

8-1982

**August 1982 (Vol. 6 No. 1)**

Cedarville College

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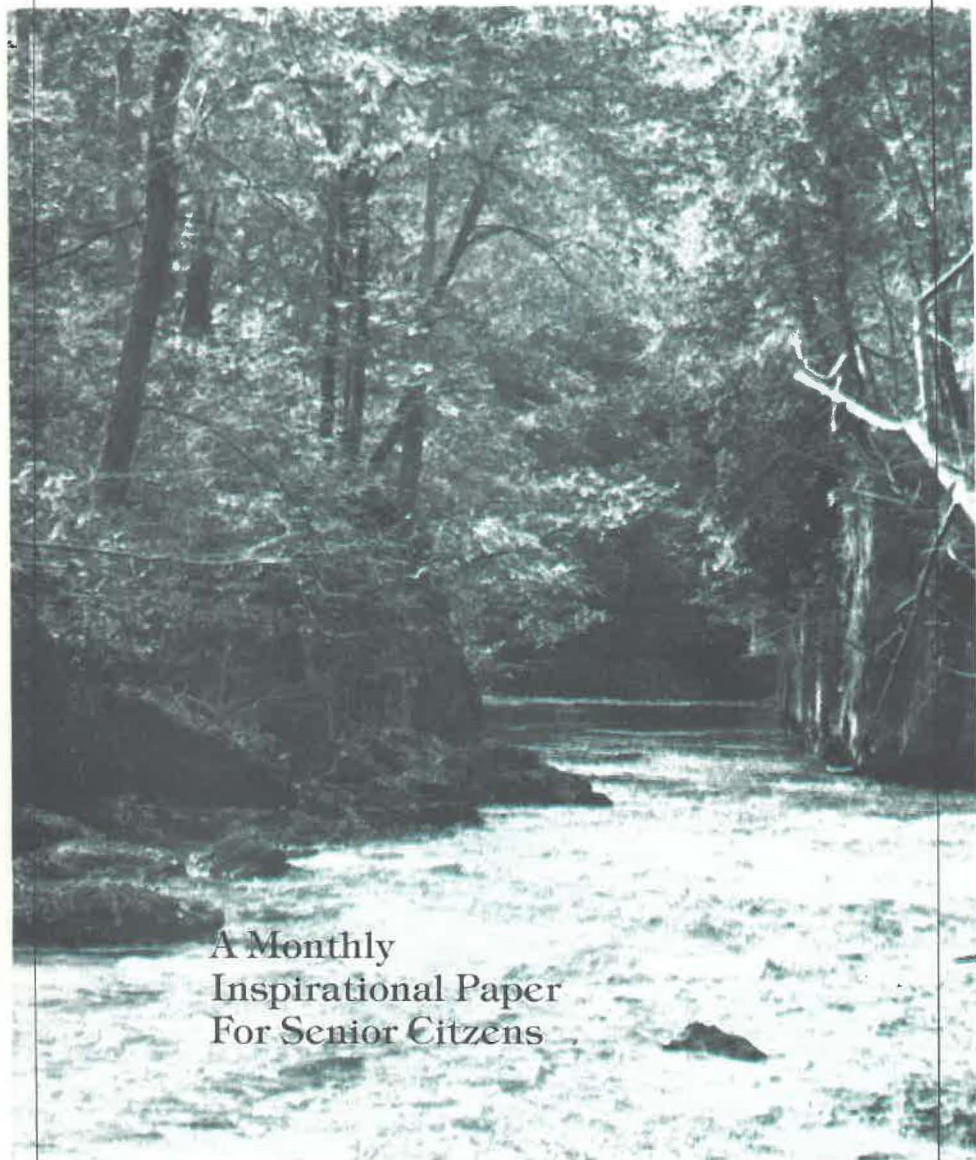
Cedarville College, "August 1982 (Vol. 6 No. 1)" (1982). *Living Springs*. 73.  
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# Living Springs

AUG 11 1982

Vol.6 No.1 © 1982 by Christian Educational Publications



A Monthly  
Inspirational Paper  
For Senior Citizens

AUGUST 1982

## The Value of Time

I have only just a minute, only sixty seconds  
in it,  
Forced upon me—can't refuse it,  
Didn't see it, didn't choose it.  
But it's up to me to use it.  
I must suffer if I lose it,  
Give account if I abuse it.  
Just a tiny little minute—but eternity is in it!

