

Behind the Scenes

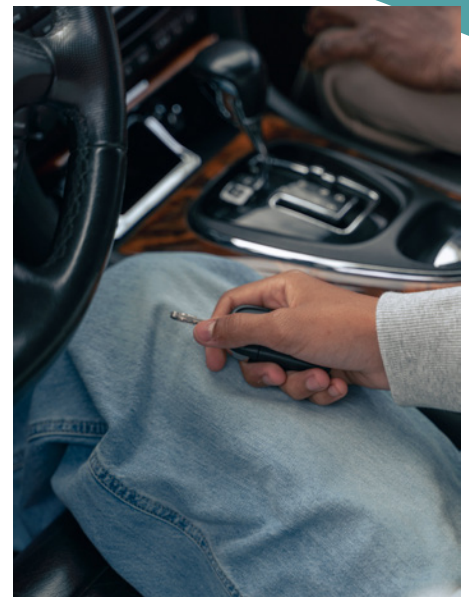
March 2024

Putting on the Brakes From the Desk of Charlie Oliver

If you've driven a recent model car, you've probably encountered some of the new driver-assist functions now available. While sometimes annoying with the warning chimes and steering wheel "tugs" at inopportune times, I appreciate the added peace of mind offered by warning lights and adaptive cruise control. This goes double when I'm the passenger in a car driven by one of my kids. The fruit truly did not fall far from that tree, and I suddenly feel the need to call my own parents to thank them for their patience when I was playing the role of a confident yet inexperienced teenage driver! I was thinking about this today as we scheduled a driver's test for one of my sons, remembering how the driver's ed instructor had a "just in case" brake pedal on the passenger side of the car. I wonder how much one of those would cost ...

Do you ever wish your mouth and mind had assist tools? Imagine having a warning light that flashes right before you say that thing you instantly regret and a brake pedal that kicks in if you ignore the light? How many injuries to others would have been avoided if you were thus equipped? I can truthfully estimate that number approaches countless in my own life. As one of my favorite yet humbling sayings goes, it isn't easy to put the toothpaste back in the tube. But I have some great news for you, these tools do exist, and the Bible happily tells us about them!

Think of the stories in the Bible about words. In Exodus, the Lord tells Moses that He will be in his mouth, teaching Moses what to say (Exodus 4:11-12). In Luke, Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit will teach us what to say (Luke 12:11-12). I submit that knowing what to say also means knowing what NOT to say! When NOT to speak! This discernment also comes from the Holy Spirit, and should be a way of life, not simply a tool that comes out when we're on the witness stand, under persecution, or in front of seats of authority!



This gift, this relationship with the Divine, is something to be honed through daily use! How we act, how we treat one another, how we love in His name. I love how the Message sums this up in Ephesians 4:29: "Say only what helps, each word a gift."

There is another side to this proverbial coin. As we submit ourselves to Jesus, as we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us, to speak through us, we MUST remember that He is also working through those around us. That our struggle to tame our words is not unique. That others carry the same regret after a thoughtless



Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

-Matthew 6:19-21 ESV



Inspirational Musings

by Jeanette Stark

I order all my dog and cat food online, often adding a small, inexpensive toy to qualify for free shipping. Baxter, my dog, has quite the collection of toys: a purple owl, a striped tiger, a black and white cow, a monkey with rope arms for tug of war, a pink pig, and many other “stuffies” over the years.

As soon as I give Baxter a new toy, he becomes ecstatic, whirling around and demanding to be let outside. He adamantly refuses to play with his toys indoors. If you were to visit my home, you would not find any dog toys inside, except perhaps for a ball. Baxter insists on having all his toys outdoors.

Last month, I bought Baxter a gray smiling sloth along with my usual dog food order. However, after giving it to him, I could not find it anywhere in the yard. Instead, I stumbled upon a partially buried monkey, a pink pig covered in leaves and twigs, a striped tiger partially submerged in the ground, and several other prized stuffies, all soaked and muddy.

