brown hair, blue eyes, trim build, strong. But these have nothing to do with character, and that should be your main focus. Does he claim to be a Christian? Does he live it? How does he treat other people? How does he respond to his parents, particularly his mother? Is he proud, arrogant, and stuck on himself? Is he a hard worker or does he lay around the house and depend on his parents to take care of him all the time? Is he faithful to take care of his car, his business, his soul? These are just a few things that would be good to find out before you get all starry eyed about him.

Have you ever taken the time to write down some of the things that you would be looking for in the man who wants to marry you? This is a good tool for thought, but be careful what requirements you put on the poor man. I have known of girls putting such outlandish requirements on her prospective spouse that it crossed the line and became about controlling him. Keep the things that you write down on the spiritual and character level, not on forcing him to make promises about particular things in the future. When our focus turns in this direction, we are thinking in a selfish realm and not in the submissive sobriety that demonstrates godliness.

The next and most important focus should be on yourself. In some girls’ minds, this means outward beauty. They think they should be able to fit into a petit size 10 wedding dress or their life is ruined. But what about *your* relationship with the Lord? How do *you* respond to the authority of your parents? Is your focus on how to please God or on who is the cutest boy in church? Do you respect young men as

brothers in the Lord or do you flirt with and make eye contact with them to let them know you are available? A girl who will easily give her heart away in frivolous relationships before marriage will have trouble keeping her heart only unto her husband after marriage. This does not mean that you should not be friendly, but there is a fine line between friendliness and flirtation. If your heart and mind are taken with weddings, romance and guys, you will not be very successful in starting a marriage off on the right foot. The Bible says to “*gird up the loins of your mind*”, which means that it is up to you to think on the right things and focus on following the Lord instead of who thinks you are cute.

So let us consider what marriage is in the first place. Some think that it is falling in love and living with the man of your dreams in a “happily ever after” wonderworld. First of all, love is not something that you “fall” into. At least not the kind that will stand firm when the bills come due with no money in the bank, or when the baby takes so much of your time that he seldom sees you alone, or when a tragedy happens and one of you have to have constant care. If love is not more than something that you have fallen into when these things happen, your sandy foundation will collapse. Real love is a decision that you make to be totally surrendered to one man for the rest of your life. In your heart and mind, it should take the same place of importance as your decision to follow Christ. Marriage is the picture that God gave us as an example of the commitment that he wants us to make with him. It should not be taken lightly or carelessly but with much prayerful thought and godly council.

Those vows at the wedding altar are not only made to the man standing beside you, but also to God. “I will love this man until the day that I die, no matter what may come.” It should never be looked upon as a short-term trial; that if it does not work, there is always divorce. You should know by looking around you what divorce can do to a family. It not only hurts you and your spouse, but also children (if there are any), parents, siblings, other relatives, friends and church family; everyone involved in your life. Most of all, divorce hurts your own soul. When you and your husband are joined in marriage, you are suppose to be joined in the flesh (or in life) as well. That means that your two lives become as one life in the things that you do, the thoughts that you think, the purposes that you aim for, and countless other things as the common care of children and the worship of God. When divorce tears these two lives apart, it is as if you would divide a person in half; they are no longer whole. That is the reason why *most* divorced people can never find the peace and oneness in marriage that they long for.

“*Marriage is honourable in all*”, (*Hebrews 13:4*) but that does not mean that you should squander all your time while you are single in thinking about getting married. Use your time now wisely in getting to know more about the Lord and his Word, learning to serve your family and how to manage a household, and being a blessing to others around you. God wants us to redeem our time (*Ephesians 5:16*) so use your time carefully and wisely. If you do, when someday “Prince Charming” shows up at your door, you will be glad for the wait.

Notebook time! Find your notebook and sit down for a few minutes to answer the following questions. Again, answer them carefully and honestly, for your own sake. Make sure that you write the question first and then the answer. It will be enlightening in years to come to see some of the answers that you write down today.

