



HOUSE to HOUSE  
HEART to HEART

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# House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 2

## I Would Go to Church, but All They Want Is **MONEY**

*Allen Webster*



### Money can be a sensitive topic.

Many have been turned away from Christianity because of religious leaders' attitudes toward money. Not a few had bad personal experiences in churches due to it. It is not uncommon to hear things like these:

- I don't go to church because when I do, they want me to empty my pockets. They make me feel guilty if I don't donate.
- For once I'd like to see a church where they didn't ask for money as soon as I walk in the door.
- Why do churches keep asking for money all the time? Frankly, it turns me off and I think it does a lot of other people, too.
- It's just one scandal after another.

Jesus was angry with such abuses in His day (cf. Mark 3:5). True Christians oppose this as strongly—if not more so—than those on the outside. Bad apples and false teachers block the path for people to find God's love, grace, and truth.

It is fair to say that most religious groups are not trying to bilk innocent people, but no one would deny that it is important to emphasize God's standards. God's way is always the best and only safe course in religion (2 John 1:9–11).

Let's explore how money issues are handled by those seeking to restore New Testament Christianity. This is what you can expect if you come for a visit.

**In the church of Christ, guests are never expected to give.** If you honor the church

with a visit, you are not expected to put anything more than an attendance card in the plate. Why should nonmembers support the church? Would we invite someone to our house for dinner and then ask him to pay for it?

When one becomes a member, then giving is a personal worship decision. God set up His work to be fully supported by His people giving freely in their weekly meetings (1 Corinthians 16:1–2). Since there is no Bible authority (Colossians 3:17) for other funding models (such as cake sales or car washes), we do not solicit funds from nonmembers by sales or donations.

**In the church of Christ, preachers are not in charge of the collection.** The New Testament shows elders (shepherds, bishops) overseeing finances. When there was a famine in the days of Claudius Caesar, the disciples sent the money "to the elders" in Judaea (Acts 11:28–30).

Most preachers are conscientious and honest, so no disrespect is intended, but there are good reasons for elderships to handle contributions:

- Each mature New Testament congregation has a plurality of elders (cf. Acts 14:23; 20:17; 1 Timothy 5:1, 17–19), and when it comes to money, it is better to have more than one person involved. This provides checks and balances, reduces temptation, and protects reputations.

- Elders, by virtue of meeting biblical qualifications, are judged by peers to be blameless men with good reputations and not greedy for dishonest gain or covetous (1 Timothy 3:1–7). Being older, they are likely wiser in using money; being secularly employed, they are often better paid and less tempted by money; and being out of the pulpit, they are not as often second-guessed or criticized. Paul defended a preacher’s right to be paid (1 Corinthians 9:7–11), but he was also careful to avoid having his motives misjudged as a preacher (9:15–18; cf. Acts 18:3).

**In the church of Christ, giving is an infrequent sermon topic.** Stewardship is a Bible subject, so it is covered when it comes up in studying a Bible chapter. It is a part of worship, so it is included in a sermon series on worship. Yet on any given Sunday one would much more likely hear a sermon on Jesus, grace, salvation, love, Calvary, the church, family, obedience, joy, practical Christian living, forgiveness, baptism, hope, or heaven. It is safe to say that no member would ever feel he heard more about money than about God, Jesus, and the Spirit.

**In the church of Christ, no one ever receives a bill for contribution.** It is not uncommon for denominational churches to send members notifications if their monthly or annual contributions fall short. According to ABC News, one Florida church sent a single mother a notice that she owed \$1,000 (the minimum of \$50/month, plus two special offerings per year). Failing to pay, she would no longer be considered a member. *Christianity Today* reported that another preacher refused the funeral of a 93-year-old member because she had stopped giving. He explained: “Membership has its privileges.”

Jesus criticized the Pharisees for binding “heavy burdens” on people (Matthew 23:4). God does not expect any to give more than their fair share. The Bible says, “If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened . . . that there may be equality” (2 Corinthians 8:12–14).

The beautiful thing about the way God set up giving is that the rich have no advantage, and the poor have equal opportunity. When a poor widow gave only two pennies, Jesus excitedly told His disciples that she had given more than the rich

(Luke 21:1–4). How? Because God counts giving by the love and trust we show by our offering. The poor thus have the opportunity to be the best givers in every church, without being burdened.