I couldn't help but express my frustration to Baxter, asking him, “What good does it do for me to give you these toys if you bury them or leave them outside to get ruined?”

Over time, I've had to retrieve numerous teddy bears and stuffed animals from the yard once

they became too gross to play with.

While Baxter enjoys playing with balls, he has a habit of burying his toys. Despite the efforts of my kind neighbor, who takes my trash can to and from the road each week and often brings Baxter a new ball, I have never seen him play with a toy for long. He eagerly receives the toy, rushes outside, and then promptly buries it before moving on.

This behavior reminds me of the parable in Matthew 25:14-30. In the New International Version, a master entrusts his servants with varying amounts of gold before embarking on a journey. When the master returns, he rewards those who have multiplied their gold but condemns the servant who buried his gold out of fear.

Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. “Master,” he said, “I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.”

His master replied, “You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my

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money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags.

Matthew 25:24-28 NIV

Similarly, Baxter’s tendency to bury his toys prompts reflection on our own reluctance to utilize the gifts and talents we have been given. Just as I wish Baxter would enjoy his toys longer than it takes to bury them, Jesus encourages us to use our gifts without hesitation.

Let’s consider our talents and not allow fear to prevent us from using them effectively for His cause.

*May my words and
my thoughts be
acceptable to you,
O Lord,
my refuge and
my redeemer!*

Psalms 19:14 GNT

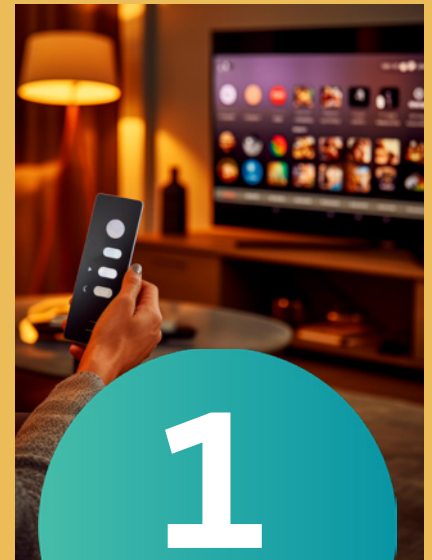


Brakes-

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word. Friends, while we’re working on being careful with our words, be equally mindful of growing grace. Don’t be offended. Assume the best, not the worst. Jesus is again the example here. He overall had every excuse to be offended, to respond with righteous anger. Instead, He provided the ultimate example of love, offering forgiveness instead of condemnation. Reaching out rather than reacting.

I love to drive. I like to be in control. But in the case of my life and how I treat others, my prayer is that the Lord will help me watch my words and actions, flashing warning lights and stomping on that brake when I go astray. And I pray that I will offer the same grace to others that I want extended to me, assuming the best rather than the worst, and offering forgiveness and reconciliation when I am wrong. Join me as we tell others about Jesus through how we allow Him to shine through us!



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this study of Psalms
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**May God richly bless
you as you learn
more about His plan
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Dear Charlie and Cody,

You both went the extra mile to search for the program I was looking for. Thank you!

We have been enjoying the programs on Better Life TV! We've also been sharing with others and they have commented they plan to watch more.

May God continue His blessings on the staff and anyone involvde with BLTV.

-Betty

We Know He Hears Us

During our morning worship here at Better Life, we pray over all the prayer requests that are phoned in, emailed, or sent by mail. We consider it a privilege that you entrust us with your requests.

Occasionally, we hear back on how God answers those prayers. We would love to share one of these with you.

We were asked to pray for a missing hearing aid. We prayed for a month before we received this letter that let us know that she had just found the hearing aid.