1. What are some of the characteristics that you would like for your future husband to have? Try to stay away from physical qualities such as eyes and hair.
2. Define “character”. What are some of *your* character traits?
3. What are some of the things that you could learn about that would benefit you in the future, whether you marry or not? These ideas should be more than the obvious cooking, cleaning, sewing and other domestic responsibilities we all have. (If you have no clue, you can get ideas from your mother, grandmother, or other close lady-friend that you have.)
4. Peter tells us in 1Peter 1:13 to “gird up the loins of your mind”. That means we should think on purpose. Knowing that the focus of our thoughts ought to be on the Lord and on his kingdom, here are some of the ways that we can accomplish this. How many of these do you do? How many of them will you do now that you know about them?
  - a. Read your Bible and at least one devotion book to start each day. Keep a record of what you read, either dating the page or writing an entry in a journal.
  - b. Pick out something that you read in the morning that you can think about all day.
  - c. Think about your faults and what the Bible says about them. Draw (or print out) one or more of those verses and pin them (or frame them) in places that you will see them often to help you to overcome those faults. (If you are not aware of your faults, ask your parents or your siblings.)
  - d. Plan projects for each day that will keep your mind occupied in good things. If there are many things that you would like to do, make a list so you can focus on one at a time and get each done the right way. Too many projects at one time can cause you to do nothing for lack of organization.
  - e. Have a friend, sister or brother who will talk to you about what you read, pray with you about problems and share your joys.
5. Here are a few words that would be good to look up and think about:
  - a. Accountability
  - b. Responsibility
  - c. Respectability
  - d. Retribution

# Be Beautiful!

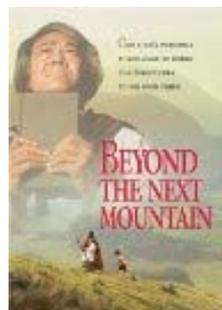
A redeemed woman is one who has entered into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through faith. Her sins are forgiven, and she knows God's love. She fears the Lord realizing that blessing for her comes through obedience to His Word. His commands are not burdensome to her and her heart is not set on worldly treasures. She attends regular worship and approaches her life with prayer. She enjoys healthy fellowship with other believers and bears observable fruit in ministry to others. She answers God's calling in her life while single, not waiting for marriage to give her happiness or purpose.

Take a look, then, at what you are presenting to men and ask what kind of man you will attract. If you are relying on charm and outward beauty, setting them forth in your dress and flirtatious conduct, then realize that it is only the foolish man who will fall into your trap. Especially if you are loud or contentious, realize that the Bible specifically warns men against falling for you. The godly man, the man who will make a loving and faithful husband, sees you and turns away. How much better for you to trust the Lord and cultivate those spiritual beauties that are calculated to draw a man of godly character and real wisdom and, better still, that are certain to make you precious in the sight of our loving Lord and God.

(Richard D. Phillips and Sharon L. Phillips, *Holding Hands and Holding Hearts*)

## Beyond the Next Mountain

In this true-life missionary thriller, a single copy of the Gospel of John finds its way to one of the most violent tribes in India, transforming its leaders from headhunters into heart-hunters totally committed to God. One lone missionary commits himself to a remote village in the jungles of India against great opposition from all sides. Forced to leave his new church, he leaves it in charge of one of his converts. This man's son, Rochunga Pudaite, is encouraged by his father to seek an education for the express purpose of translating the New Testament into his native language. James Collier, who also produced "The Hiding Place", did a wonderful job of bringing this true story to life for us to enjoy. It is a good movie and can be enjoyed by everyone, and the children will love the tigers and elephants! Available through Amazon, Christian Book, and others.



