

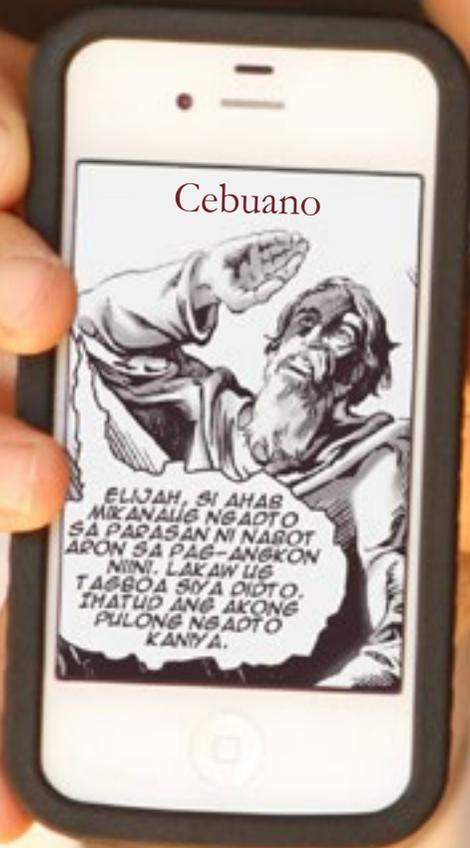


# NGJ

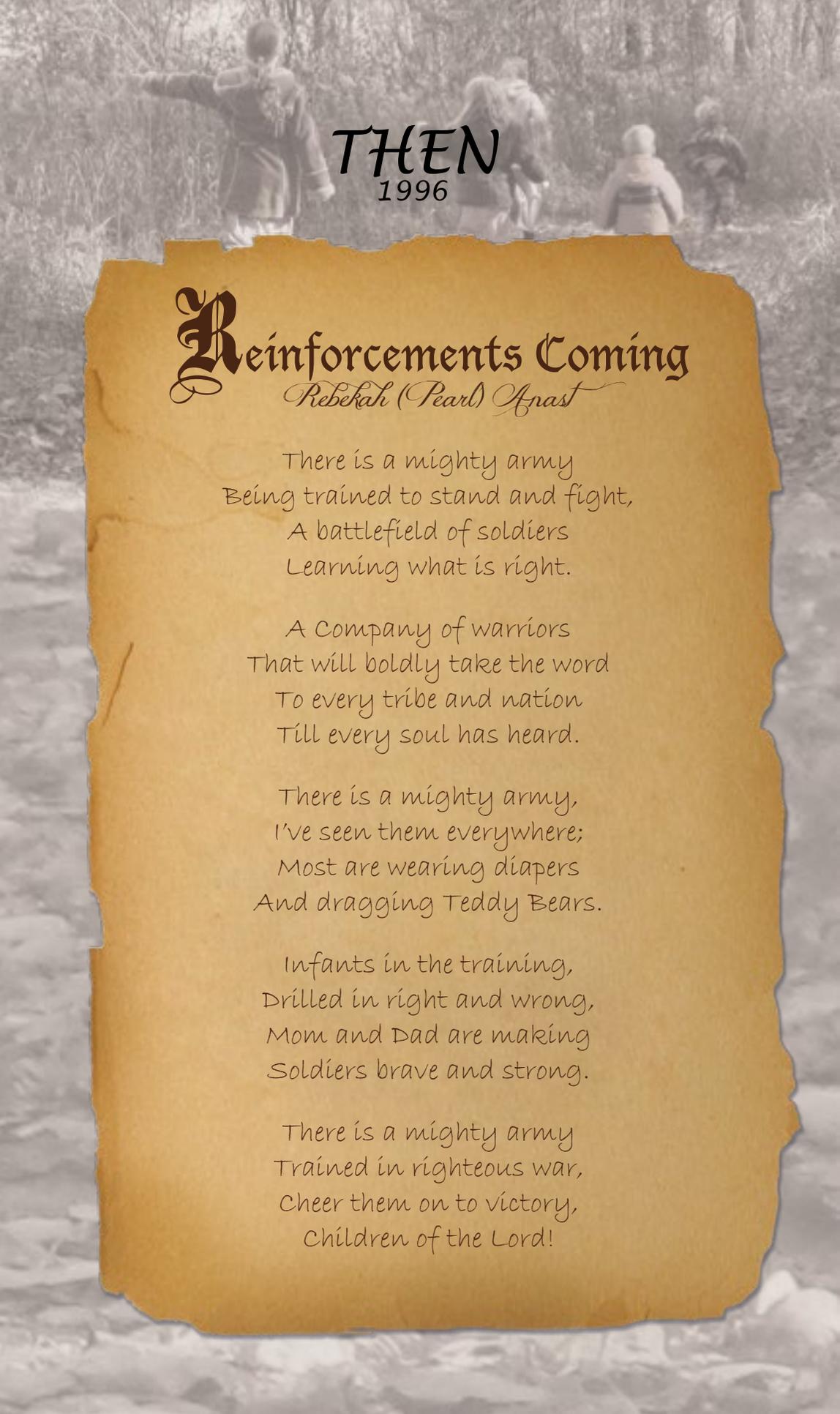
ministries®

"I have no greater joy than  
to hear that my children  
walk in truth." III John 4

**JAN-FEB 2014**



## The Battle Plan



**THEN**  
1996

**R**einforcements Coming  
*Rebekah (Pearl) Anast*

There is a mighty army  
Being trained to stand and fight,  
A battlefield of soldiers  
Learning what is right.

A Company of warriors  
That will boldly take the word  
To every tribe and nation  
Till every soul has heard.

There is a mighty army,  
I've seen them everywhere;  
Most are wearing diapers  
And dragging Teddy Bears.

Infants in the training,  
Drilled in right and wrong,  
Mom and Dad are making  
Soldiers brave and strong.

There is a mighty army  
Trained in righteous war,  
Cheer them on to victory,  
Children of the Lord!

**NOW**  
2014

# **You Are that Mighty Army**

*Debi Pearl*

There is a mighty army  
Now trained to stand and fight,  
A battlefield of soldiers  
Who has learned what is right.

A Company of warriors  
Ready to boldly take the Word  
To every tribe and nation  
Till every soul has heard.

You are that mighty army,  
We've watched you being trained;  
You've been given God's glorious armor,  
Now go in Jesus' name.

"Preach" was Jesus' last commandment,  
The very heartbeat of God  
Is giving folks the gospel  
That's why Jesus bled and died.

Millions are still waiting,  
They're just a click away;  
Give to them the gospel  
Do it—today!

# Called to Go

Jared Rowe, a coworker here at No Greater Joy, has a heart to reach the world for Christ. He is part of that younger generation that thinks outside the box. He heard about a lady who found a people group in India that is largely unreached, the Ansari people. She couldn't go there so she just sent the gospel to them. She made a simple ad in their language (Urdu), and then posted her ad on Facebook, targeting these people. It cost her \$12. In just two days, there were 90 clicks on her ad.

Think about it for a minute. That one lady is reaching people for Christ that a missionary could never reach. She did it from her home computer while her kids took their afternoon naps. I can see her at the Judgment Seat of Christ with a bunch of people standing around her. I can see her amazed, joyful face as she hears their thanksgiving. I can hear the Father say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." God gave her one small talent - Facebook - and instead of wasting it, she multiplied it a hundred-fold.

So our resident computer geek, having a heart to reach the lost, conceived of multiplying this lady's technique by enlisting thousands to do as did this lady. He calls it "iMissionaries." You can do this. You and your children can be missionaries right out of your home. Jared will equip you with all the knowledge you will need to find a people group and set up your own iMissionaries advertisement. Each day, you can see how many people have downloaded a copy of the Good and Evil Bible story book, all from your ad. Your children will be thrilled to know they are making a difference.