These oft quoted lines should cause us to do  
some serious thinking. An unknown poet put  
our foolish use of time in the following lines:

You've time to build houses, and in them to  
dwell,  
And time to do business—to buy and to sell,  
But none for repentance, or deep, earnest  
prayer;  
To seek your salvation you've not time to  
spare.

You've time for earth's pleasures, for frolic  
and fun;  
For her glittering treasures how quickly you  
run;  
But care not to seek the fair mansions above,  
The favor of God or the gift of His love.

There is time to take in the gay world's sea,  
And time to enjoy the gay world's jubilee;  
But soon your bright hopes will be lost in the  
gloom  
Of the cold, dark river of death and the  
tomb.

You've time to resort to woods, mountains,  
and glen,  
And time to gain knowledge from books and  
of men.

Yet no time to search for the wisdom of God:  
But what of your soul when you're under the  
sod?

For time will not linger when helpless you  
lie;

Staring death in the face you will take time  
to die!

Then, what of the judgment! Pause, think, I  
implore!

For time will be lost on eternity's shore.

One time Philip Brooks became quite ill and  
would see no visitors. When Robert Ingersoll,  
the agnostic, heard that his friend was sick, he  
called at his home to see him and was admitted  
at once. "I appreciate this very much," said Mr.  
Ingersoll, "but why do you see me when you  
deny yourself to all your friends?" "It's this  
way," answered the bishop. "I feel confident of  
seeing my other friends in the next world, but  
this may be my last opportunity to see you."

"And David swore moreover and said, Thy  
father certainly knoweth that I have found  
grace in thine eyes; and he saith, Let not  
Jonathan know this, lest he be deceived: but  
truly as the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth,  
there is but a step between me and death" (I  
Samuel 20:3).

"For we are strangers before thee, and  
sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on  
the earth are as a shadow, and there is none  
abiding" (I Chron. 29:15).

"How much more those who live in houses  
of clay, whose foundation is in the dust and  
who are crushed as easily as moths! Between  
morning and evening they are smitten; without  
anyone paying attention, they perish forever. Is  
not their preeminence taken away with them?  
They die and that without wisdom" (Job  
4:19-21).

We have only one life to live and it soon  
passes. The proper use of time is our greatest  
investment. We cannot afford to speculate. We  
must wisely invest.

# REFLECTIONS of FAITH

compiled by  
Reda Moore

## The Seed of Friendship

*Do you have a friend and  
you've lost touch?  
A letter, a card might mean  
so very much.  
Perhaps that one is in  
need today  
Of a warming word only you  
could say.*

*"Friendship is like a garden,"  
you know:  
If it isn't cultivated, it  
just won't grow.  
So stir up the soil and  
pull the weed  
Of careless neglect and sow  
new seed.  
You'll be so glad when the  
months have brought  
The Harvest of today's forethought.*

Jeannette Neal

## Prayer of Solitude

*I said a prayer for you today  
I know God must have heard.  
I felt the answer in my heart  
Although He spoke no word.*

*I didn't ask for wealth or fame—  
I knew you wouldn't mind.  
I asked Him to send treasures  
Of a far more lasting kind.*

*I asked that He be near you  
At the start of each new day,  
To grant you health and blessings  
And friends to share your way.*

*I asked for happiness for you  
In all things great and small.  
But it was for His loving care  
I prayed the most of all.*

Anonymous

## Being Friends

*Being friends is a warm and glowing touch.  
It's words of kindness that mean so much.  
Through days and years that bond has grown.  
A blessing only friends have known.  
Being friends holds a meaning true,  
It's past and present and yet it's new.  
It's time wrapped up in things we do...  
I'm glad God made a friend like you!*

Emily Bertha Green

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# Friends Don't Just Happen

Friends are an important part of our lives. They make us happy, sad, angry, frustrated, and create many other emotions. The Bible talks about friends and friendships quite often and illustrations can be seen throughout in relationships between people. I suppose as important as friendships are, it may be one of the most neglected areas of most of our lives, often just taken for granted and seldom cultivated.