**In the church of Christ, tithing and “first fruit offerings” are not practiced.** Mandatory tithing (giving ten percent) is the cornerstone of many churches’ teaching on giving, but it was not part of the early church’s practice. Tithing was part of Moses’ Law (Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10), which went out of date two thousand years ago (Colossians 2:14).

In the New Testament, Christians are not commanded to give a specific percentage, but simply as prospered (1 Corinthians 16:2), cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7), and generously (Acts 2:44–45; 2 Corinthians 9:6). It is not wrong to give ten percent, but it is wrong to require it. Leaders can bind no more than the apostles commanded (Matthew 16:19; 18:18). As Christians prosper and grow spiritually, they will often give more than ten percent, but this is a personal decision and not a church mandate.

Some churches require a “first fruit offering.” Based on Old Testament teaching (Exodus 22:29; 23:16; Proverbs 3:9), members are told they must donate the year’s first paycheck or the first check one receives from a new job or promotion. First-fruit offerings were Israel’s agricultural offerings and are not for the church. Not giving God financial leftovers is the real principle to be gained from these Scriptures (Matthew 6:33; Romans 15:4).

**In the church of Christ, only one weekly offering is taken—without fanfare.**

Christians do not need to be endlessly prodded to give and should never be manipulated. Ministers are out of line when they make emotional appeals or panic pleas regarding the church’s financial needs before each collection. It is irresponsible to encourage people to put large donations on credit cards by promising that God will pay them back. Why have multiple offerings each week—during the Sunday service, Bible classes, night services, revival meetings, parenting classes—when one accomplishes God’s purpose? Under such circumstances, visitors feel uncomfortable—even needlessly guilty.

One preacher made an emotional speech before passing the plate. He then walked back to the pulpit and said, “You are going to think I’m crazy, but God says give again. God says give everything; don’t hold

anything back.” The tempo picked up and the preacher shouted, “God says run!” The offering ended with people surging toward the altar like music fans rushing a concert stage (CNN). The late televangelist Oral Roberts told followers that God would “call him home” if they did not give more money. Such modern-day money changers are similar to those Jesus threw out of the temple, saying, “Make not my Father’s house an house of merchandise” (John 2:16; cf. Matthew 21:12–14).

A good rule of thumb is if a preacher or television evangelist says, “God told me to tell you,” hold onto your wallet and exit as soon as possible. God speaks through the Bible today (Ephesians 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Hebrews 1:1–3); He does not send private messages for preachers to tell audiences (2 Peter 1:20–21; 1 Corinthians 13:8–10). As one said, “If you have to pay to pray, you’re getting played.”

**In the church of Christ, giving is kept confidential.** Jesus prescribed two rules for giving: quietly and anonymously. The Pharisees had turned giving into theater, which He roundly criticized, saying,

Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret (Matthew 6:1–4).

Today, when members choose to give cash, no one ever knows the amount an individual contributed. If they use checks (for tax deductions), only those who tally the deposit (usually elders) know. Names and amounts are never published for others to see.

Confidentiality is maintained to avoid two spiritual problems: shaming the poor and elevating the rich. James insisted that churches respect the poor (James 2:1–5). VIP treatment—special seating, publishing names—violates the rule of not giving to be seen of men (Matthew 23:5; Acts 5:1–10). Jesus did not praise big offerings; He praised great faith (Matthew 9:22; Mark 10:52; Luke 17:6).

It’s safe to visit. Leave your wallet at home.



## 4 Things That Turn People off of Christianity That We are Trying Not to Do

Have you ever been in a restaurant and lost your appetite because of something that happened? Perhaps you found a hair in your food or the person handling the money didn't wash his/her hands before preparing your food. Sometimes, spiritual appetites are lost in the same way. There are four things that some Christians do that cause people to lose their spiritual appetites.

**Hypocrisy.** For Christ to live in us, our hearts have to be pure and holy (Matthew 5:8; Philippians 4:8). No one is perfect, but we must strive to live up to the standards we teach others from Scripture.

**Hopelessness.** A cynical worldview, a depressing outlook, or a complaining attitude do not speak well of one's faith in an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-sufficient God. One reason the first-century church multiplied so rapidly was because men could see their hope (Acts 2:42-47). Keep your hope "lively" (1 Peter 1:3-4).