Did you know there are over 1.15 billion active Facebook users worldwide? What people group waits in darkness for you to bring the light?

-Michael & Debi

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world,  
and preach the gospel to every creature.”

—Mark 16:15



“My name is Erick. I am 23 years old and I work full time doing construction. I am participating in the iMissionaries project because I want to help reach more of the world with the Gospel.

Anyone who knows me can tell you that I am not ‘computer savvy.’ I do have a Facebook account and after 15 minutes of instruction I was able to run an advertisement for the Good and Evil book online in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. My ad just went live a few hours ago and I’ve already had 18 clicks on it.

I am excited about this opportunity, and I hope more people get on board. Technology can be used for good or it can be used to waste time. Use it for good!”

“As a stay-at-home mother with three children ages 4 and under, I am thrilled to have a way to reach souls that is within my grasp. It is an awesome feeling to be a ‘missionary’ right from my own living room! We placed an ad that said, ‘What happens when you die?’ It only cost us about 12 cents per click. Our ad ran for four days and we had 107 people click on it—that means all those ‘clickers’ who were curious about life after death went right to a page that presented the gospel to them! What if just one of those people came to Christ? From planting just this small seed, God can yield an amazing harvest. I am super excited to be a part of this!”



“And the gospel must first be  
published among all nations.”

—Mark 13:10

# The *Eternal* Battle Plan

By Jared Rowe

I've always had great appreciation for *Good and Evil*. It is the best printed tool besides the Bible I've ever seen for reaching ordinary people. I remember when the black and white version was first published and I got my hands on a copy. I read it straight through (I like to read) and was blown away with the clear message of redemption. I started dreaming of ways I could get that book into the hands of thousands of people. I could just picture myself standing in the back of an old pickup truck passing out thousands of *Good and Evils* to third-world people.

Now there's a much more efficient way to distribute *Good and Evil*. Instead of handing out hard copies, we can give it away free on the Internet.

I've worked hard at getting the *Good and Evil* comic online. Today it is freely available at <http://goodandevilbook.com> in close to 40 languages. We need to get this book in the hands of millions of people –will you help me? I can see an army of people all dedicated to getting the message of Christ out. Instead of just me sitting at a computer making a (small) difference, what if a thousand people where all on computers working together? Let me show you how this can be a reality: I've been building a website called [iMissionaries.org](http://iMissionaries.org). It is a training site where Christians will learn how to spread the gospel effectively through the Internet. Through sites like Facebook and Twitter we can reach out to millions



of people right from our own home! If we are connected to the peoples of the world, how come we're not taking full advantage of this? The answer is found in the very nature of "social media." By default these sites lend themselves to idleness, gossip, and critical thoughts. It's high time we take control of our social media and Internet habits. Instead of wasting time browsing endless status updates and getting our fill of the latest gossip, **let's use social media for the glory of God.** I can advance the Kingdom of God by myself one step at a time, but if **you** catch a vision for *His work* and join me, together we can make a HUGE eternal impact that will be felt all around the world.

*I believe that we could fulfill the Great Commission in this generation.* Billions of people are spending their time on this vast mission field called the Internet. We talk about using sites like Facebook and Twitter for evangelism, but in reality that's just a small portion of it. There is so much more that needs to be done.

The need is great, will you step up to the task? Read this article in its entirety here: <http://ngj.me/tbp>

# How *you* Can Get Started as an *iMissionary!*

I've outlined a battle plan below. Read it, follow it, and link up with me through the new website [www.iMissionaries.org](http://www.iMissionaries.org).

This needs to be a collaborative project propelled by the efforts of ordinary people like you and me. If you've got questions or ideas or just need help navigating the website and tutorials, send me an email at [jared@imissionaries.org](mailto:jared@imissionaries.org).

## *The Battle Plan:*

1. **Promote the message of the *iMissionaries* project.** You can start by "liking" our Facebook page, <http://facebook.com/imissionaries>



2. **Sign up for email updates on our website.** <http://imissionaries.org/signup/>



3. **Start the *online training* available from the website.** Choose your own level and start learning core concepts of Internet evangelism.
4. **Promote Jesus Christ** on Facebook and other social media. Start with Facebook, since you're probably already comfortable there and it's a great starting point.

*Have fun!*  
—*Jared*

## *Did you know?*

- There are over 150 active social media sites around the world. 16 of these have more than 100 million active users.
- If Facebook were a country it would be the 5th largest country in the world.
- 96% of people ages 18-30 live in "the country of Facebook."
- Twitter adds over 200 new users to their site *every minute!*



# Gratitude

*Gratitude bears witness to God's greatness.  
It preaches him.*

“Therefore will I give thanks  
unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen,  
AND sing praises unto thy **name**.

—Psalm 18:49

*Gratitude is worship expressed in singing.*

“Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. —Psalm 30:4

“To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever. —Psalm 30:12

“To the chief Musician, Altaschith, A Psalm or Song of Asaph. Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks: for that thy name is near thy wondrous works declare. —Psalm 75:1

*Gratitude is appreciation. It is thankfulness.*

“O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. —Psalm 107:1

“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. —Psalm 118:29

“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. —Psalm 136:1

*Gratitude continues in times of trouble. It is prayer.*

“Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praise. —Psalm 106:47

—Debi



# Family Proverbs Time

By Michael Pearl

*Wisdom is the principle thing.*

Sometimes my grown children mention a good memory from their childhood. Many things I have forgotten because they didn't seem notable at the time. But one thing I recall very well—our family study of the book of Proverbs. I remember being driven by certain knowledge—a fear even—that the world was a gobbling machine with a thousand ways to take a bite out of my children and leave behind moral zombies. When we adults have traveled a long and dangerous path, barely surviving, incurring a few scars and enough horrid memories to provoke a lifetime of nightmares, and we know our children must travel the same path now made more treacherous by the moral decay of our society, it should cause us to fear and should stir us up to prepare them to overcome. Far better is wisdom learned through admonition than

wisdom accumulated through failure and regret.

The book of Proverbs is written to impart wisdom, utilizing the word *wisdom* 54 times, *knowledge* 42 times, and *understanding* 64 times.

*“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her”* (Proverbs 4:7, 8).

*“For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding”* (Proverbs 2:6).

**Wisdom, knowledge, and understanding** are the holy trinity of human maturity. Thank God, he gave us a book entirely devoted to imparting this three-pronged shield of defense against the stupidity and deception of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Much of what I taught the kids

from the book of Proverbs was with the intent to cause fear—not that they should be scared, but that they should possess a wholesome fear of the dangerous snares they would encounter in life. I wanted them to be fearful of falling for the folly of the sirens’ call, to know their weaknesses, and to be able to identify the pitfalls and lies so appealing to fallen human condition. Forewarned is forearmed because it creates a healthy fear.

*“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding”* (Proverbs 9:10).

The phrase “fear of the LORD” is found 14 times (2x7) in the book of Proverbs.

*Much of what I taught the kids from the book of Proverbs was with the design to cause healthy fear.*

Everyone well remembers family Proverbs time. It was our shield and sword against the enemy. We were not religious about our family study times. We didn’t stop swimming early, or come home from hunting tired, and then try to squeeze in our “devotionals” before bedtime. There were times when we would go most of the summer without having our

Proverbs time, but in the winter months when the evenings were long and the kids were bored, we might have a family study every evening for a while. We all enjoyed it, but it came in seasons like everything else. Be sure, when our children look back on their childhoods, they remember well our family Proverbs time.

