



**Senior  
Solidarity  
Sentinel**

**MAY 2011**

**Answers to Last Month's Questions**

1. Isaac (Genesis 27:35)
2. Paul (Acts 23:1)
3. Pilate (Mark 15:9)
4. Jonah (3:4)
5. The centurion at the crucifixion (Luke 23:47)

**Back to the Bible**

**And find out:**

1. Who said, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."?
2. Who said, "See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"
3. Who said, "I die, and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."?
4. Who said, "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church."?
5. Who said, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel."?

**Monthly Truths**

"Minds are like parachutes; they only function when open." Thomas Dewar

**Scripture of the month**

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. Proverbs 3:7

**Something to Think About**

It's very reassuring when we surround ourselves with people who think as we do. Real growth, however, occurs during times of discord, when another person questions what we believe. While it can feel unsettling, having our ideas and actions challenged at times can expand our minds and hearts and help us realize more about ourselves.

Avoid getting defensive when someone questions the way we do things. Rather than viewing it as an attack, look at it as a growth opportunity. Listen to what they have to say before responding.

When someone challenges an idea you have, ask yourself if their views have merit. If so, take time to rethink your position before bringing your idea to the table again. ~ Billie

**Fascinating Facts**

Galatians is Paul's battleground against error.

People of Judah had infiltrated the young church, saying that while it is fine to accept Christ, the converts must also keep the Jewish law. This was a shattering blow to the doctrine of Christ's all sufficient sacrifice; for such logic concludes we are saved by works not by faith. Jesus plainly said the old and new ways couldn't mix. He spoke of the impossibility of putting new wine in old wine skins and new cloth on an old garment. Paul also pointed out the error of mixing two contradictory doctrines.

We must never underestimate the importance of this battle. Because Paul waged it and won, Christianity moved beyond being a local sect of the Jewish religion to become a worldwide faith encompassing men of all nations. Another important theme Paul presents in this Epistle concerns the fruit our lives produce. He said those who love Christ would overflow with love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. However, those alienated from God will spill over with lust, madness, strife, and anger. It is up to us which fruit our lives will produce.

~Billie

**Two Different Fruits**

Galatians 5:16-26

Just before he died, Lenin warned, "I propose to the comrades to find some way to remove Stalin from his position and appointing someone else who differs in all respects from Comrade Stalin in one characteristic-namely someone more tolerant, more loyal, more polite and considerate to his comrades, less capricious, etc." The world would have been far better if they would have listened to Lenin's advice. Tragically, Lenin's advice was not followed, permitting Stalin to spill out a little bit of hell on millions of innocent victims.

Evil men always destroy. Paul concludes his Galatian letter by explaining how evil flows from the hearts of those dedicated to the evil one. He then contrasts this with a life dedicated to

Christ. He describes these opposing results as “fruit of the flesh” and “fruit of the spirit.” Paul’s letter is a battleground for truth. Not long after Paul’s visit to Galatia, other Jewish teachers arrived, insisting the Gentile converts must be circumcised and obey the Jewish Law in order to be saved. Paul reminds them that salvation is a gift of God. No one can earn it.

Galatians 5:16 God’s Holy Spirit can control our evil primal drives. We don’t have to be driven by our desires.

Galatians 5:17-21 The fruit of the flesh destroys while the fruit of the Spirit enhances our lives. It’s easy to tell the tree by its fruit.

Galatians 5:22 The Spirit-filled life puts an end to destructive passions. If we know Christ, we are loving, joyful, and peaceful. “

Galatians 5:23 Faith in Christ changes our carnal nature. If we know Christ, we exhibit patience, kindness, and goodness.

Galatians 5:24 Following Christ remolds our character. If we know Christ, we are faithful, gentle, and self-controlled.

Galatians 5:25-26 Falling out of sync drags us backwards. To exhibit the fruit of the Spirit, we must keep in step with the Spirit.

The fruit of the Spirit is not a cafeteria in which we choose the ones that appeal to us; rather, it is a whole. We are to exhibit all the qualities Paul lists. He emphatically states that we cannot do this on our own. We must keep in step with the Spirit.

Until next time, Love Billie

### To Know Christ and Make Him Known

Last week I took my great grand-daughter to the park to feed the ducks. On our way there she stated that she wanted to see some baby ducks. I told her not to get her hopes up. When we were walking around the pond, we spotted a mother duck and her five babies. We were both thrilled. We sat down and watched them. The mama duck kept her babies together by quacking at them.

It reminded me of the story in the Bible about the Good Shepherd, and how the sheep know his voice. Other ducks were being very noisy, but those babies only heard their moms quacking. They were tuned in to it perfectly. We need to tune in to our shepherd’s voice, and to do that we need to get into His Word, and then we can make Him known to others. ~ Billie

### Agape Women’s Fellowship

The Agape Women’s Fellowship met at the home of Donna Reno, on April 4, 2011. The main topic of discussion was, our working with the Women’s Ministry, on collecting food for cot’s. We are also going to work with them to supply our youth with bags to hand out, when they return to school

and the “Raven Ministries.” We are so looking forward to working hand-in-hand with all the women at PCC. Our next meeting will be at the home of Norma Billing on May 2nd. Her address is 240 Paula Lane. All ladies are invited to attend, we try to start at 7:pm. ~ Billie

### Adventurous Seniors

Kaleb’s Kids is the third Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The program will be Children of Promise; A Student Choir, from Sebastopol Christian School. They have been here before and they are great.

On April 12<sup>th</sup> ten seniors, plus one guest ventured over to Sonoma to visit General Vallejo’s home. It was a beautiful day. We shared a pot-luck lunch, in the Sonoma Plaza, and had fellowship with one another. Later we wanted to get ice cream, so we went across the street to Ben and Gerry’s Ice Cream shop and to our surprise, they were giving away scoops of ice cream. So we indulged and it was so good!!!!

Our next get together will be on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at PCC for our annual brunch, at 10: am. Bring a dish to share and invite a friend or two or as many as you want. We will be playing “The Price is Right” again. If you have been to this before, you know how much fun we have playing this game. So mark your calendar, you don’t want to miss this one. Billie

### April Birthdays

5/3 Irene Opfer  
5/7 Jody Azevedo  
5/13 Donna Reno

### April Anniversaries

5/16 Warren and Faith Ross

### Doorbells

You never know with a doorbell  
Who may be ringing it  
It may be Great Aunt Cynthia  
To spend the day and knit;  
It may be a peddler with things to sell  
(I’ll buy some when I’m older);  
Or the grocer’s boy with his apron on  
And a basket on his shoulder;  
It may be an old umbrella man  
Giving his queer, cracked call;  
Or a lady dressed in rusty silk,  
With card-case and parasol.  
Or the grab bag at a fair  
You never know when you hear one ring  
Who may be waiting there!  
~~ Rachel Field

Love