**Harshness.** The servant of the Lord is to be gentle, not gruff (2 Timothy 2:24). Instruction is to be given in meekness, not meanness. Satan loves harsh teachers, for they drive men in his direction and often harden hearts to the point that loving teachers have trouble getting through the scar tissue left behind. Speak the truth, but speak it in love (Ephesians 4:15). "A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle" (Proverbs 18:19).

**Haughtiness.** Answers to others are to be given with respect ("fear," 1 Peter 3:15). A holier-than-thou attitude cools off the interest of those asking. We must not be "highminded, but fear" (Romans 11:20).

If you have lost your appetite at a restaurant, did you decide never to eat again? No. Did you vow to prepare your own meals from now on? Probably not. If someone professing to be a Christian has disappointed you, don't reject Christianity altogether. Find a better place. Feed your soul. —Wade Webster



## How to Observe the Lord's Supper

The Lord's supper is observed

"In spirit and in truth"  
(John 4:24).

"Decently and in order"  
(1 Corinthians 14:40).

In remembrance of Christ's sacrifice  
(Luke 22:19).

In anticipation of Christ's return  
(1 Corinthians 11:26).

On the first day of each week  
(Acts 20:7).

Upon self-examination  
(1 Corinthians 11:28).

It is observed to proclaim Christ as the  
Savior of men (1 Corinthians 11:26).

*"The Word was made flesh."*

JOHN 1:14

## God's Plan for Saving Man

**God's Grace,** Ephesians 2:8  
**Christ's Blood,** Romans 5:9  
**The Holy Spirit's Gospel,** Romans 1:16  
**Sinner's Faith,** Acts 16:31  
**Sinner's Repentance,** Luke 13:3  
**Sinner's Confession,** Romans 10:10  
**Sinner's Baptism,** 1 Peter 3:21  
**Christian's Work,** James 2:24  
**Christian's Hope,** Romans 8:24  
**Christian's Endurance,** Revelation 2:10

# Home PAGE



## A Family Is . . .

A deeply rooted tree  
with branches  
of different strengths  
all receiving nourishment  
from our Father in heaven.

Where character is formed,  
values are learned,  
and society is preserved.

Where all members contribute a share,  
cooperate and work,  
and accept their responsibilities  
toward the good of the group.

Where holidays are celebrated with  
feasting  
birthdays are acknowledged with  
gifts,  
and thoughts of days gone by are kept  
alive  
with fond remembrances.

Where each can find solace  
and comfort in grief;  
pleasure and laughter in joy;  
and kindness and  
encouragement in daily living.

A haven of rest, a sanctuary of peace,  
and most of all,  
a harbor of love.

*"And will be a Father unto you, and  
ye shall be my sons and daughters,  
saith the Lord Almighty."*

2 CORINTHIANS 6:18



For more material on the home and family,  
fathers and mothers, husbands and wives,  
grandparents, and family finances, go to  
[www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com).

# Suggestions for Rearing Your Children for Christ

**1.** Begin regular spiritual training now and continue through all their developing years (Proverbs 22:6).

**2.** Clearly demonstrate to them at all times that God is the most important thing in your life, by never allowing other things to interfere with the worship and work of the Lord (Matthew 6:33).

**3.** Let their early memories include daily readings of Bible stories and Bible discussions in the family circle (2 Timothy 3:15).

**4.** Give them their own Bible even before they can read. Read to them from it at home and have them take it to church services (Deuteronomy 6:6–7). In their preschool years have them begin a lifetime habit of regular memorization and review of important Bible verses (Psalm 119:11, 16).

**5.** Teach them to pray by having them repeat after you phrase by phrase. Pray audibly with them daily (Ephesians 6:18). (Never teach them to memorize a prayer.)

**6.** Speak often of the joys of serving God (Philippians 4:4). Sing songs together

about it (never with an instrument, Colossians 3:16). Instill in them a longing to go to heaven.

**7.** Spend the necessary time to be the main spiritual teacher of your children, more than the preacher or teacher (Ephesians 6:4).

**8.** Teach them that lying is one of the worst things they could ever do (Revelation 21:8, 27), and punish them firmly if they do (Proverbs 29:15–17).

**9.** Train them early in principles of modesty, and you won't have to combat short shorts, scanty tops, and scanty swim suits in years to come (1 Timothy 2:9).

