

*Jewels  
For His  
Crown*



*May/June 2010*



*A pericoma for Christian Young Ladies.*



### New Arrival!

We are proud to announce the new addition of our family;  
Levi Asher Green.

Levi made his appearance the morning of April 9<sup>th</sup> at a healthy weight of 6lb. 8oz. and is doing great. Ryan, Sarah, and family are all doing well and very thankful for a healthy new baby boy. Our little Paul is still with us, although seizures are still evident and eating is difficult. We wish to thank everyone for your prayerful support.

God's blessings to all...

~ Teresa Miller

~~~~~  
I learned more about Christianity from my mother than from all the theologians in England.  
~~~John Wesley~~~

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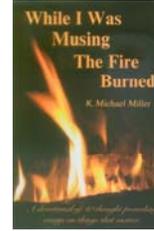


### Books for You!

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 the address on this page. You may also call directly at:

573-223-3308

~~~~~  
Marriage is a total commitment and a total sharing of the total person with another person until death.

~~Wayne Mack~~

~~~~~  
As God made man in His own image, so He made earthly marriage in the image of His own eternal marriage with His people.

~~Geoffrey Bromiley~~

~~~~~  
It often happens that when couples get their relationship to God straightened out, their relationships with one another begin to straighten out as well.

~~Wayne A. Mack~~





## Some Wedding Traditions

I do not believe in superstitions and “bad luck” is not a factor in a Christian’s life. But knowing where

some traditions and beliefs came from can be interesting and sometimes funny. Here are a few to consider:

The tradition for the bride to wear white began in the 16th century and is still commonly followed today. This is a symbol of the bride’s purity and her worthiness of her groom. The tradition became solidified during the time of Queen Victoria who rebelled against the royal tradition for Royal brides to wear silver. Instead, the queen preferred the symbolism which is expressed by wearing white. The brides of the time quickly emulated the queen, and the tradition has continued in full force to this day.

Traditionally brides have been thought to be particularly vulnerable to evil spirits. Many wedding customs and traditions were originated as an attempt to fight away such evil. The veil was worn with the belief that it would disguise the bride and fool the evil spirits. It was not until 1800 in Britain that the veil came to symbolize modesty and chastity. Today, the veil remains the ultimate symbol of virginity.

Cutting the wedding cake together, still a predominant ritual at weddings, symbolizes the couple’s unity, their shared future, and their life together as one.



The first negative judgment we find in Holy Writ is a judgment on loneliness. God said, “It is not good for man to be alone.”  
~~R.C. Sproul~~



*In marriage the little things are the big things...*

*It is never being too old to hold hands. It is remembering to say “I love you” at least once a day.*

*It is never going to sleep angry.*

*It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.*

*It is keeping this special place of intimacy exclusive, never allowing, in word or action, any intruder.*

*It is standing together and facing the world.*

*It is forming a circle of love that gathers in the whole family.*

*It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.*

*It is having the capacity to forgive.*

*It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow.*

*It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.*

*It is not only marrying the right person, it is being the right partner.*

## Bridal Shower Game Ideas

### **Biblical Wives or Couples**

Give your guests 30 seconds to write down as many wives in the Bible they can remember. Or you can choose Biblical couples, if you like. The one with the most wins.

### **Envelope Drawing**

Pass out thank-you card envelopes to everyone present and have them write their address on it. When everyone has one, have someone put them all in a special box or empty punch bowl and at the end of the games, draw one for a door prize. This will help the new bride with her thank-you cards.



*“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”*

Cornelia (Corrie) ten Boom was born on April 15, 1892, around Haarlem, in the Netherlands, as the youngest of four children. Her mother died of a stroke at the age of 63. Her father Casper ten Boom was a well-liked watch repairman, and often referred to as "Haarlem's Grand Old Man". Her older sister, Elisabeth (Betsie), was born with pernicious anemia.