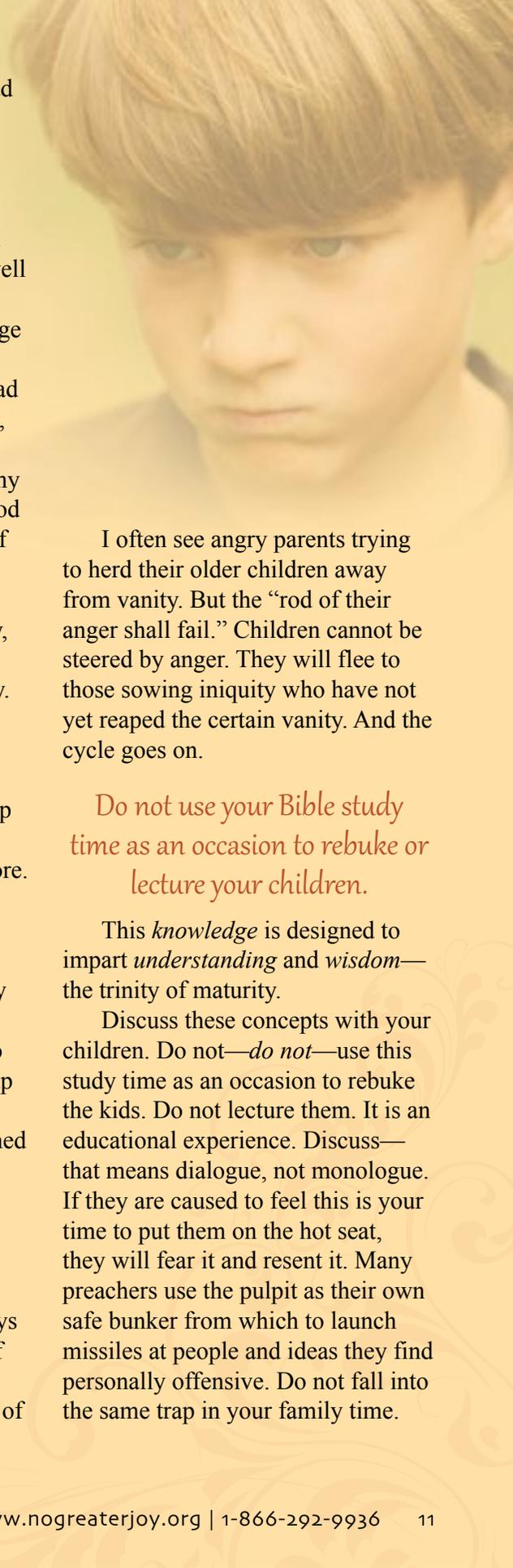
Everyone got comfortable, little ones standing on their heads, the older ones lounging like only teenagers can, each with an open Bible—Authorized, Traditional Text of course; no pretend bibles like the NIV. I opened to the place where we had stopped the previous session and we read it verse by verse, word by word, considering every sentence in its context. It was not an academic approach. The kids chimed in and gave their ideas, offering examples, maybe recounting a story from their own experience that illustrated the point at hand. It was a fun time. We discussed and analyzed every passage, even the ones on sex and immorality.

We will continue with Proverbs 22, where we stopped in the last issue.

*“He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail”* (Proverbs 22:8).

Children can understand the law of sowing and reaping. You





sow corn seeds, you reap cornbread and chicken feed. You sow thorns, you reap pain. Encourage them to talk about their experiences of sowing and reaping in the natural realm—garden plants and flowers. One notable experience the kids will remember is my failure to purge a stalk of Johnson grass from the edge of the garden. In the fall the seeds were carried by the wind and spread over my garden. The next summer, the kids had to fight the spreading grass to keep it from dominating my tomatoes and corn. They understood that you reap what you sow even if the sowing is unintentional.

If you sow iniquity when you are young, even if it is fun iniquity, secret iniquity, little-bitty iniquity, you will most certainly reap vanity. Vanity is emptiness, loneliness, sadness, meaninglessness, futility come to fruition. The thing about sowing and reaping is that you reap the same kind you sow, you reap much later, and you reap much more.

It is important to occasionally point out the ugly reaping process in the lives of people the children know, or even people that you may come across on the street or while shopping. Use your imagination to flesh out possible events that led up to a man's homelessness, a girl's debauchery, or a drug addict's ruined life.

The text continues, "and the rod of his anger shall fail." When one reaps what he has sown and experiences the vanity, he will become angry. Anger almost always springs from blaming the object of one's anger. The rod of anger will fail to bring satisfaction. The "rod of his anger shall fail."

I often see angry parents trying to herd their older children away from vanity. But the "rod of their anger shall fail." Children cannot be steered by anger. They will flee to those sowing iniquity who have not yet reaped the certain vanity. And the cycle goes on.

*Do not use your Bible study time as an occasion to rebuke or lecture your children.*

This *knowledge* is designed to impart *understanding* and *wisdom*—the trinity of maturity.

Discuss these concepts with your children. Do not—*do not*—use this study time as an occasion to rebuke the kids. Do not lecture them. It is an educational experience. Discuss—that means dialogue, not monologue. If they are caused to feel this is your time to put them on the hot seat, they will fear it and resent it. Many preachers use the pulpit as their own safe bunker from which to launch missiles at people and ideas they find personally offensive. Do not fall into the same trap in your family time.



***“He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor” (Proverbs 22:9).***

God reserves special blessings—which I take to be an increase in one’s net income—for those who give their bread to the poor. Teach your children to give to those who need. The only effective teaching is example. My children have seen me give to the poor. One time I was shopping in Wal-Mart during the Christmas season. The greeter lady standing at the door was old and looked tired. The rubber mat on which she stood did not look thick enough to prevent the bones in her legs from aching. I spoke to her kindly upon entering. While in the store, I thought about her trying to make a minimum wage to support herself, so on the way out, I handed her a one hundred dollar bill. I didn’t tarry even a moment, not giving her

time to protest or thank me. The kids looked back and smiled at the wonder on her face. At the time I was not thinking about producing an example of giving. It was just that at the moment I had a “bountiful eye” and I wanted to bless her. I have been blessed. My children were blessed. Even my dog is blessed.

When your children make any move toward giving to others, praise their actions and speak of the joy they are bringing to others.

If you are acquainted with a poor family, encourage your children to shop in secondhand stores for clothes that will fit the poor children, and then teach them how to give with grace, not letting the left hand know what the right hand is doing (Matthew 6:3).

***“Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease” (Proverbs 22:10).***

This is a great passage, very much needed in most families, especially for teenagers. Is there contention and strife between your children? Do you have a scorner in the family, a daughter, perhaps, who regularly reproaches her younger siblings? It seems to be a contagious disease; a girl goes through puberty and suddenly her younger sisters are nothing but an annoyance, so she scorns them, holds them in contempt. They are suddenly “stupid.” You hear, “Stay out of my room; don’t touch my stuff. Go away.” The passage says that if you cast the scorner out she will take contention and strife with her.

In a social circle you can cast out the scorner, but you can’t turn your thirteen-year-old out onto the streets. So how do we deal with the issue?

You start by shining the light on her scolding face and caustic words. The Word of God is light and it is powerful. When passages like this one and the other 21 verses that speak about scolding are discussed and analyzed in a family setting, it is powerful and efficacious.

Don’t make your daughter the object of an inquisition. Don’t say, “We are going to have a Bible study on scolding so we can see how bad Suzie is.” That is the beauty of having regular studies. You will come across passages like this one, and your daughter will not feel that it is a personal attack. But she will see the disgusting side of her behavior.