I ran across a short poem that gives us some ideas as to qualities to develop in our lives to help us become "good" friends and felt it was worth sharing.

## **Certain People Are A Joy To Know...**

People who know how to brighten a day  
With heart-warming smiles  
And with kinds words they say.  
People who know how to gently impart  
The comfort it takes  
To cheer somebody's heart.  
People who know how to always come  
through  
When there's anything  
They can possibly do.  
People who know how to willingly share,  
Who know how to give  
And who know how to care.  
Who know how to let all their feelings  
show...

Are the people that others feel lucky to know.

If we take the time to think about it, our best friends are probably the ones that emulate that poem. Friends do not just happen. We may hit it off with a person quickly because of a personality that is naturally drawn to ours; however, if we do not develop the relationship further and seek to befriend that person, they will remain nothing more than an acquaintance.

If you have many friends, you have probably developed over the years a system for making and keeping friends, though it may be subconsciously. See if the following rules are some that you naturally follow. There may be some that it would not hurt to begin using now.

1. Keep "skid chains" on your tongue; always say less than you think. How you say it often counts more than what you say.

2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully, no matter what it costs you.

3. Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind word and encouraging word to or about somebody. Praise good work done, regardless of who did it. If criticism is needed, criticize helpfully, never spitefully.

4. Be interested in others; interested in their pursuits, their welfare, their homes and families. Let everyone you meet, however humble, feel that you regard him as one of importance.

5. Keep the corners of your mouth turned up. Hide your pains, worries, and disappointments under a smile.

6. Preserve an open mind. Deliberate, but don't argue. It is a mark of superior minds to disagree and yet be friendly.

7. Let your virtues, if you have any, speak for themselves, and refuse to talk of another's vices. Discourage gossip. Make it a rule to say nothing of another unless it is something good.

8. Be careful of another's feelings. Remember the Golden Rule, and treat others as you would like to be treated.

9. Pay no attention to ill-natured remarks about you. Simply live that nobody will believe them.

10. Don't be too anxious about your dues. Do your work, be patient and keep your disposition sweet, forget self, and you will be rewarded.

## A Fruit-Full Thought

In the hustle and bustle of everyday living in the twentieth century the important element of friendship is often neglected and overlooked. Evidently a definite purpose exists for friendships, and scripture clearly reveals the fact that friends do play a vital role in people's lives. One of the ways to develop friends is found in Proverbs 18-24, where it states that "a man that hath friends must shew himself friendly." With that exhortation in mind many means toward achieving that goal are evident.

There are many ways in which people can show themselves friendly while striving to develop friendships. A strong interest in a person may be developed through the area of sharing; by genuinely attempting to be a friend interest may be sparked. An area of sharing that is vital yet often overlooked is listening. There is a need for true friends who will take the time to listen to people's feelings and attempt to give them advice. Friends give much to each other in the area of time. Along the same line, a loving, concerned spirit is essential for developing the foundations of a friendship. Friends need to encourage one another through the rough times by being optimistic and positive. Above all, a major goal for a friendship should be to bring out the best within each other. Genuine friendships should build character and not tear down personalities.

Having seen some of the ways one can show himself friendly, all that remains is for action to be taken on the suggestions listed above. Friendships are a vital part of life, and they are especially comforting during the times in which we live.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first and also the Greek."

Newspaper headlines in front of me read: "Rev. Lyons to mark 52 years in the ministry." Surely this verse must be in his testimony.