**10.** Keep their speech pure by not allowing yourself or them to ever use profanity or even a substitute such as golly, gee, gosh, darn, and heck (Matthew 12:36–37).

*"Good understanding giveth favour."*

PROVERBS 13:15

## Playing Cops and Robbers

A young mother and her three extremely active young boys were playing "cops and robbers" one afternoon in the backyard when a neighbor stopped by. One boy aimed his pistol at his mother and yelled, "Bang! You are dead!" She slumped to the ground in a heap. When she did not get up right away the neighbor hurried to see if she had been hurt in the fall. As the neighbor bent over, the overworked mother opened one eye and whispered, "Shh. Do not give me away. It is the only chance I get to rest!" —*The Rotarian*, July 1985





# The Indestructible Word

The psalmist said, “For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven” (Psalm 119:89; cf. 1 Peter 1:23–25).

Someone said, “His words have passed into laws, they have passed into doctrines, they have passed into proverbs, they have passed into consolations, but they have never passed away.” It stands, though infidels may attack it (Jeremiah 36:22–25).

When Antiochus Epiphanes became ruler in Syria in 175 b.c. he destroyed the Jewish temple, sold the people of Jerusalem into slavery, and sought to do away with their sacred writings, forcing Greek culture upon the Jews. This was all done in an effort to substitute Zeus worship for the worship of God. Frank E. Hirsch in, “Abomination of Desolation,” wrote, “The observance of all Jewish laws, especially those relating to the sabbath and to

circumcision, were forbidden under pain of death. The Jewish cult was set aside; in all the cities of Judaea, sacrifices must be brought to the pagan deities. Representatives of the crown everywhere enforced the edict. Once a month the search was instituted, and whoever had secreted a copy of the law or had observed the rite of circumcision was condemned to death.” However, God saw to it that efforts to destroy the sacred writings of the Old Testament failed.

Roman emperor Diocletian decreed death for any person who owned the Bible. After two years he boasted, “I have completely exterminated the Christian writings from the face of the earth.” In fact, he is said to have erected a monument over the ashes of burned Bibles. However, when Constantine came to the throne and de-

sired copies of the Bible, offering a reward to anyone who could deliver one, within twenty-five hours fifty copies of God’s word were offered to the emperor.

Voltaire was a notorious French infidel. In 1778, he boasted that within one hundred years the Bible would be no more. Later, the very press that printed the blasphemous prediction was used to print Bibles, and the house in which he lived was used by the Geneva Bible Society to store Bibles and as a distribution center.

Bob Ingersoll, an American agnostic, once held a Bible up and boasted. “In fifteen years I will have this book in the morgue.” Within fifteen years, Ingersoll was in the morgue; however, the word of God lives on. —Wendell Winkler

To ask a Bible question or view previously answered questions, go to [www.HouseToHouse.com](http://www.HouseToHouse.com).

## Bible QUIZ

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Send us your answers (address on front) to receive a FREE Bible bookmark. We’ll grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark “Old Testament/Intertestamental Period Timeline” as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions Taken from the King James Version

**Answers to Last Issue:** *Showdown: Jesus versus the Devil:* 1. The Spirit (Matthew 4:1); 2. In the wilderness (Matthew 4:1); 3. His baptism in the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13–17); 4. The devil (Matthew 4:1); 5. Make stones into bread (Matthew 4:3); 6. Word, God (Matthew 4:4); 7. The holy city (Jerusalem) (Matthew 4:5); 8. Angels (Matthew 4:6); 9. Dashing His foot against a stone (Matthew 4:6); 10. Tempt, Lord (Matthew 4:7); 11. All the world’s kingdoms, and their glory (Matthew 4:8–9); 12. Lord, God, only (Matthew 4:10); 13. The devil left Him, and angels ministered to Him (Matthew 4:11); 14. Murderer (John 8:44); 15. Whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:13); 16. Flee from us (James 4:7); 17. Lion, devour (1 Peter 5:8); 18. Devil (1 John 3:8); 19. Devil (1 John 3:8); 20. Destroy (1 John 3:8).