Further, when your daughter is aware that the entire family now has a name and description for her scolding, she is not going to want to drink from that well again, knowing that the younger children are not going to feel intimidated by her

strange tirades. They are going to immediately identify her as a scorner and feel sorry for her pitiful state of mind. She will be forced to judge her condition as sin and ugliness.

But what if the scolding continues after the teaching? Then it is time to publicly label her as a scorner that should be “cast out.” When she scorns, separate her from the social event in the name of casting out the scorner. If the family is otherwise happy and loving, having a great time doing lots of interesting things, getting along in fellowship, she is going to want back in, and the price she must pay is peace and respect for everyone in the clan.

The way to approach your study on scolding is to have the children act out scolding. There should be lots of laughs. It is a beautiful thing. When children dig down in their experiences and concoct scolding scenarios, they are examining their own attitudes and passing judgment on them. It is like a vaccination against scolding. It is like scrubbing their souls with a scouring pad.

*The way to approach the study on scolding is to have the children act out scolding.*

*“He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend” (Proverbs 22:11).*

This passage well follows the one above about scolding. I see it as a continuation of the thought, offering a contrast to the dark heart of the scorner. If you love a pure heart—that is, you value living in a state of inner righteousness, with purity of thoughts as well as

actions—your lips will be filled with gracious words rather than scorning, so much so that the king will want to befriend you. So rather than be a rejected scorner, you become a favored friend of the king. You can't fake a pure heart to people who know you. As a man—or child—thinks in his heart, so is he.

Tell your children, “If you want righteous people to like you, you must exemplify what they love, and that is pureness of heart and gracious lips.”

Ask the children to share anecdotes of family or friends who exemplify grace in their speech. You might ask them to make an effort the next day to speak gracious words to every member of the family. Afterwards, in the next meeting, have them share the episodes and discuss how they perceived each.

***“The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, and he overthroweth the words of the transgressor” (Proverbs 22:12).***

Verses 10, 11, and now 12 all contain a reference to speaking. On the one hand are words of scorn,

and on the other are gracious words; and now we read of “the words of the transgressor.”

“The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge.” Knowledge is one of our three key

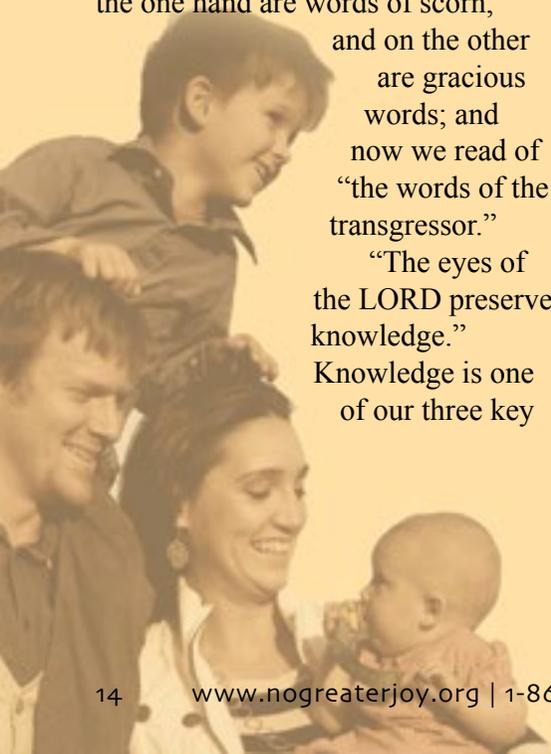
words—*knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.*

“The eyes of the LORD” represent God’s oversight. The God who sees and knows all is actively preserving *knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.* You have God on your side when you speak with grace, but God will overthrow the boastful pronouncement of the transgressor. There is no prosperity in scorning, but there is divine support in words of grace.

Lead your children to understand that with every word and thought they are taking sides, either with God or against him. “Train up a child in the way he should go...”

***“The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets” (Proverbs 22:13).***

This verse provides parents with a humorous retort when a child justifies his laziness by referencing hardships he will encounter in performing a chore. First explain what a sloth is—a slow-moving mammal that just hangs around doing nothing. A slothful man (child) will excuse himself from leaving his lounging spot by saying that if he goes outside he might be eaten by a lion. There is always a reason not to exert oneself in work. It is either too hot or too cold. It is raining or may rain very soon. The ground is muddy or one needs to wait for the snow to melt. A farmer who waits for everything to line up before he tends his crops or animals will end up receiving subsistence checks from the government, taking money away from working people who are out there dodging the lions and planting in the rain. So when a kid excuses himself from work, laugh and say,



“There is a lion in the streets; I shall be slain.”

***“The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein” (Proverbs 22:14).***

Here is a verse that I appreciated as my boys were approaching puberty. But I didn’t wait until they started staring at the rose-red lips of strange women before I taught this passage. In our Proverbs time, I always brought up some public example of a boy or man becoming ensnared by a female. Many times I warned them, “When you go through puberty you will lose your mind. You will feel like that rooster taking care of 20 hens.” You would have to have owned a flock of chickens to appreciate that reference. I will just say the rooster keeps very busy making sure the eggs are fertilized and then crows about it every morning, waking the hens up early.

God abhors a man or boy who succumbs to his natural, fleshly drive, allured by the flattering words of a strange woman. To go there is to fall into a deep pit and be hated by God.

***“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him” (Proverbs 22:15).***

Here is a good one. Children are born devoid of understanding but with a body full of drives. That foolishness lodges in their hearts and expresses itself in nonsensical actions and giddy stupidity. I saw it in my own children—all of them—at some time or another. It is disgusting, making you question whether or not they actually bear your genetic lineage.

Read this verse as a family and ask your children what it means. Don’t be hasty. They will have greater understanding if you let them work it out. Ask for examples of foolishness in others. Have them share their own experiences of foolishness. Ask, “How did it make you feel? What do you think of others when they are foolish?”

### *Start your own Family Proverbs Time.*

I cannot emphasize enough how powerful a tool is this family Proverbs time. This is proactive training that will prevent a multitude of sins.

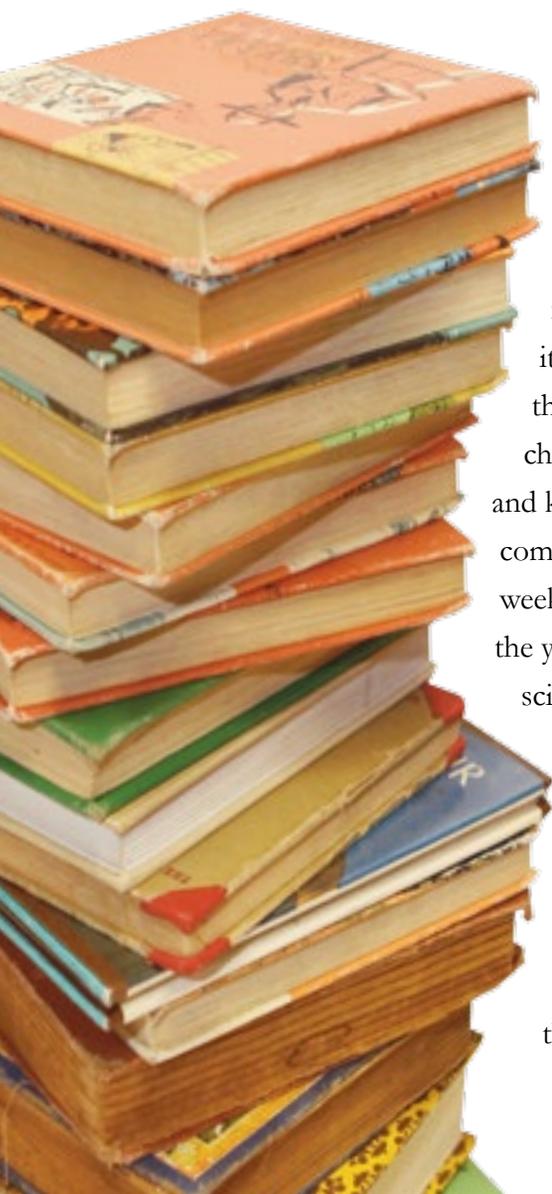
“The rod of correction shall drive it far from him.” The modern child-behavior (so-called) experts fault us for using the divine enforcer, but look at their children and the fruit of their 50-year reign of permissiveness. Their schools have metal detectors, graffiti on the walls, thousands of teachers assaulted every year, drug-crazed students, sex in the classrooms, and a great percentage of the kids never graduate. They cultivate foolishness, but we Christian homeschoolers have a tool to purge our children of foolishness. We use it with reverence and joy, knowing we are working for the good of the child.

