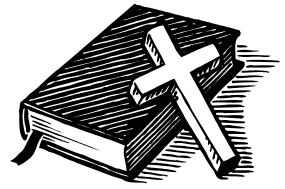


The Missing Peace



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Blessed Be The Tie That Binds...Grandparents

When former President Jimmy Carter signed the proclamation creating National Grandparents Day in 1979, he wrote, "Grandparents are our continuing tie to the near-past, to the events and beliefs and experiences that so strongly affect our lives and the world around us." When I read that, the song title, "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds" came to mind.

Those of us who are blessed to be grandparents **are** the tie that binds our grandchildren to the reality of their parents being children...we are a tie that binds them to world and local history...we are a tie that binds them to family history...we are a tie that binds them to family traditions...and Psalms 37:25 says, "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread"... so, we are a tie that binds them to a loving relationship with God.

A Little Grandparent Humor

Have children while you parents are still young enough to take care of them. *Rita Rudner*

An hour with your grandchildren can make you feel young again. Anything longer than that and you start to age quickly. *Gene Perret*

The reason that grandparents and grandchildren get along so well is that they have a common enemy. *Sam Levinson*

Uber-Brats of the Bible

If you think your kids are difficult, you need to read "Bad Kids of the Bible and What They Can Teach Us" by Thomas J. Craughwell. I bought the book on-line at Barnes and Noble for \$1.99 so my expectation level was kind of low. Well, how wrong I was!

I am certainly not a literary critic but for me, this book is a must-read for all Christian parents. I have to admit that I had no idea how many Biblical "bad kids" there were. Craughwell focuses on Bible stories of twenty-four (24) children and teenagers in the Bible who are "out of control" and the lessons we can learn from them. At the end of each chapter there are lessons, meditations and words from scripture to reinforce the message while serving as a jumping off point for many good discussions.

This book gets a big "thumbs up"!

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:1, 4

October is National Breast
Cancer Awareness Month





Please Take Your Head Out of the Sand.. Distracted Driving Kills



This school year many of our youth will have one thing on their minds...getting their driver's license and actually driving. And while this is one of those milestone moments in a young person's life, it is a moment that requires parental/grandparent input. Driving is a huge responsibility and a new skill for our youth. It requires us to concentrate and focus...skills that have become something we all need to be reminded of. Being distracted while driving is a serious issue and many states are looking to make changes in their driving laws.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration states there are three main types of distraction:

- Visual — taking your eyes off the road
- Manual — taking your hands off the wheel
- Cognitive — taking your mind off what you're doing

Distracted driving is any non-driving activity a person engages in that has the potential to distract him or her from the primary task of driving and increase the risk of crashing.

While all distractions can endanger drivers' safety, texting is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distraction.

Distracting activities include:

- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a PDA or navigation system
- Watching a video
- Changing the radio station, CD, or Mp3 player.
- Eating /Drinking
- Talking on your cell phone or Texting

Research on distracted driving reveals some surprising facts:

- In 2008, slightly more than almost 20 percent of all crashes in the year involved some type of distraction. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - NHTSA).
- Nearly 6,000 people died in 2008 in crashes involving a distracted driver, and more than half a million were injured. (NHTSA)
- **The younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes (16%). The next greatest proportion of distracted drivers was the 20- to-29-year-old age group (12%).**
- Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. (Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety)
- Using a cell phone use while driving, whether it's hand-held or hands-free, delays a driver's reactions as much as having a blood alcohol concentration at the legal limit of .08 percent. (Source: University of Utah)

As the role models for our youth, we need to remember what it says in Proverbs 22:6 and that is to "Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it."