## Jesus as a Boy

**Directions:** Find your answers in Matthew 2:19–23; Mark 6:3–4; Luke 2:25–26, 40–52; 1 Peter 2:21.

- Where did Jesus live the longest as a child? \_\_\_\_\_
- The Holy Spirit promised this man he would live to see the Messiah. \_\_\_\_\_
- What ruler’s death allowed Jesus’ family to return from Egypt? \_\_\_\_\_
- Jesus “grew, and waxed strong in the spirit, filled with \_\_\_\_\_; and the grace of God was upon him.”
- What event brought Joseph and Mary to Jerusalem once a year? \_\_\_\_\_
- What place in Jerusalem did Jesus visit? \_\_\_\_\_
- How old was Jesus when his parents lost Him in Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long was Jesus in Jerusalem before His parents found Him? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was Jesus doing when His parents found Him? \_\_\_\_\_
- With whom was Jesus when He was found? \_\_\_\_\_
- Mary said, “Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee \_\_\_\_\_.”
- At twelve, Jesus explained to Mary that He was about his “\_\_\_\_\_ business.”
- “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”
- Jesus went home with His parents to “Nazareth, and was \_\_\_\_\_ unto them.”
- Where did Mary keep all the “sayings” about Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many physical brothers did Jesus have? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did Jesus have physical sisters? \_\_\_\_\_
- In what trade did Jesus work as a young man? \_\_\_\_\_
- Jesus said unto them, “A prophet is not without honour, but in his own \_\_\_\_\_ and among his own \_\_\_\_\_, and in his own house.”
- Christ left “us an \_\_\_\_\_, that ye should follow his \_\_\_\_\_.”

# The Bible on One Page

Chronologically, the Old Testament ends with the book of Nehemiah. Every book coming after it can be placed somewhere in the framework of events covered from Genesis through Nehemiah.

1. Creation and Early Civilization (Genesis 1–5).
2. Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6–11).
3. Lives of the Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph) (Genesis 12–50). (The Book of Job belongs here.)
4. Israelites in Egypt and the Wilderness (Exodus–Deuteronomy).
5. Israelites Enter the Land of Canaan (Joshua).
6. Israelites Ruled by Judges (Judges; 1 Samuel 1–8; Ruth).
7. Israelites Form a United Kingdom under Saul, David, and Solomon (1 Samuel 9–2 Samuel 24; 1 Kings 1–11; 1 Chronicles 1–2 Chronicles 9). (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon belong here.)
8. Israelites Divide into Southern/Northern Kingdoms (1 Kings 12–2 Kings 25; 2 Chronicles 10–36). (Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Lamentations belong here.)
9. Israelites in Captivity (Ezekiel; Daniel).
10. Judah Returns from Babylon to Canaan (Ezra; Nehemiah; Esther). (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi belong here.)
11. The 430 Years between the Old and New Testaments.
12. The Earthly Life and Ministry of Christ (Matthew; Mark; Luke; John).
13. Beginning and Growth of the Church (Acts).
14. Christianity Applied: Individually and Congregationally (Romans–Jude).
15. The Ultimate Victory of the Church (Revelation).

—Hugh Fulford

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

## Recommended Resource



The Gospel Broadcasting Network is unique in the world of religious TV—commercial free, and they never ask for money! Sponsored by the churches of Christ, GBN is available on some cable systems as well as through their own smartphone apps, the Roku device, and through their website at [gbntv.org](http://gbntv.org).

## I want to learn more about the Bible!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer requests or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like:



A Bible Correspondence Course



A DVD Bible Study



An In-Home Bible Study

## New Tracts!



Booklet: What Saul Saw When He Could Not See



Booklet: What Sins Should Be Publicly Confessed



Tract: Life: Good to the Last Drop



Tract: Why Did Jesus Come to Earth?

### More subjects:



Where the Omnipresent God Isn't



If I Don't Preach on Hell



Practical Suggestions for Learning the Bible



Jesus' Mother



Don't Quit: Passing God's Faith Tests



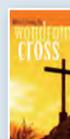
What Would it Take to Get us Back on Sunday Night?



Can I Change?



Scared of the Dark



When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



The Weakness of a Strong Man

Don't see the topic you need? Visit [www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com) for more subjects.

VOLUME 21:2



# Christ and His People

He was born that we might be  
born again  
(John 1:14).

He became poor that we might  
become rich  
(2 Corinthians 8:9).

He became a servant that we  
might become sons  
(Galatians 4:6–7).

He had no home that we might  
have a home in heaven  
(Matthew 8:20).