Start your own family Proverbs time, and then write me and share your experiences. If you like this study, we could address it again. Let me know.

*“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 1:4).*

*~ Michael*

Excerpt from *The Big Book of Homeschooling*, coming in 2014!



## Three Week Courses

My children learn best when we all focus on one subject until we complete it. We study science and history like this as well as other subjects. My older children love to open up a science book and know they can work on it until it is complete. So, we all study science for three weeks. The older children learn along with the younger as they help them read their science books. I learn as I read along with my older children. We do science experiments together, go out hunting earthy things, and grow slime and all the other weird things that go along with science. On camera, each child finishes up with a summary of what they learned.

# Equine Studies

I am a “letter of the law” mama. I have always followed the curriculum page by page as if it were the Bible, and have thought poorly of those who did not. I called all other types of school “silly distractions.” Then, I had a visionary daughter; obedient, kind and loving, and willing to obey, but so very far behind in her ability to study and learn. It alarmed me that for blocks of time she seemed almost sad. She kept saying she really wanted to be a horse whisperer. After reading NGJ magazine, I knew I had to allow her to do school her way. So, in the place of her regular school books, she began watching and reading everything on training horses. She worked to save money so she could pay for horse riding classes. She more than excelled. Within the year, she was teaching volunteer classes. People—both children and adults—began to pay her for private lessons. Her clientele grew. Now, her interest has moved into equine nutrition, massage, and medicine. When she is not riding or teaching, she is studying. The once poor reader now pores over medical books like they were a teen magazine (which she deplors). And yes, the once sad, defeated child now talks with great confidence and has an endless stream of ideas for her future. I often wonder what would have become of my different child had I pressed her into my “dead works” mold. I am so glad I listened to my heart.



Debi says

2¢

*“I love this! This child was allowed to follow her own vision.”*



# Debi Teaches Truth

## Schooling That Works

Do some of your children hate school? If so, it is probably because what is being taught does not translate into real life. Learning something new should spark creative thinking. It should stimulate the mind to ask why, what, how, or when. Learning is like good tasting, nourishing food for the brain; the body simply craves, needs, expects, and lives by good quality knowledge. There is no joy or satisfaction apart from personal growth, fulfilling the yearning to know. God instilled in us the drive to learn, excel and use that know-how to help others. If your children hate to learn, then they are either learning the wrong thing or it is taught the wrong way, and the results will be poor both in the mind and in the soul. Stop, dump your curriculum and start afresh. This time, remember the end result is to instill a love to learn. The pursuit of knowledge and wisdom is best gained when there are hopes and dreams and a struggle to overcome. Our children should be constantly stimulated with possibilities. A child performs best when focused and committed.

### Example for very young child:

For a very young child, a daily focus could be learning about one particular animal and then preparing to share that information with the family. The whole day of learning would be woven together. Art, math (counting days of gestation which includes using a calendar and number of babies carried), reading, language, writing, and studying YouTube videos about the animal. Then, at the end of the day, the child learns the rewards of how to share his knowledge with others.

Today, my grandson ate his first fig picked from the tree. As he was eating the fig, he noticed how sweet it was and wondered what percentage of sugar was in a fresh fig. Because his mind was already stirred by the fig, we changed our day's homeschool plan over to the study of figs. We "Googled" figs and read about how to plant them, where they grow, how to get more fruit from each tree by breaking off foliage, and then we studied

how to preserve and cook with figs. After several hardy discussions, we studied the nutritional quality of figs. We both learned, and, when his mama came in the door, he announced to her that the fig was the most nutritious of all fruits.



## NEW BOOK!

### *Homeschool Resource*



Homeschooling pioneer and veteran Debi Pearl combines her over 35 years of experience and sound wisdom with the input of other successful homeschool mothers in this must-have homeschooling guide. Includes an extensive list of excellent resources for the busy homeschool mother. A great addition to every homeschool family library! Illustrated and in full color!

The BIG Book of Homeschooling  
\$19.95 Book

Coming January 31, 2014!

## "Midas Touch" Response

On October 25th I came across the article "The Midas Touch" by Debi Pearl. Since we had just read Proverbs 24 (referenced in the article) the previous day, I decided that it would be good to read the article as a family after breakfast. The children were familiar with the idea of helping others; it's a part of who we are as believers. One example in the story struck a nerve. We live on a small farm and know the value of hay. My older children were in disbelief that the teenagers in the story would let a couple of farmers struggle to save precious hay from an approaching storm and not offer to help.

We have raised our children to notice when someone needs assistance and to be helpful not only when asked. We model this when we help others buy groceries, push a car out of the intersection, or help clean up after the fireworks on the Fourth of July.

So it wasn't a surprise when on the next day my oldest son at home called to tell me that he had finished work and had stopped down at the park to help set up for a community festival. Once a year in our small town, an older gentleman who grew up here but moved away and became successful throws a fall festival for the community. My son was on his way home when he noticed that they could use some help setting up the tables.

When our family went to the event, our son and oldest daughter helped with the children's games. At the end of the event, the gentleman's niece told me how impressed she was that two teenagers would just step up and volunteer their time. Both of them were publicly thanked for their service, but in private the well-to-do uncle offered his future help if our teens ever needed anything. Seeing a need, filling that need, and then knowing that you have done a good job by bearing another's burden is its own reward. But sometimes doing the menial or small tasks of setting up or clearing up can yield blessings far beyond the value of the task performed.

Greater than being blessed for not getting weary in doing well, it was a testimony to the niece and her uncle, and hopefully that will lead to sharing the gospel with them and others. Thank you, Debi, for reminding us of the value of training the next generation to step up and serve.

Reader

## A Blessing to Her House

Dear Mrs. Debi,

My name is Stephenie. I am the wife of a pastor and mother of five beautiful children. I am not very old with my spiritual birthday. I have only been saved for four years now. Right after I gave my life to the Lord, someone shared your book **Created to Be His Help Meet** with me. It was the first entire book I have read since I graduated from high school.

That book changed my life. I am by no means belittling my Lord for what he did by saving me. I am saying that through His people (you) He has made me who I am today. I had a good marriage before I read your book. But now I have a glorious marriage. By reading your book and studying the Word while doing so, gave me a love for the scripture and a desire to write.

I want to thank you for obeying God and not compromising in any way with any of your books. I love them all and have my husband and teenagers reading them as well. Every copy I buy I end up giving to somebody to help save their marriage. And it always does. My husband and I encourage young couples to read the Help Meet series.