"It is time to PRAISE our LORD. Our prayers have been answered. Last night as I was getting ready for bed, I put my one hearing aid in the charger. When I turned around to leave the bathroom, there in the middle of the floor was the missing hearing aid. It wasn't there when I went in. I would have stepped on it. Another friend of mine last week took everything apart looking for the hearing aid. I kept telling her that she would not find it, that the Lord would bring it back in His time and His way.

I recently called the hearing aid center to see if my insurance would cover the replacement of my hearing aids. It will but I would need to wait until March. I decided I would see about getting a new set, and then the Lord brought this one back to me. He must not have wanted me to spend more money on a new set. I am still paying for this set..isn't our God wonderful!

I kept telling people that God knows where it is and He will take care of it. When I went to bed last night I was floating on cloud nine. It had been a month since the hearing aid disappeared. A lot of prayers went up to our loving Lord. Enjoy your day and never give up on praying it brings us closer to God and more trust in Him. Keep looking up, we are almost home. Home at last."

We never know when or how God is going to answer our prayers. It is exciting though to see how He is working in our lives and the lives of others. You can trust Him with all your cares.



Donations Made to BetterLife



In Honor

In celebration of Willis & Lillian Christinas's 71st Anniversary

Olen Nations
Mary Nations, wife
Don Oltman
Jeanne Oltman, wife
Bill Peterson
Joan Peterson, wife
Kenneth Smith
LolaMay Smith, wife
Art Spenst
Charlene Spenst, wife
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Dustin Weidman
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Vern & Virginia Wells
Pam & Steve King,
daughter
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In Memoriam

Madison Jewell Baird
Floyd & Celeste Sweat,
grandparents

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Ron Bechtel, son

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Bob Heisler, husband

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Floyd & Celeste Sweat,
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Owen MacPhee
James & Frances Holder
Joan Peterson

If you wish to make a donation in honor of, or in memory of an individual please call our office during regular business hours, or mail your donation to:

Better Life
PO Box 766
Grants Pass, OR 97528
Phone: (541) 474-3089

Note: It may take up to 2 months for names to appear in the newsletter.

CHANNEL GUIDE

Dish Network & DirecTV

Ch. 30

Curry, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake & Siskiyou Co.'s

Ch. 36

Benton, Coos, Douglas & Lane Counties

ALSO watch via the internet using free apps for Roku, iOS and Apple TV

CITY	CABLE	ANTENNA
Ashland, OR	K25IM-D	22
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Canyonville, OR	KAMK-LD	21
Cave Junction, OR	K16NK-D	30
Coos Bay, OR	KAMK-LD	21
Corvallis, OR	KAMK-LD	12
Crescent City, CA	K25NO-D	21
Eugene, OR	KAMK-LD	12
Gasquet, CA	K25NO-D	25
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Port Orford, OR	KBLN-TV	22
Redding, CA	K33HH-D	33
Reedsport, OR	KAMK-LD	21
Reno, NV	KNRC-LD	14
Rogue River, OR	K17EZ-D	22
Roseburg, OR	KTVC	21
Springfield, OR	KAMK-LD	12
Yreka, CA	K36NY-D	13