They had two siblings- a sister, Nollie, and a brother, Willem. They lived in a house on Barteljorisstraat 19 with three of her mother's sisters: Aunt, or Tante, Jans (pronounced 'yunss'), Anna and Bep. Willem graduated from a theology school and warned the Dutch that unless they took action, they would fall to the Nazis. He wrote a dissertation on racial anti-Semitism at theological college in 1927 in preparation for his ordination. He married a woman named Tine and together had four children. Nollie, a school teacher, married Flip, a fellow teacher and they had six children one of which was named Peter. Corrie and Betsie never married. Corrie was in a relationship with a man named Karel, but Karel married another woman.

Corrie began training as a watchmaker in 1920 and in 1922 became the first female watchmaker licensed in the Netherlands. She was a very devout Christian and an active member of the Dutch Reformed church. In 1923, she helped organize girls' clubs, and in the 1930s these clubs grew to become the very large Triangle Club.

Corrie has long been honored by evangelical Christians as an exemplar of Christian faith in action. Arrested by the Nazis along with the rest of her family for hiding Jews in their Haarlem home during the Holocaust, she was imprisoned and eventually sent to the Ravensbruck concentration camp along with her beloved sister, Betsie, who perished there just days before Corrie's own release on December 31, 1944. Inspired by Betsie's example of selfless love and forgiveness amid extreme cruelty and persecution, Corrie established a post-war home for other camp survivors trying to recover from the horrors they had escaped. She went on to travel widely as a missionary, preaching God's forgiveness and the need for reconciliation. Corrie's devout moral principles were tested when, by chance, she came face to face with one of her former tormentors in 1947, a guard who had served in Ravensbrook concentration camp. He had since become a Christian, and although he knew that God had forgiven him, he needed to ask forgiveness from ones he had afflicted, also. "Fraulien, would you forgive me?" he asked with extended hand. "Jesus, help me. I know I must forgive him." As Jesus said in Mark 11:25-26, if we do not forgive others, He will not forgive us. She took his hand, and God gave her the forgiveness and love to say, "I forgive you, my brother, with all my heart."

In 1977, Corrie ten Boom, then 85 years old, moved to Orange, California. Successive strokes in 1978 took away her powers of speech and communication and left her an invalid for the last five years of her life. She died on her 91st birthday, April 15, 1983.

## *I Promise*

*Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. (Eccl. 5:5)*

We live in an unfaithful world. To find someone who will keep their word without fail is getting more rare with each year that passes. There was a time in history (and not so long ago) that a man could make any kind of transaction with no papers having to be signed or witnesses or notary public seal. With only the promise of a true man and perhaps a handshake, the debt would be paid, the deed would be done, the promise kept. Today, if you do not have the proper paperwork precisely processed, you could lose everything you have to a dishonest person. Even with the papers, some will try to cheat you and even take you to court to get their way.

We that love and serve the Lord Jesus have a duty to be honest. Dishonesty starts in our home, and so does honesty. I often tell my children that if you treat your family deceitfully and hatefully, that is the way you will treat your mate. Your character is built while you are still under the authority of your parents. If you are dishonest, hateful, and rebellious while still a teenager, it will not change just because you leave your parents' house. That is a lie that the devil loves to use, "If I were just on my own, I would live my life different and do better." There is no statement further from the truth.

Certain preparation should be made in the heart and mind of every young person before life-changing decisions are made. If a man begins to build a house and does not start with a solid foundation, that house will eventually develop cracks in the walls, warped floors, and could even fall all to pieces. Now a house is a big thing, worth a lot of money and something that you want to last for a lifetime. How much more you should want to be sure of a good foundation on which to build your marriage.

Most important of all is that you have a good relationship with the Lord. I am not just talking about going to church, claiming a place in a denomination, or even reading your Bible. I am referring to knowing Jesus Christ, walking with Him daily, learning from Him and His Word, getting to know more about Him that you may live more like Him. I have covered this in many of the other devotions but it is very worthy of repeating. Too many are trusting their eternal, never-dying soul to a shallow profession that will only doom them, while also hurting others around them with their

hypocrisy. Therefore, just because someone says they are saved and they go to church, look carefully at their life before you make any decision to consider them for a lifetime mate.