You are my wise older woman I look up to. Although you do not know me, I want to thank you for always helping me through any trial I encounter. Your children are so very blessed to have you, and through your material, I think my children will one day think I am a blessing to them.

If you ever wonder if you make a difference or if it is ever worth the struggles, you can think about me and everybody I have shared a copy with.

Thank you!

*Stephenie*

*From Our Mailbox*

# Homeschooling News

By Bobbie Sue Johnson



The air around a lightning strike is five times hotter than the surface of the sun... which means that the air around a lightning strike is approximately 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit!



WOW



George Washington



Did you know that we Americans owe our very existence as a country to a homeschooler? The Father of our country was a surveyor, general, and president, and he was homeschooled! George Washington's home education shaped his life and our country!



I help my mom by giving my sister  
TV he feedings I also play with her and  
take her to school in her wheelchair.

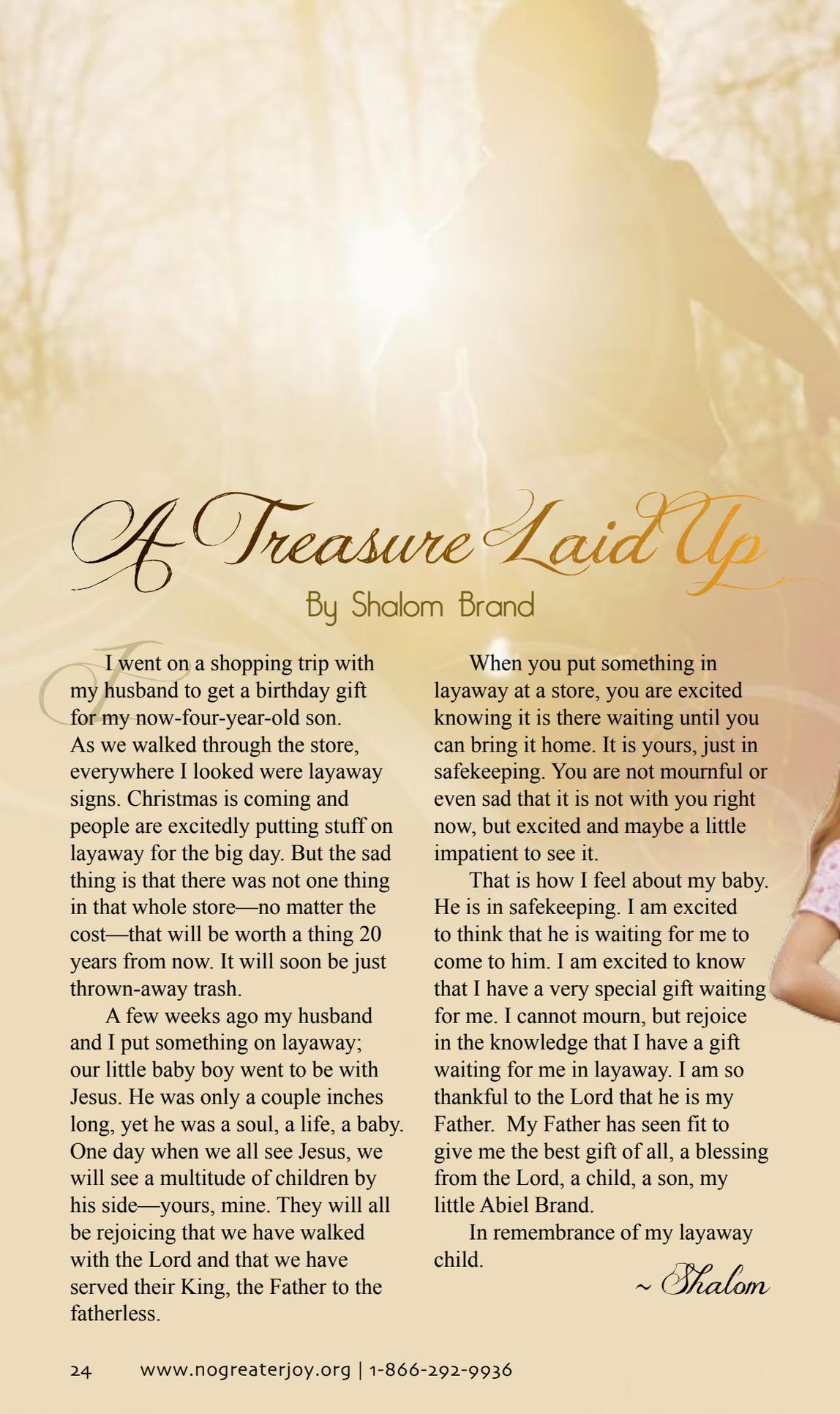
**Winner of "See a Need"  
Contest  
Kurtis, age 8**

I am a very proud  
mother of three amazing  
children: Kurtis (age 8),  
Rachael (age 8) and Eden  
(age 3). My daughter  
Rachael is a Special  
Needs child who is

deaf and blind, tube fed, and has  
cerebral palsy. Her needs take up  
much time. Her brother Kurtis is so  
amazing in the way he steps up and  
helps me. He gives her tube feedings  
and pushes her in her wheelchair  
for walks. He takes on a lot of  
responsibility for his age, and he does  
so without ever being asked, and does  
it with a serving heart. Thank you so  
very much for your newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Mother of 3





# A Treasure Laid Up

By Shalom Brand

I went on a shopping trip with my husband to get a birthday gift for my now-four-year-old son. As we walked through the store, everywhere I looked were layaway signs. Christmas is coming and people are excitedly putting stuff on layaway for the big day. But the sad thing is that there was not one thing in that whole store—no matter the cost—that will be worth a thing 20 years from now. It will soon be just thrown-away trash.

A few weeks ago my husband and I put something on layaway; our little baby boy went to be with Jesus. He was only a couple inches long, yet he was a soul, a life, a baby. One day when we all see Jesus, we will see a multitude of children by his side—yours, mine. They will all be rejoicing that we have walked with the Lord and that we have served their King, the Father to the fatherless.

When you put something in layaway at a store, you are excited knowing it is there waiting until you can bring it home. It is yours, just in safekeeping. You are not mournful or even sad that it is not with you right now, but excited and maybe a little impatient to see it.

That is how I feel about my baby. He is in safekeeping. I am excited to think that he is waiting for me to come to him. I am excited to know that I have a very special gift waiting for me. I cannot mourn, but rejoice in the knowledge that I have a gift waiting for me in layaway. I am so thankful to the Lord that he is my Father. My Father has seen fit to give me the best gift of all, a blessing from the Lord, a child, a son, my little Abiel Brand.

In remembrance of my layaway child.