His ministry began at Pleasant View Baptist Church near Newcomerstown. Pleasant View was a small country church, warmed by a Burnside pot bellied stove. He drove 64 miles round trip each Sunday morning staying for both morning and evening services.

Rev. Lyons has held many pastorates over the past 52 years—at times more than one. For instance, at one time he rotated between Otsego Baptist, Clear Fork Baptist, and Birds Run Baptist, sometimes driving 100 miles a day.

Mrs. Lyons stood faithfully behind her husband, supporting him through the hard times and the joyful years. During World War II, she wrote 75 letters every month to soldiers of his church to encourage them.

The Lord has given the Lyons four children, 11 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. Today although technically retired, he follows the directive from Matt. 28:19&20 to "teach all nations." Rev. and Mrs. Lyons have a personal ministry of distributing Christian literature. They buy in quantity lots, mailing out to those who are ill, bereaved, or have some other special need.

Enclosed in the material we received about the Lyons was a bookmark they have had printed. In the middle is a little poem that I'm sure they have made as a goal for their lives over these years.

# Servants

## Read Daily Your Bible

If you would be strong

To witness for Jesus and overcome wrong,  
The "Author," the "Book" and the "doer"  
abide;

But they who neglect it will surely backslide.

It takes a real dedication to the Lord and His work to remain in the ministry for 52 years. It might be easy for some to sit back and enjoy leisure years—after all, 52 years should have some benefits. Yet Psalm 90:12 puts it nicely, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Each day, whether retirement age or not, is important in the Lord's eyes, and we should make each day count for Christ that we may be wise.

To Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Lyons this month we say Congratulations and may the Lord continue to bless you as you faithfully serve Him.



## Note Worthy

To this day, a monument stands in Lake Rice, Canada, erected to the memory of Mr. Joseph Scriven. Mr. Scriven dedicated his life to helping those less fortunate than he. He was always ready to assist the poor folks of Lake Rice in any way he could.

Joseph Scriven had not always lived in Canada. He was born and raised in Dublin, Ireland (1820). Scriven was educated at Dublin Trinity College. It seemed as though Mr. Scriven had everything going in his favor. The day before his wedding to a beautiful Irish lass, his future wife accidentally drowned...tradition tells us that Joseph Scriven never got over the shock of losing the girl he loved. Mr. Scriven moved to Lake Rice, Canada, at the age of twenty-five in hopes of forgetting. He never forgot. It was during his life in Canada that Joseph Scriven gave himself over to helping others. Ten years later, Scriven's mother became very ill over grief because of her son's misfortunes. Being the godly man he was, Scriven would not let tragedy ruin him. He wrote a poem to comfort his mother during her time of sadness. The poem was never meant to be read by anyone but Joseph Scriven's mother. His consoling poem, however, has been sung down through the ages by untold millions. The poem was never meant to be published as a hymn.

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
Oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

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## Puzzle

Dan Girton

The Bible records many occurrences of friendships, some very famous, and others not so famous. In the columns to the right, find the friend in the right column who is closely linked to the person in the left column. If you have any trouble, the Bible reference is given next to the second name of the pair.

A. David	1. Elisha	2 Kings 2:2
B. Meshach	2. Elisabeth	Luke 1:41
C. Jesus	3. Shadrach	Dan. 3:26
D. Paul	4. Abraham	2 Chron. 20:7
E. Bildad	5. Sanballat	Neh. 2:10
F. Elijah	6. Timothy	2 Tim. 2:2
G. Naomi	7. Jonathan	1 Sam. 18:1
H. Tobiah	8. Lazarus	John 11:11
I. Salome	9. Ruth	Ruth 1:22
J. Mary	10. Job	Job 2:11
K. God	11. Mary Magdalene	Mark 15:40

## Looking at God's Creation

The Nile River is the longest river in Africa, and it is the means by which Egypt exists. Without the Nile, Egypt would be simply a piece of dry land. Without the Nile to supply water, there would be no farm land, and with no farm land, there would be no cities in which to conduct trade and industry. Egypt would not thrive as it does today.