There are certain promises that you make when you stand before your marriage altar that are suppose to be forever. Today, you can write about anything that you want for vows, but when Bro. Mike and I were married, this is about all it said, “*I \_\_\_\_\_, take you \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wedded wife/husband. To have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness or in health, to love and to cherish 'till death do us part. And hereto I pledge you my faithfulness.*” Ours may have been a bit different, for I believe every pastor of our day used the same book, but it says what it should if you only heed it. I would like to look at each promise a little closer so that you will have a better understanding of each one.

“*To have and to hold, from this day forward.*” You become the possession of each other. Many women do not like that word, “possession”. They do not want to feel that they are any man’s possession. That is a worldly idea and is not of God. There is a thrilling joy in knowing that you are the exclusive possession of a man who considers himself your exclusive possession. Would you want him to think that you are not his “one and only”? It also means that you will be there for each other. There will be no more wondering about being alone or not having someone with whom you can share joys and sorrows, excitements and let downs. There will always be someone there for you from now on. Starting today, you will never be alone and neither will he.

“*For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer.*” Some young people go into marriage with the idea that when you walk away from your honeymoon and through the door of your new abode, life will be a fairy-tale dreamland. Hollywood has helped us to think this way since most all movies end happily. But real life is not like that. The everyday drudgery of just living can become stressful, especially if you have been accustomed to a busy lifestyle during your teenage years. And life is not always without drama. Accidents happen, troubles come, babies are born with problems and countless other things that can shake the best marriage.

What makes things better or worse sometimes hinges on what makes us richer or poorer. A great percentage of marital problems stem from money problems. When the job is shaky, when the rent or payment is due, when there are needs and there is just no money to buy anything, things can get very stressful. Just like Adam and Eve, we begin to cast blame on one

another instead of sitting down and thinking things out. A little management and a lot of understanding go a long way in keeping the love right in your home. You made a promise to love and cherish no matter what. This is where you discover that love is not just a gushy feeling, it is a decision. “I will love you even when the money runs out before the bills do. I will love you even if I think you spend too much and are not as conscience of it as I am. I will not down you, criticize you, belittle you (ESPECIALLY IN FRONT OF OTHERS!), or make you feel insufficient. I will love you, I promise.”

*“In sickness or in health.”* While you are healthy and full of life, it is easy to say that love will live on and grow strong. But in this uncertain life, tragedy can happen in the blink of an eye. There are many things that can cripple and maim your body but do not take your life. Can love still be strong? I am thinking of two couples whom I have known in my lifetime. One young couple had not been married for very long when they had a car accident which left her crippled and in a wheelchair for the rest of her life. Her husband has loved her and cared for her ever since. Through the tender love that he has shown her, their love has become strong and kept them through the years. In the other couple, the wife developed a brain tumor that slowly crippled her body. She became bedfast and had to have constant care. Her husband could not take the strain of her illness, divorced her and married another woman, leaving her in the care of their older daughter. Her dear daughter cared for her until her death but the man will forever carry the shame of leaving his afflicted wife.

*“To love and to cherish 'till death do us part.”* That does not mean until he does something that you do not like. Nor does it mean that if you ever get in a fight and he yells at you too much, that is grounds for leaving. If you miss home and he does not think you need to go all the time (or call your Mother all the time), that is still no reason to leave him. When you marry, it is for LIFE. *“'Till death do us part.”* That means that the only time that you have a right to leave him is when you walk away from his grave. So if you just do not think that you can commit that much to one person, stay single. It is better that you not vow those vows at all than to vow them and not keep them!

