



Of Seeds and Flowers



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JUST FOR THIS MORNING, MY CHILD

Just for this morning, I am going to smile when I see your face and touch your cheeks.

Just for this morning, I will let you choose what you want to wear, and smile and say how perfect it is.

Just for this morning, I am going to step over the laundry and pick you up and take you to the park to play.

Just for this morning, I will leave the dishes in the sink, and let you teach me how to put that puzzle of yours together.

Just for this afternoon, I will unplug the telephone and keep the computer off, and sit with you in the backyard and blow bubbles.

Just for this afternoon, I will not yell once, not even a tiny grumble when you scream and whine for the ice cream truck, and I will buy you one if he comes by.

Just for this afternoon, I won't worry about what you are going to be when you grow up, or second guess every decision I have made where you are concerned.

Just for this afternoon, I will let you help me bake cookies, and I won't stand over you trying to fix them.

Just for this afternoon, I will take us to McDonald's and buy us both a Happy Meal so you can have both toys.

Just for this-evening, I will hold you in my arms and tell you a story about how you were born and how much I love you.

Just for this evening, I will let you splash in the tub and not get angry.

Just for this evening, I will let you stay up late while we sit on the porch and count all the stars.

Just for this evening, I will snuggle beside you for hours, and miss my favorite TV shows.

Just for this evening When I run my finger through your hair as we pray, I will simply be grateful that God has given me the greatest gift ever given.



I will think about the mothers and fathers who are searching for their missing children, the mothers and fathers who are visiting their children's graves instead of their bedrooms, and mothers and fathers who are in hospital rooms watching their children suffer senselessly and screaming inside that they can't handle it anymore. And when I kiss you good night I will hold you a little tighter, a little longer. It is then, that I will thank God for you, and ask Him for nothing, except one more day....

"Children come on the scene in a marriage with personalities and genders we do not foresee, in numbers and at times which elude our planning. It is, perhaps for this reason that they bring so much hope with them. It is as though they come from another world with a message of hope for this one. They remind even the insensitive among us about the importance of love and tenderness-self forgetfulness. On this we all agree, **THAT IF THE WORLD DOES NOT CARE FOR ITS CHILDREN, THE WORLD IS NOT WORTH PRESERVING.**"
"Love and Destiny" Padovano

A DROP OF RAIN...A BIT OF SUN

A CHILD'S LOVE

A child's love is like a whisper, given in little ways we do not hear,
but if you listen closely it will be very clear.

They often do not say it loud but in how they come to you...

Daddy, will you play with me? Mommy, tie my shoe?

the many ways they tell you changes as they grow.

Dad, I made the team today! Mom, I've Got to go!

Pop, I need some money. You see there's...this girl at school...

Mama, I met a boy today and wow he is so cool...!

Dad, I've got something to tell you... I think she is the one.

Mom, He asked me to marry him. Would you love him as your son?

Dad, I've got some news for you... It's gonna be a boy!

Mom, I'm kind of scared of this, yet I'm filled with joy!

A child's love is like a whisper, given in little ways we do not hear, but if you listen closely it will be very clear.

They often do not say it loud but in how they come to you... Grandpa, will you play with me? Grandma, tie my shoe...

It is never ending, a blessing from above. Listen to the whispers of a child's love.

Have we unknowingly created a generation or two or three of religious/spiritual illiterates? - unable to distinguish truth from non-truth, good from evil, light from darkness, and to work at having a FLOURISHING SPIRITUAL LIFE? What have we done to our children in the middle of the night when everyone was sleeping?? RESPONSIBILITY: In the end, no single drop of water feels it is responsible for the flood. "The future belongs to those who give the next generation reason to hope." de Chardin. The Jesuits used to say, "Give me the boy till he is seven and I will show you the man."

*America, the country that pretends to
care for its children.*

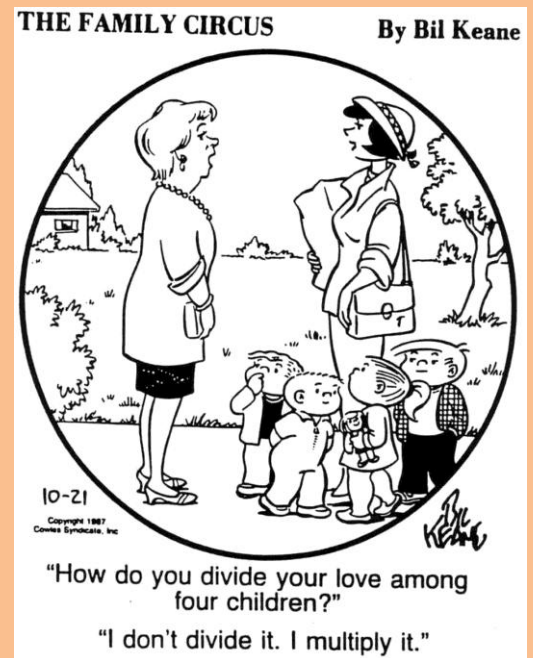
Nasrudim and his father spent their whole lives raising chickens, collecting and selling eggs in the village.