In mid-summer the Nile overflows its banks and spreads ten miles wider on each side. It remains in this state for about one hundred days, and when the water finally clears away, it leaves a thin, rich layer of black mud. This mud becomes the Egyptian's only farm land. It is here that the barley, wheat, cotton, millet, and date palms, that are Egypt's source of life, are planted.

As the Nile is to Egypt, so the Bible is to the Christian's life. Without study of God's Word, the Christian's life becomes stagnant in growth, and becomes useless. Bible study waters and enriches a Christian's knowledge of Jesus

Christ, causing him to learn more about the character of Christ and the life He wants His children to live. Without a proper concept of what Christ's nature is, one cannot trust Him fully or know what mighty things Christ is capable of doing for him.

Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The Bible is a lamp that reveals who Christ is and a light that directs Christians to lead a godly life. The important thing then is to read and study God's Word daily to be watered and remain a healthy strong Christian.

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## A Soft Answer

by Marla Waddle

This month's soft answer...There is a Friend"

I'm sure all of us at some time have heard the old saying: "to make a friend, be a friend". The meaning is clear enough that if we hope to develop a close relationship with attractive personalities, we must work consistently to make our personalities attractive. King Lemuel expresses the same concept in Proverbs 18:24 which states, "A man who hath friends must show himself friendly; and there is a friend who sticketh closer than a brother." It seems that the king is saying something more, however. There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother? Oh yes, there is someone very special who shows Himself friendly to us, even when we are anything but friendly toward Him. But closer than a brother is He? A brother cannot even begin to know such love as this friend has for each of us. Those of us who have come to know this Friend in a personal way, experience the blessings of the greatest of all friendships. This should cause us to want to introduce Him to those about us. What friendlier thing could we do than to show a lonely soul that indeed there is a friend for him, for every joy and sorrow in his life, a Friend of the friendless who will remain faithful for all time and eternity.



## Attention!

A special feature is being added to Living Springs this month. A book which we feel might be of interest and encouragement to our readers will be given a short review each month and then offered at a discount, off retail value. The book can be ordered singly or in bulk. The discount may vary from month to month. We pray that this new feature may be a source of encouragement and inspiration. If there are particular types of books or topics that especially interest you, drop us a line and we will do our best to offer some in that area.

Now, for the book of the month:

Nothing Is Impossible  
The Eugene Clark Story  
 Bernard Palmer  
 Published by Moody Press

The words to Nothing Is Impossible With God give a good description of the life of Eugene Clark, as they should, for he is the composer of this much loved song.

The biography begins with Eugene in college where the symptoms first appeared that later ravished his body. Problems developed with

his eyes and with arthritis. These were kept pretty much under control through medication. After graduation Eugene began work with Back To The Bible Broadcast as music director and organist. It was there that he met his future wife, Ferne. They were soon married and the Eugene Clark family was begun.

Then everything seemed to fall apart. Eugene's eyesight began to fail and the cortisone he had been taking to control his arthritis caused him to hemorrhage from ulcers. Without the cortisone, the arthritis spread like wildfire throughout his body. Soon he was bedridden, blind, and unable to play the organ or go to work.

Through all of this Eugene Clark's faith never failed. This book will not leave you depressed, but will challenge your heart and encourage those who may be deep in self pity.

This hardback book normally sells for \$6.95, but it can be yours this month for only \$5.60. There will be no shipping cost to you. Ohio residents, add 5½% sales tax. To order, simply fill out the order form, clip, and mail to: Living Springs, P.O. Box 794, Cedarville, OH 45314.

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*But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

John 4:4

*Living Springs* is a monthly publication for senior citizens, published by Christian Educational Publications in association with the Christian Service Department of Cedarville College. For subscription or other information write: *Living Springs*, Christian Educational Publications, Box 601, Cedarville, OH 45314.

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## ANSWERS

- A 7
- B 3
- C 8
- D 6
- E 10
- F 1
- G 9
- H 5
- I 11
- J 2
- K 4