Better Life TV Program Schedule

January 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Midnight	It's Coming	Coming Out	Country Wisdom	Bible Answers	Gospel Outreach		Praise!
12:30 AM	Secret Life of the Desert	Women in the Word	The Incredible Journey	Made for Health	Maranatha Mission Stories		Your Favorite by Request
1:00 AM	From Sickness to Health	3ABN Homecoming	Sanctuary/Sabbath&Our Savior Authentic	Mission Revival	Housecalls	Doug Batchelor	Daniel All Access
1:30 AM							
2:00 AM	David Klinedinst	Boots 'n Bibles	Stories of Faith	Women in the Word	Better Life Today	Catching the Light	Revelation Now
2:30 AM							
3:00 AM	Spotless	Unlocking Bible Prophecy	The Whole Message	Receiving the Word	Adventist World Radio	Secret Life of the Desert	
3:30 AM							
4:00 AM	The Seventh Day	Stories of Faith	Better Life on Tour	Nature Music	Ultimate Prescription	Revelation Insights	
4:30 AM	The Carter Report	When We Talk		GP Worship Hour	NEWSTART Now!	Multitude of Counselors	
5:00 AM	Amazing Adventures	Impact Canvasback	Fountainview Music	Amazing Facts Presents	Authentic	Maranatha Mission Stories	
5:30 AM							
6:00 AM	3ABN Today	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Animal Encounters	Nature Music	
6:30 AM							
7:00 AM	Your Favorites by Request	Bible Answers	3ABN Today Live (repeat)	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	Exercise Variety	
7:30 AM	It's In The Bible	Off the Grid	Shelly Quinn Presents	ASI Conventions	Optimize for Life	3ABN Today	
8:00 AM	GP Worship Hour	Abundant Living	It's In the Bible	It's In the Bible	Cook :30	Bible Answers	
8:30 AM	Simple Truths Sabbath School	Exercise Variety	Secret Life of the Desert	The Seventh Day	Enjoy Healthy Eating	Bible Answers	
9:00 AM	Ken Cox Ministries	Heaven's Point of View	Variety	Variety	Nature Music	Catching the Light	
9:30 AM							
10:00 AM	Ken Cox Ministries	Adventist World Radio	Worship Hour Special Series	Fountainview Music	Variety	Stories of Faith	
10:30 AM							
11:00 AM	Boots 'n Bibles	Off the Grid	Maranatha Mission Stories	Help! I'm a Parent	Gods Last Message to the World	Pioneer Media	
11:30 AM	Exercise Variety	Abundant Living	Cook :30	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Mission Revival	
Noon	Better Life Today	Exercise Variety	Body & Spirit	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Secrets Unsealed	
12:30 PM	3ABN Today Live (repeat)	Heaven's Point of View	Unshackle/Purpose/Intimate Clarity	Lineage	Jesus for Asia Now	Behold the Lamb Presents	
1:00 PM							
1:30 PM							
2:00 PM							
2:30 PM	Catching The Light	The Whole Message	Evolution Impossible	The Whole Message	White Horse Media	The Whole Message	
3:00 PM	Journey 'n Journals	Bible Buzz/Sing Along	The Incomparable Jesus	Better Life Today	Amazing Facts Presents	Kids Time Praise	
3:30 PM	Receiving the Word	Creation Case	Kids Time Praise	Action 4 Life	Body & Spirit	Kids Time	
4:00 PM	Women in the Word	Nature Music	Secrets Unsealed	Receiving the Word	Journey 'n Journals	Kids Time Praise	
4:30 PM	3ABN Sabbath School	Catching the Light	Country Wisdom	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	Bible Answers	
5:00 PM	Worship Hour Special Series	Unlocking Bible Prophecy	Gospel Outreach	Prophecy Unsealed	Variety Hour	Variety Hour	
5:30 PM	Authentic	Summer Camp Meeting	Behold the Lamb Presents	Doug Batchelor			
6:00 PM	Good News for Muslims	Stories of Faith	Better Life Today	Catching the Light	Women in the Word	Better Life Today	
6:30 PM	Strategies for Strongholds	The Seventh Day	Adventist World Radio	It Is Written	Gospel Outreach	Boots 'n Bibles	
7:00 PM	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Authentic	
7:30 PM	Better Life on Tour	Nature Music	Featured Ministries	NEWSTART Now!	Table Talk	Women in the Word	
8:00 PM	Celebrating Life in Recovery	Mark Finley Presents	Prophecy Unsealed	Your Favorites by Request	3ABN Today LIVE (Repeat)	GP Worship Hour	
8:30 PM							
9:00 PM							
9:30 PM							
10:00 PM							
10:30 PM							
11:00 PM							
11:30 PM							

DVD copies are available for many programs. Please call (541) 474-3089 for more info.