Another vow that is normally what comes before the, “I do”, is *“keeping only unto him/her as long as you both shall live.”* That means that all your flirting and teasing are all for him, no one else. It means that he is your best friend. You will not need a best “girl friend” to confide in anymore and he should not seek out other friends that he just can not live without. Your time, your conversation, your heart is all his and his alone. That does not

mean that you are to be reclusive, it means that there should be a relationship with your spouse like no other relationship that you have with anyone else in the world. *“A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.”* (SOS 4:12) The garden is one that includes no one else. It has walls around it to keep everyone else out and you must guard them carefully. This is one of the devil’s best tools, so beware. If he can break down the trust and security in your marriage, he can destroy a home. Divorce hurts so many more people than just two.

*“And hereto I pledge you my faithfulness.”* It is a pledge, a promise, a vow made that should not be broken. The world looks at marriage as a temporary thing but that is not the way God looks at it. He meant for it to be forever. Marriage was God’s idea, to show us how much he loves his bride, the church. He gave himself to win the heart of his bride and his love is true and never failing. To love and serve a good man that loves you as dearly as you love him is a whisper of Heaven here on earth. So prepare your heart and soul now to make those promises in sincerity and to keep them.

*“But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected:”*  
1 John 2:5a



### **Daddy’s Prayer**

Dear Lord above, oh, Father mine,  
I need your help today.  
My little girl is all grown up,  
I’m giving her away.  
I feel as if I’d like to be  
Like Zacchaeus, maybe up a tree.

I didn’t want to give her up,  
I tried to change her mind,  
But for each argument I’d have  
A solution she would find.  
I guess I may as well behave.  
Perhaps it’s better than the grave.

Oh, well, Lord, and if it be  
That I must do this thing,  
At least I’m glad she found herself  
This worthy one to bring,  
But could You please make sure that I,  
With broken heart, don’t start to cry?

~T. Miller (for daughter, Sarah, for her wedding album.)

## Books to Read and Music to Sing

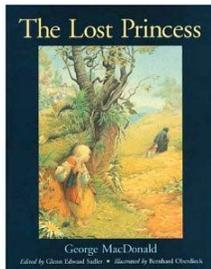


### *The Primitive Quartet*

Our family loves to listen to bluegrass gospel, but these days you must be careful which group you listen to. Of all the groups that we are familiar with, the Primitive Quartet has been the most consistent with their old-fashioned gospel music. For thirty-six years they have been the same. I think that is a really good record! Above all, each one has a good testimony that they freely share on their web site. You can read these testimonies and order any of their projects by going to: [www.primitivequartet.com](http://www.primitivequartet.com).

### *Bruce Frye*

If you have never heard of Bruce Frye, you are missing something special. When the devil loses his clutches on a soul it is a major victory for the kingdom of God. His testimony is worth reading and his music is worth listening to. Bro. Frye writes most of the songs that he sings on his CDs. He has three major projects available, "That Was Me", "Brothers Twice", and "Adopted", and another is to be released soon, "Almighty Lamb", which is a Christmas CD. I encourage you to look at his web site ([www.brucefrye.com](http://www.brucefrye.com)), read his testimony and enjoy the blessing of his music.



### *The Lost Princess by George MacDonald*

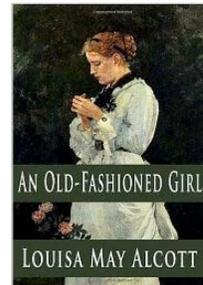
A Wise Woman kidnaps a spoiled princess and a spoiled shepherd's daughter. As a result, the girls and their parents learn what is truly important as the girls learn who and what they truly are. Read this thought-provoking work to see the path they must go by to learn all these things, one to a better life and one to her own way.

Though George MacDonald writes in a way that is difficult to grasp at first, he is one of the few authors that I have found that makes you think about the hidden message of the story as you read. He addresses many moral issues in this way.

### *An Old-Fashioned Girl by Louisa May Alcott*

Polly Milton never questions the way she is—until she goes to visit her cousins in the city. Her cousin Fanny looks too glamorous to be Polly's age, and wouldn't be caught dead playing in the snow. Will Polly ever learn to be like the other girls? And does she even want to? Sometimes being old-fashioned is right in style.

From the author of "Little Women", this little book will be an encouragement to you. It is one of our favorites.



## Crafts

### *Reception Table Illuminators*

Soft lighting on your reception tables gives a peaceful feeling to the festivities. At right, cheap wineglasses with a tea light insert are topped with a velum cone lamp shade and tied with a ribbon. Or purchase tall cylinder vases, fill them with fruit, flowers, jewel stones, or whatever is pretty. Fill with water to submerge your filling and place a floating candle on top. Use several different sizes together for candlelit centerpieces. To get the fruit to sink - let it sit in the water overnight. Fresh orchids look even more beautiful