He was bound that we might  
go free  
(John 8:32–36).

He was made sin that we might  
be made righteous  
(2 Corinthians 5:21).

He died that we might live  
(John 5:24–25).

# The FRUIT of the SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22–23



*Those who abide in Christ  
will bear much fruit.*

John 15:5



**LOVE** ἀγάπη

Charity, good will, esteem

importance of our love for others

**1 Corinthians 13**

Our love for fellow Christians

**1 John 2:10**

God's love for us **John 3:16**



**JOY** χαρά

Gladness, a rejoicing spirit

Filled with joy **Romans 15:13**

Joy in our belief **1 Peter 1:8**



**PEACE** ειρήνη

Harmony, concord, security

Jesus is our peace **Ephesians 2:14**

The state of the saved in Christ

**Romans 8:6**



**KINDNESS**

χρηστότης

Goodness, integrity

Christians need to strive for

**Colossians 3:12**

Righteousness **Titus 3:4–5**



**FAITHFULNESS**

πίστις

Confidence, trustworthiness

Like Jesus **Hebrews 3:2**

Be dependable/obedient in all our  
practices **Luke 16:10–12**



**GOODNESS**

ἀγαθωσύνη

Uprightness of heart, beneficence

Christian needs to be filled with

**Romans 15:14**

Being found in **Ephesians 5:8–9**



**GENTLENESS**

πραΰτης

Meekness

Receive the Word with **James 1:21**

Attitude toward those in the world

**Titus 3:2**



**SELF-CONTROL**

ἐγκράτεια

Temperance, master of one's desires

Part of the path to godliness

**2 Peter 1:5–6**

Lack of can cause one to tremble

**Acts 24:25**

## Powerful Words

The greatest word is *God* (Psalm 95:3).  
The deepest word is *soul* (Matthew 16:26).  
The longest word *eternity* (Matthew 25:46).  
The swiftest word is *time* (Ephesians 5:16);  
The nearest word is *now* (2 Corinthians 6:2).  
The darkest word is *sin* (Isaiah 59:1–2).  
The meanest word is *hypocrisy* (Matthew 7:5).  
The narrowest word is *truth* (John 8:32).  
The strongest word is *right* (Psalm 33:4).  
The tenderest word is *love* (1 Corinthians 13).  
The sweetest word is *heaven* (Matthew 5:12).  
The dearest word is *Jesus* (John 14:6).

*"For there is none other name under heaven  
given among men, whereby we must be saved."*

ACTS 4:12

## I Can Sleep When the Wind Blows

A young man applying for a job on a farm was asked what he knew how to do. He replied, "Sir, I know nothing about farm work, but I can sleep when the wind blows."

The farmer did not understand, but as he was desperate for help, he employed the young man.

A few nights later a terrible storm blew in. The farmer was wakened and ran to the young man's room.

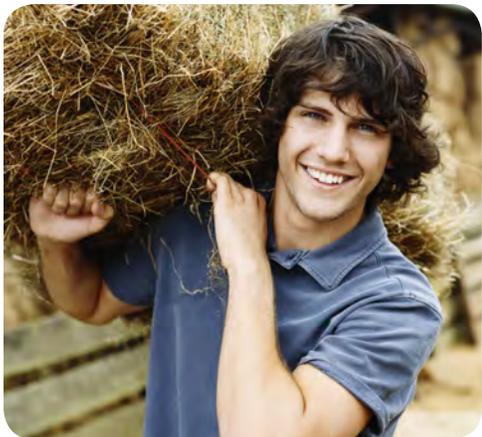
There, just as he had said, he was sleeping through the storm. Rather than trying to awaken the youth, the farmer himself ran out to the barn to check the animals and equipment. He found the doors to the barn tightly shut. The animals were in their shelter, properly secured. Then he remembered the pile of straw the wind would be blowing in all directions, but he found it covered with canvas and tied down. Everything was secure.

On the way back to the house, he remembered what the young man had said: "I can sleep when the wind blows." And he understood.

What about us? Can we have the confidence to live through life's storms? Are we fulfilling all our obligations to God? Are our "chores" done? —Olden Cook

*"I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."*

(2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8)



Please recycle House to House by giving this copy to your family or friends.

# FREE DVD!

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

This study of the Ten Commandments shows their place in God's eternal plan and their application in our lives today.



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