~ Shalom

# Children's Personality Types

## Part 1 of 4

By Shalom Brand

Each of my children has a unique personality. Gracie, my nine-year-old and firstborn daughter, is strong, confident, and sure of herself. She is a go-to-girl type. She has an unwavering faith in what she believes. She is quick to lead others. With this personality comes a lack of patience for others and a lack of compassion, and a measure of bossiness. Recognizing her strengths and weakness when she was just a baby, I started praying that she would have wisdom and grace and love for others. I worked all the time teaching her to serve others. When she was a baby I would help her help Daddy. I would praise her for helping me, her daddy, and

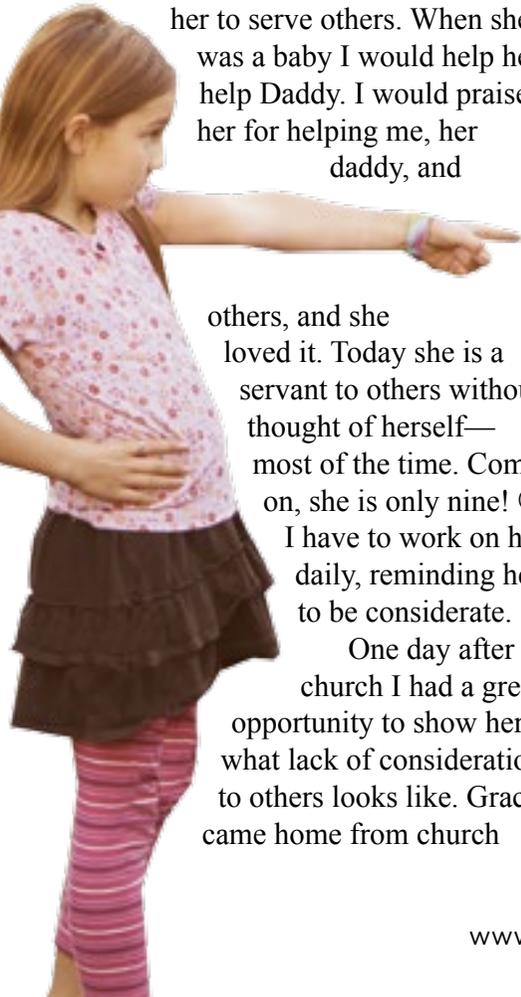
others, and she loved it. Today she is a servant to others without thought of herself—most of the time. Come on, she is only nine! 😊 I have to work on her daily, reminding her to be considerate. One day after church I had a great opportunity to show her what lack of consideration to others looks like. Gracie came home from church

that Sunday and told me, “I was playing with the older girls and then their ‘boss’ came and made them go away, so I could not play with them anymore.” I did not have any idea who this “boss” could be, so I asked her about it. She explained to me that it was their friend, but that this particular friend made them do whatever she demanded, even if the girls did not want to. Gracie said, “That girl is not nice, just bossy!” I knew right away this was my chance to teach Gracie. I know this other girl, and yes, she is bossy and not nice all the time. She, like my daughter, is a go-to girl. I understand it is important that I teach Gracie to be considerate of others while she is still young. I asked her, “So she is controlling and bossy. Do you know someone like that?” She stopped talking and very sheepishly said, “Me.”

Today as we were talking about this article, I asked her what she thought and she said, “Good thing you are teaching me, for if you do not teach me to be a good girl, I will not be a good mom, and then my children will not be good moms and dads. And then it will just keep on going.” Ah, the wisdom of a child.

Knowing the weaknesses of her type has made a big difference in how I train her, homeschool her, and guide her.

~ Shalom



# 2014 North Carolina Smoky Mountains Shindig

Sept. 10-14, 2014

NGJ



NO GREATER JOY MINISTRIES | 1000 PEARL ROAD, PLEASANTVILLE, TN 37133

No Greater Joy's 2014 Shindig will be held at Ridgecrest, located in the beautiful Smoky Mountains of North Carolina, September 10-14. It will be our largest gathering ever, with 2,500 in attendance. Sign up today. Don't wait and be too late! The rooms last year all sold out early. First come, first serve. Don't say we didn't warn you!

It is a beautiful campus, the best yet, with wonderful accommodations. And for those of you who will be camping, expect us to join you in the evening around your campfires to hear you tell tales and sing songs.

The food is several steps up from our previous Shindigs. And because we know how expensive it can be for big families to eat out, we pulled some strings to make things easier. You can choose how many meals you want to eat in the cafeteria and how many in your rooms.

This year our music will be led by a group of men who are learning Scripture songs. We hope to have several small choirs that have distinctive sounds. So it is time to start getting together with your friends, family or church to create a small choir or ensemble. Make a video of your group and email it to us at [shindig@nogreaterjoy.org](mailto:shindig@nogreaterjoy.org).

Remind us to have all our Shindig couples stand up and be counted this coming year. We expect there will be about 100, which means a pile of new younguns coming on. Makes our ol' hearts smile.

See you there!

Michael & Debi Pearl

[www.NoGreaterJoy.org](http://www.NoGreaterJoy.org) | Office 931.593.3115 | Fax 931.593.3327

**You must make your reservation with the Ridgecrest Conference Center before registering with NGJ!**

Call Ridgecrest toll-free at **1-800-588-7222** for lodging and meal plan pricing, and to make your reservations.

**Make your reservation with Ridgecrest now, then register with NGJ at <http://ngj.me/shindig-register>**

Full details at: <http://ngj.me/shindig>

*Due to demand we have extended this year's Shindig by adding an extra day!*

Please note: If you're renting a cabin at Ridgecrest, you'll need to provide your own linens & towels.

## **Important!**

To insure that we have the entire facility for Shindig only, you must make your reservations with Ridgecrest by February 28, 2014.

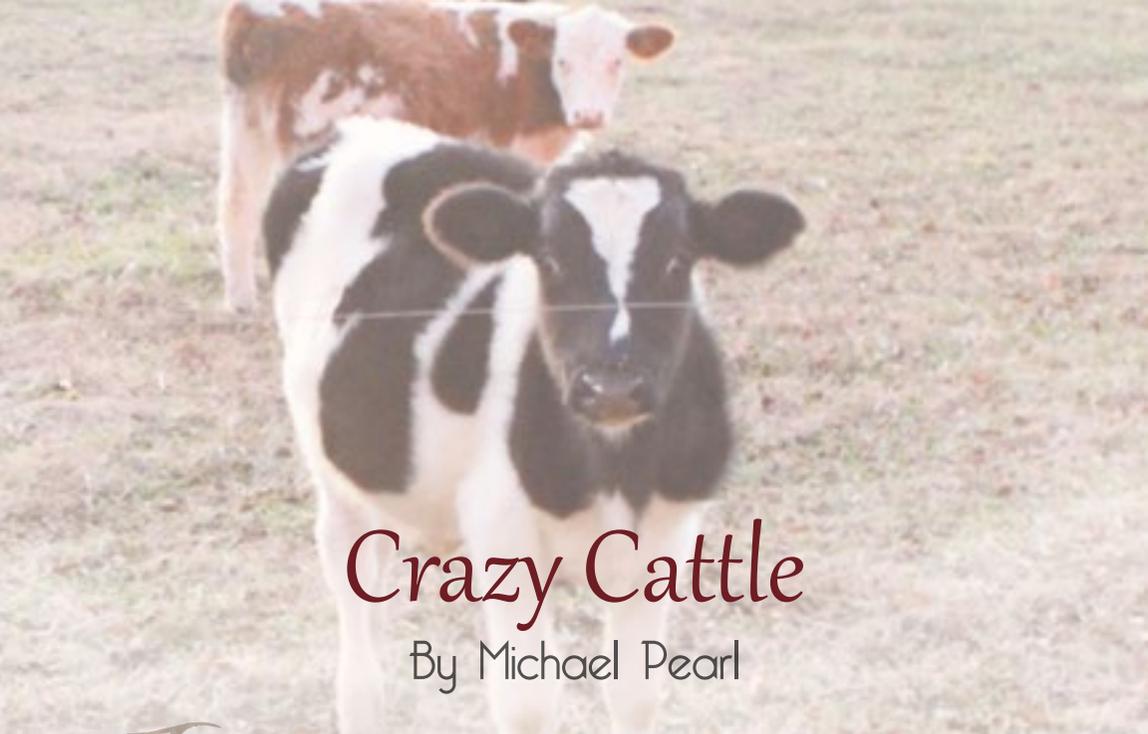
You also **SAVE MONEY** by registering early!