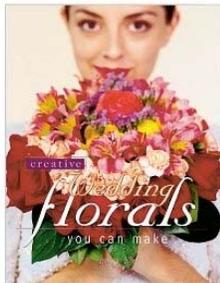
submerged in water.

### *Framed Marriage License*

Most couples-to-be miss a very important memorabilia when they overlook a decorative marriage license to frame later for their new home. This is a long-lost tradition that should be re-instated in all Christian homes. There are many designs that you may choose from on the web or



you can make your own if you have a computer. Have it on hand at the reception and have it signed right along with the official one. Have it framed later or have a pretty frame waiting at the reception and put it on display. This will make a beautiful adornment for your new home and a blessed reminder of the special day when you became husband and wife.



### *Wedding Flower Arranging*

Wedding flowers are always expensive. Florists make beautiful arrangements that can be copied at a fraction of the cost. If you have a friend or family member that is creative and would like to do your flowers as a wedding gift to you, all the better.

Fresh flowers are always the best, but if you have doubts about getting them all together the day before the wedding, you can always find some beautiful silk ones that can even be used as floral arrangements for your home later. Books on flower arranging can be found at bookstores and book sites, and supplies are easy to find there, also. Florists will provide flowers that are not readily available to you, but whatever you can use from your gardens or in the wild will give a more personal affect. Another lovely idea is to have your groom make or purchase your bouquet for you, being delivered by the best man on your wedding

day. Although this is a Mexican tradition, the thought is very sweet and makes your bouquet even more special. (Have a spare one to throw, if desired.)

## Recipes

### Tomato Chicken Over Rice

2 4-oz boneless, skinless, chicken breast  
1 Tbsp Montreal Seasoning  
1 Tbsp olive oil  
8 oz mushrooms, sliced  
2 Roma tomatoes, diced  
1 clove of garlic, minced  
½ tsp salt  
½ tsp pepper  
1/3-cup chicken stock  
1-cup rice, uncooked  
2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce  
1 Tbsp Italian Seasoning (dried basil and oregano)



\* Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Season the chicken with the Montreal Seasoning. Heat the oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. Place the chicken in the skillet and cook 2 to 3 minutes on each side, until almost cooked the whole way through. Remove the chicken to a plate. Put the mushrooms in the skillet and cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the tomatoes, garlic, salt, pepper, and chicken stock to the skillet. Cook 2 minutes. Put the chicken back in the skillet and place the skillet in the oven. Roast until the chicken is cooked through, 8 to 10 minutes. Meanwhile, cook the rice according to the package directions. Once cooked add the Worcestershire sauce and Italian Seasoning to the rice. If you are making a large quantity, the rice can be molded into a shaped pan, such as a heart, by pressing prepared rice (while hot) into the pan and allowing it to cool slightly. Turn out on a serving dish when ready for the meal. Serve rice with chicken, mushrooms, and tomatoes on top. This recipe makes 2 servings. Multiply as needed.



### Heart-Shaped Layered Sandwich

Use your favorite bread recipe and make a large “loaf” of bread by pressing the dough (after the first rise is done) into a sprayed, heart-shaped baking pan. You can use a 9” or larger, depending on how many people you are feeding, and make multiples if the crowd is very large. Bake the bread according to directions, turn out and allow to cool completely on a wire rack. With a long, sharp knife or a wire cake torte cutter, make three layers of each “loaf”.

Between each layer you may spread chicken salad or layers of cold cuts. Decorate the top of each “loaf” before serving with softened cream cheese, sliced olives, tomato rosettes and green onion ribbons. This is a great idea for a wedding shower or for a small reception.

For desert, try small heart shaped cakes. Bake them in heart shaped cupcake tins, using different flavored cakes if you like. After they are completely cool, soften a container of store bought frosting in the microwave (careful not to make it too thin!). While cakes are still on the cooling racks, pour a spoonful of thinned frosting on each one, letting it drizzle off the bottom. You may reserve the frosting drips on waxed paper and reuse them until all the frosting is gone. Let the frosting harden again, decorate cakes if desired and serve individually on decorative plates.



*Jewels for His Crown*  
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