



## The Meanest Mother in the World

I had the meanest mother in the whole world. While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs or toast. When others had cokes and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. As you can guess, my supper was different than the other kids' also. But at least, I wasn't alone in my sufferings. My sister and two brothers had the same mean mother as I did. My mother insisted upon knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang. She had to know who our friends were and where we were going. She insisted if we said we'd be gone an hour, that we be gone one hour or less--not one hour and one minute. I am nearly ashamed to admit it, but she actually struck us. Not once, but each time we had a mind of our own and did as we pleased. That poor belt was used more on our seats than it was to hold up Daddy's pants. Can you imagine someone actually hitting a child just because he disobeyed? Now you can begin to see how mean she really was. We had to wear clean clothes and take a bath. The other kids always wore their clothes for days. We reached the height of insults because she made our clothes herself, just to save money. Why, oh why, did we have to have a mother who made us feel different from our friends? The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and up at eight the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while they slept-my mother actually had the nerve to break the child-labor law. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make beds, and learn to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she laid awake at night thinking up mean things to do to us. She always insisted upon us telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, even if it killed us- and it nearly did. By the time we were teen-agers, she was much wiser, and our life became even more unbearable. None of this tooting the horn of a car for us to come running. She embarrassed us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. If I spent the night with a girlfriend, can you imagine she checked on me to see if I were really there? I never had the chance to elope to Mexico. That is if I'd had a boyfriend to elope with. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature age of 12 and 13, my old fashioned mother refused to let me date until the age of 15 and 16. Fifteen, that is, if you dated only to go to a school function. And that was maybe twice a year. Through the years, things didn't improve a bit. We could not lie in bed; "sick" like our friends did, and miss school. If our friends had a toe ache, a hang nail or serious ailment, they could stay home from school. Our marks in school had to be up to par. Our friends' report cards had beautiful colors on them, black for passing, red for failing. My mother being as different as she was would settle for nothing less than ugly black marks. As the years rolled by, first one and then the other of us was put to shame. We were graduated from high school. With our mother behind us, talking, hitting and demanding respect, none of us was allowed the pleasure of being a drop-out. My mother was a complete failure as a mother. Out of four children, a couple of us attained some higher education. None of us have ever been arrested, divorced or beaten his mate. Each of my brothers served his time in the service of this country. And whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out? You're right, our mean mother. Look at the things we missed. We never got to take part in a riot, burn draft cards, burn the flag, and a million and one other things that our friends did. She forced us to grow up into God-fearing, educated, honest adults. Using this as a background, I am trying to raise my three children. I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me mean. Because, you see, I thank God, He gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.

-Written by Bobbie Pingaro 1967

## Prayer List



**Information has been excluded from the internet publication of this bulletin for privacy reasons.**

## Announcements

### Youth Rally

"Sold Out" Fearless Faith July 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> at Surprise church of Christ. It will be a jammed packed two days filled with passionate devos and entertainment. There is a flyer posted on the back board. If you would like to go let Troy Kenner know by Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup>. We will need drivers and chaperones. This youth rally is for grades six - twelfth.

## Upcoming Events

### Third Sunday Potluck

May 20<sup>th</sup> after morning worship. Fish Fry courtesy of Larry and Jean Sanderson. Make sure you bring plenty of hearty side dishes.

### Breakfast at Coco's

May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8am

### Memorial Work Weekend

May 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> at the Copper Basin Bible Camp, those that are able please come and help get the camp ready for the summer sessions. Some meals are in the works for the workers. Any questions please call the camp at (928)445-4636

## Daily Bible Reading

May  
13 Psalm 103, Psalm 108-110, Psalm 122, Psalm 124  
14 Psalm 131, Psalm 133, Psalm 138-141, Psalm 143  
15 Psalm 144-145, Psalm 88-89  
16 Psalm 50, Psalm 73-74  
17 Psalm 75-78  
18 Psalm 79-82  
Psalm 83, 1 Chronicles 29:23-25, 2 Chronicles 1:1, 1  
19 Kings 2:13-3:4, 2 Chronicles 1:2-6, 1 Kings 3:5-15, 2  
Chronicles 1:7-13

### Psalm 6:20-23

*... and do not forsake your mother's teaching.*

*Bind them upon your heart forever;*

*fasten them around your neck,*

*When you walk, they will guide you;*

*when you sleep, they will watch over you;*

*when you awake, they will speak to you.*

*For these commands are a lamp,*

*this teaching is a light,*

*and the corrections of discipline*

*are the way to life,*

## WSSS Phone Receptionists

May 20 Dana McMillin  
May 27 Elizabeth Zebell  
June 3 Kathy Scott

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Mommy's spelling things on the phone 'cause Barfy's listening."

## What Do the Scriptures Say?

All questions below were submitted to "What Do The Scriptures Say?" via the internet or by someone calling to request an answer to their question.

**Question:** In Matthew 4:18-19, Jesus called Andrew and Simon Peter as they were casting a net into the sea. In John 1:35-42, Andrew and Peter were disciples of John the Baptist and followed Jesus, after they heard John state that He was the Lamb of God. These two accounts seem to contradict each other and I am trying to find out why. Is there something that I'm missing here, or is this a genuine contradiction?

**Answer:** The passages you cite from the NAS95 edition: John 1:35-43 Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they came and saw where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translated means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter). The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow Me. Matthew 4:18-22 Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. John 1:35 - 43 describes the first "interview" of Jesus with the disciples mentioned. They "stayed with Him that day," (verse 39) but afterward returned to their former employment. Sometime later (Matthew 4:18-22) Simon, Andrew, James and John were called to accept their apostolic office. It was at this point that they gave up their former mode of life. No contradiction here.