# Denim APRONS

## Style #1

You will need an old pair of jeans. Cut the legs off as straight as you can just below the pockets. Then cut the legs open along the seam that is NOT the flat fell seam. (The one double sewed, do not cut that one.) One leg will be the body of the apron. The hem end of the leg will be the top of your apron. If you need to shorten your apron, cut the extra



off the larger end. For the crotch curve, just cut up in beside the seam until the apron lies flat, then flap the pieces over and stitch (like the picture at right.) Then, trim the sides to match and the bottom straight across.



Next, cut a "J" shape 2" wide x 8" long on either side of the top for arm curve. Now, cut the other pant leg open at the seam. One will be sewn on either side of the apron sides to make it wrap around. Make sure to surge or zig-zag this seam as it will ravel with washing. Use the left-over pockets on the front of your apron. To finish the edges, you may bind them with purchased binding, or sew a 1/2" stitch all around the edges and snip down to that seam all around. Upon washing, this will give it a frayed effect. Add a strap (either of left-over jean or other strapping material) to each top corner of your apron, at least 24"-26" each in length. These will criss-cross in the back and be secured on the top corners of the back. This apron is easy to wear and to remove, making it a ready favorite!



## Style #2

This one just uses the back seat and waistband of a pair of jeans (maybe the ones you just cut up?) After you have this cut out, fix the crotch flap similarly to the way you did above. Now, make a cut between the two farthest belt loops, just above the double stitching above the pockets; then cut straight across, making the piece that you will remove look like a long, skinny triangle. Secure the raw edges with zig-zag stitches to prevent raveling. With two rectangles of scrap material, make a pocket to fit this opening and sew in. (Sew together facing each other so pretty side will show out of pocket.) Now, trim the edges of your apron and stitch or zig-zag. Make longer ties from the same material as the pocket and add any kind of trim. Your finished product should look like the one here. These little aprons are great when you are crafting or doing anything where you need to keep up with pens, markers, scissors, etc.



# Food!

## “Strawberry’s” Seasoned Pork Steaks

Pork Steaks

“Strawberry’s” Bar-B-Q Seasoning

Aluminum Foil



Purchase the number of pork steaks that you will need for the number of people you are feeding. Wrap each steak individually in a sheet of foil, sprinkling it liberally with “Strawberry’s” seasoning. Seal them as best you can and place on a baking sheet with sides. Bake at 260° for three hours. Before serving, open one end CAREFULLY and empty out the juices inside. (This prevents any burns to your family.) Seal them back and serve them on a platter. You can save the juices and make gravy with them. For added flavor to the gravy, sprinkle in a bit of “Knorr” Caldo de Pollo (chicken bouillon, usually found in the Mexican food section in Wal-Mart).

Order “Strawberry’s” Bar-B-Q seasoning online at: <http://www.strawsbbq.com>



## Bebop Baked Beans

Ingredients:

3 bacon strips, diced

1/2 cup chopped green pepper

2 (15 ounce) cans pork and beans

1/3 cup hickory smoke flavored barbeque sauce

1/3 cup packed brown sugar

2 teaspoons prepared mustard

Directions:

In a skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp; remove to paper towels. Drain, reserving 1 tablespoon drippings. Saute green pepper in drippings until tender. Drain one can of beans. In a bowl, combine both cans of beans, barbecue sauce, brown sugar, mustard and green pepper. Transfer to a greased 1-qt. baking dish. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees F for 35-40 minutes or until bubbly and heated through. Sprinkle with bacon.

## Triple Chocolate Cookie Balls

1 pkg. Chocolate instant pudding mix

1/2 cup cold milk

36 crushed Oreo cookies, about 3 cups

1 1/2 pkg. Melted chocolate chips

1 square Melted Baker’s white chocolate

Beat pudding mix and milk in medium bowl with whisk

2 min. Add cookie crumbs; mix well.

Shape into 42 (1-inch) balls. Freeze 10 min. Dip in semi-sweet chocolate; place in single layer in shallow waxed paper-lined pan.

Refrigerate 20 min. or until firm. Drizzle with white chocolate; refrigerate 10 min. or until firm.



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*Happy New Year from  
Jake the Goat!*