

Cleaning the Cupboards of Your Heart

Today while cleaning cupboards
With neat, housewifely art,
I suddenly decided
To clean the cupboards of my heart.

I threw out CRITICISM
To the trash pile — to the fire.
I put in APPRECIATION
And worthwhile thoughts that will
inspire.

I threw out CONDEMNATION
Which says, "You're wrong, I'm right."
I put in CONSIDERATION
For all folks, brown, black or white..

Yes, out went COMPLAINING;
Grumbling about trivial things.
I put in SMILES and LAUGHTER
To ease the tensions each day brings.

Friends, let's all clean out cupboards
With help from God above.
Throw out PRIDE and HATRED, too;
Put in HUMILITY and LOVE.

- Author Unknown -

For All The Year ...

Mend a quarrel ... Seek out a forgotten friend ... Dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust ... Write a love letter ... Share some treasure ... Give a soft answer ... Encourage youth ... Manifest your loyalty in word and deed ... Keep a promise ... Find the time ... Forgo a grudge ... Forgive an enemy ... Listen ... Apologize, if you were wrong ... Try to understand ... Flout envy ... Examine your demands on others ... Think first of someone else ... Appreciate ... Be kind; be gentle ... Laugh a little ... Laugh a little more ... Deserve confidence ... Take up arms against malice ... Decry complacency ... Express your gratitude ... Go to church ... Welcome a stranger ... Gladden the heart of a child ... Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth ... Speak your love ... Speak it again ... Speak it still once again.

These are but inklings of a vast category; a mere scratching of the surface. They are simple things; you have heard them all before, but their influence has never been measured.

Adapted from *McCall's Magazine*, Dec., 1969

Winter - Cold, Snow, Ice: They're From God!

- * "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell there in." (Psalm 24:1)
- * "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22).
- * "God thundereth marvelously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend. For he saith to the snow, be thou on the earth ..." (Job 37:5, 6).
- * The Lord said to Job, "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?" ... "Out of whose womb came the ice? And the hoary frost of heaven, who hath gendered it? The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen." (Job 38:22, 29, 30).
- * He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes. He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?" (Psalm 147:16, 17).
- * "Praise the Lord from the earth, ... Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word: ..." (Psalm 148:7, 8).

* "This is the day which the Lord hath made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it."
(Psalm 118:24).

A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations, but look what they can do when they stick together.

The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.

News & Notes

INVITATION RESPONSES: Amanda Brandenburg - requests prayer for personal issues; Daniel Mehlmauer - confession of wrongs and restoration; Gary Rosohac - restoration.

COVERED DISH DINNER & EARLY P.M. SERVICE: TODAY at about Noon at Fellowship Bldg. This will be followed by an early worship service at 2:00 p.m. (instead of 5:30 pm.) at the church building. This early service time will apply only once a month following our covered dish dinners.

SYMPATHY: To Jim & Marilyn Hadley at the passing of their special friend, June Main (member at St. Clair Ave.). Marilyn helped Sis. Main manage many of her daily affairs.

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406. This class is for those who were baptized in the last three years.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited and urged to help in this good work.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES: Resumes this coming Tuesday, Jan. 9th at 7:00 p.m. Men, attend this good class.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Jan. 13th, 8:30 a.m. at the Columbiana, OH Church of Christ. Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer.

99th BIRTHDAY: Gladys Pryor (former member here) will celebrate her 99th birthday on Feb. 1st. Her address: Consulate Health Care of Orange Park, 1215 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, FL 32073. She would appreciate cards.

PANTRY: Oatmeal (round box).

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: For Steve Higginbotham. His address: 3318 October Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931.

SEASONAL ILLNESSES: Many of our congregation have been dealing with seasonal illnesses, and the list changes from week to week. Watch for their names on the overhead announcements posted at each service. Pray for their recovery.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *CARRIAGE INN, WINTERSVILLE*: Mary Jane Bowers. *At Home*: David Seff, Tim Adkins, Russell Martin, Mary Helen Riley, Linda Wiersbicki, Fred Larrimore, Blondenia Orr, Betty Henthorne, Doris Dunham, Tom Wells (ex-husband of Claudette Miller). *FOX NURSING HOME*: Mary Nelson. *CROSSROADS*: Sarah Miller, Jim Mick. *CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE*: Ella Beagle. *IN FLORIDA*: Ilene Rayl.

A NEW LEAF

He came to my desk with quivering lip — The lesson was done.

"Dear Teacher, I want a new leaf," he said, "I have spoiled this one."

I took the old leaf, stained and blotted, and gave him a new one, all unspotted,
And into his sad eyes smiled, "Do better, now, my child."

I went to the throne with quivering soul — The old one was done.

"Dear Father, has Thou a new leaf for me? I have spoiled this one."

He took the old leaf, stained and blotted, and gave me a new one, all unspotted,
And into my sad heart smiled, "Do better, now, my child."

"... if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
2 Corinthians 5:17