One day a young man came into their store where they sold eggs and announced that he would give them a wonderful prize if they could guess what he was hiding in his cupped hands. He said, "It is oval in shape; it is brown; it is liquidly inside; if you boil it, it becomes hard and you can eat it. Nasrudim, thought for a few minutes, then said, "It is a piece of cake."

Sometimes we can become so familiar with the treasures in our lives that we can forget the privilege we have in holding and possessing them. Family, spouse, children, church, Eucharist, Bible, friends. Hold on to "the beginners mind": the BEGINNER'S MIND is always encountering reality with fresh heart and mind.- Like little children. "Unless you change and become like little children you cannot enter the Kingdom of God." Jesus



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VISION AND REALITY

The following **SPECTACULAR WISDOM** is from the book "THE BIGGEST LIE IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY"- **How Modern Culture is Robbing Billions of People of Happiness**, by the New York Times bestselling author, Matthew Kelly. Really, really worth reading. Only 114 pages. Don't ever be bashful about spending money to buy a book that will help your spiritual life grow. I've done this well over a 1000 times. -ALWAYS WORTH IT!!

"Transforming people one at a time is at the heart of God's plan for the world. It is also essential to developing dynamic marriages, loving families, vibrant Christian communities, thriving businesses and economies, and extraordinary schools and nations. If you get the man right (or the woman, of course), you get the world right."

Every time you become a-better-version-of-yourself, the consequences of your transformation echo throughout your family, friends, business, school, neighborhood, church, marriage, nation, and beyond to people and places in the future. It is God who does the transforming, but only to the extent that we cooperate. God's grace is constant, never lacking. So our cooperation with God's desire to transform us is essential; it is the variable. Are you willing to let God transform you? If you get the man or woman right, you get the world right. Such a simple message-yet we seem constantly obsessed with things really don't matter." If this is true it is true for EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE.

TRANSFORMED PEOPLE, TRANSFORM PEOPLE!!

The following are words prayed in 1948 by the famous preacher, Peter Marshall, in the U.S. Senate. Marshall was chaplain 1946-1948. "The choice before us is plain: Christ or chaos, conviction or compromise, discipline or disintegration. I am rather tired of hearing about our rights and privileges as Americans. The time is come - it is now - when we ought to hear about the duties and responsibilities of our citizenship. America's future depends upon her accepting and demonstrating God's government." He was right then and he is right NOW! **IDEAS have consequences!** Do you think the Senate listened in 1948? Do you think they (or US) would listen today? OF COURSE NOT! Would listening have made a significant difference then and now? OF COURSE IT WOULD!! -AND ONWARD WE DRIFT. We never listen to our prophets.

THE RIGHT ORDER: #1. God. #2. husband/wife. #3. Children. #4 Work. #5. Everything else. God is a God of RIGHT ORDER. ***Peace is the tranquility of right order. No right order, no peace.***



SMILE: Financially, it is becoming more difficult to produce "Of Seeds and Flowers". If you are able to help, from time to time, it will give us the ability to keep sharing! **One thing you can do, if you buy items on Amazon**, is to sign on to their donation program called "Smile". It only takes a minute. Choose Mary's Field as your charity. **Amazon will donate 1% of your total order to Mary's Field, taking no money from your order or account.** Once you sign up, all is done **automatically**. You will make all future orders as you have always done in the past. Thank You!!! M. F. P.O. Box 99 Hebron Ct. 06248 Many Hugs! Mary's Field is now touching about 900 people a month!! -and YOU are a part of each touch!! God likes this!!

If you like "Of Seeds and Flowers" **SHARE IT!** Be a part of the change you want to see in the world.

Do something *today* that your future self will thank you for.

SPEAKING SOFTLY TRUE STORY: A man in Spoleto, Italy, was afflicted with a cancer that had disfigured him quite hideously. He heard of St. Francis of Assisi, the holy man, and came to see him in the hope of obtaining prayers. He met St. Francis and was about to throw himself at his feet, when Francis prevented him and kissed his face, which was instantly healed.

Saint Bonaventure heard about the incident and wrote: *"I know not which I ought to wonder at, such a cure or such a kiss."* What do YOU think? THE CURE OR THE KISS?

All the darkness in the world can't extinguish one candle. St Francis of Assisi DO LIGHT IT!

The prayer of St. Francis: Pray it with your whole mind and heart and change the world!!

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace, Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Ask yourself if what you are doing today will get you closer to where you want to be tomorrow!

"To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world." Barth
Remember to pray each night for one minute at 9PM est. for our country. It is working!!

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