## **No Greater Joy Registration Fee**

<b>Now until February 28, 2014</b>	<b>\$99/Family</b>	<b>\$35/Individual</b>
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<b>September 1–10, 2014 (at the door)</b>	<b>\$149/Family</b>	<b>\$59/Individual</b>

**“ The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness. ”**

**—Psalm 72:3**



# Crazy Cattle

By Michael Pearl

I have thirteen head of cattle in my front field, most of them just young calves recently acquired from auctions. For the past three days, several of them have gotten out every day. I checked the electric fence and it was hot, so what was the problem? The electric fence was supposed to make them respect the boundaries. It was like spanking a kid and not getting positive results.

*I had conditioned them to ignore the very same boundaries in smaller things.*

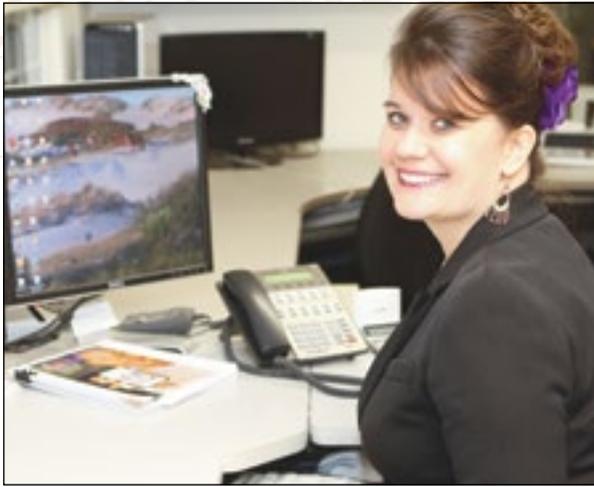
So I walked the fence, making modifications that might prevent voltage loss, and then I saw the problem. In the edge of my pasture was a quarter acre of corn protected by a different electric charger. I have already harvested the corn, and not caring if they got into the old corn patch, I had disconnected the power to that fence. And there, rummaging through the cornstalks, was that Angus calf I had chased back inside the fence on three consecutive days.

I understood my error—the error

of the trainer: while attempting to contain them in a hot fence, I had an internal fence that was not hot. They had been tempted by the corn and tried the fence, finding that it did not shock as they had become accustomed to expect. After sliding between the wires several times with no ill effect and experiencing pleasure on the other side, they were retrained to not respect the barrier of an electric fence. So when tempted by greener grass outside my pasture fence, they just walked through the hot fence, tolerating the little nip of electricity in anticipation of what they hoped to gain on the other side. So while providing boundaries on the larger front, I had conditioned them to ignore the very same boundaries in smaller things. Sound familiar?

Now one point of clarification for the sake of people like Anderson Cooper and Dr. Drew: I am not suggesting putting our children in electric fences. It is called an analogy. It is a way of making a point to intelligent people who actually raise children.

*~Michael*



“I am so excited about iMissionaries! I worked in an orphanage years ago with Russian children and still have a heart to reach the Russian people. Now that I work full time, it is not as easy to travel and do even short term mission trips anymore, which is why iMissionaries is such a wonderful opportunity. I can now reach people groups for whom I have a heart—right from my computer at home! I am making a difference in the world for Christ, reaching people with the gospel, and still able to work full time.”

## Kids' Contest: *Popsicle Puzzle*



1. Gather popsicle sticks.



2. Line up sticks.



3. Write favorite verse and color a picture.



4. Your puzzle is complete! Take a photo & send to [contest@nogreaterjoy.org](mailto:contest@nogreaterjoy.org).

# Résumé Enhancement

## By Michael Pearl

Last week I received a call from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC Radio) concerning the recent push in the House of Commons to have my 20-year-old book, *To Train Up a Child*, banned from sale in Britain. On live radio the host asked for my response to the effort to ban my book. I responded, “The British defended Britain against the Nazis with planes and tanks; they now defend the homeland against ideas with censorship. That is beneath the dignity of the English people.” He then read some of the statements made in the House concerning me and my book. I informed him that the statements were the result of quote mining and cherry picking, leaving an impression that is entirely untrue,

and that the woman who made them had not read my book, but had surfed the Web to get her information.

Later that day, I got a second call from another BBC affiliate. He seemed to be a little higher caliber. Again, the same questions and the same answers. The next day I got another call from a BBC affiliate. He probed and said things like, “You believe in hitting children as young as four months...” After I answered his absurd characterizations of my teaching, he asked, “And so how will you feel if they ban your book in Britain?” I laughed and said, “Well, I would be delighted. It will be a résumé enhancement. I will put it on the front page of my website, ‘Warning, this book is banned in the

U.K.,’ and I will sell an additional 100,000 copies to people in Britain by direct mailing through No Greater Joy.” My mama would be proud.

*The Nazis were burning books while the English were bombing them.*

A book written 20 years ago, having gone through more than 20 printings, selling nearly 700,000 copies in the U.S. alone, and untold more in 12 other languages, plus printings and distribution in English in several foreign countries, and only now is it a danger to children everywhere? The message is not new. It is traditional, universal, historical, commonsense, biblical, psychologically sound, and has produced nothing but sweet fruit. So why are the progressives so upset now? The message has not changed but the world has. They are failing with their children and they know that if they “hit” their kids (something they feel like doing) it would be prompted by anger. So they

practice transferral, assuming that any parent that employs physical chastisement must be angry and violent as they would be if they “struck” their “little brats.”

They have never experienced the Christ-centered family of love and goodwill. They cannot conceive of its existence. Their families are typified on TV and in movies—hostility, bitterness, impatience, anger, and resentment. Our peaceful lives and happy children seem like fairy tales to them. Their world is going to hell, while ours is going to heaven on a sunbeam of joy and celebration.

I was disappointed that they did not call back. I was looking forward to mentioning that the Nazis were burning books while the English were bombing them. So where have all the Nazis gone? Gone to England every one; when will they ever learn? When will they ever learn?

*—Michael*

## *Safe Eyes*

Looking for a way to keep your family safe from the evil that abounds on the Internet? We recommend Safe Eyes. It allows you to monitor what your family members view. Ban categories that you don't want them to be able to search. Block or allow certain websites. You can also set the times of day that they are allowed to use the Internet and how long they can be on. Create as many user accounts as you want.

Go to <http://ngj.me/safeeyes> and enter promo code **SAVENOW** to save \$10.



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What God is doing through this book is amazing! We are receiving thousands of letters from people giving testimony to marriages restored and old loves rekindled.

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and he that winneth souls is wise. ”

—Proverbs 11:30

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For more info on iMissionaries, see pages 4-7.



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## Contents

### Family

- 2 Reinforcements Coming
- 4 Called to Go
- 6 The Eternal Battle Plan
- 8 Gratitude
- 9 Family Proverbs Time
- 16 Excerpt from the Big Book of Homeschooling
- 22 Homeschooling News

- 24 A Treasure Laid Up
- 25 Children's Personality Types: Part 1 of 4
- 26 Shindig 2014
- 28 Crazy Cattle
- 30 Résumé Enhancement

### Catalog

- 32 NGJ Products

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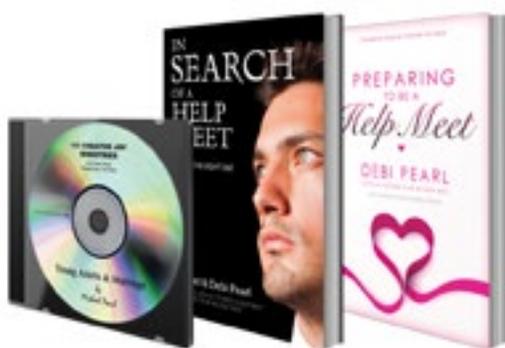
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