

# A STRING OF PEARLS

## *The Proverbial Woman*



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### Calling all PW!

*??I'm really interested in recipes, helpful hints, stories of your families. Please take a few moments and jot down something to share in an upcoming edition or on the website. I love it when we all come together.*

*??Have a prayer request? Send it too.*

## New For the New Year

Welcome all, the holidays are just about past and we're all about to sigh with great relief. I know that we all look forward to family get togethers, parties and good food, but we also like to return to the quiet nature of every day routine. I suppose this is truer of folks like myself who aren't thrilled with big changes in life. I must admit, I prefer scheduled "spontaneity", but God has decided that I need a little spice in my life.

My husband and I are going through many new things and many changes. We are now in full-time ministry and learning how to live by trusting God for everything. We had already learned to depend upon the Father for healing, but had never stood for finances. It's been a real "roller coaster" of a ride, but we're learning more everyday! God is faithful, patient and very merciful as we are not always quick to learn our lessons.

I hope you will enjoy this first "String of Pearls" for the New Year. Blessings to you all as you put up your new calendars and resolve to go to higher levels in the Lord!



## Saving Makes Cents

Saving money is more and more important these days as the economy fluctuates, but it's not impossible to be a good steward of your money. I use coupons for grocery items that are our favorites and this is one way to save money. If you make it a regular part of your routine, you can actually see a difference in your budget. When you save money by using coupons, why not take the savings and put it in an actual "piggy" bank. Here are some ideas for using coupons and shopping smart that can help you:

?? Only buy the Sunday version of your local paper. It will cost you a little more, but the supplements usually have several pages of coupons you can clip.

?? Next if you have a computer and have Internet access you can find printable coupons made available by the product manufacturers. With a little searching I have found an average of \$15.00 worth of coupons I can use each week. In a month's time I can have \$60.00 worth of savings set aside in a bank.

?? You really have to make yourself take the time to clip and organize your coupons. Buy a coupon organizer and carry it with you.

?? Make sure and pick up the grocery store paper flyer at the front of the store. Shop from it first, filling in items that will fill our your grocery list.

?? Be flexible. If you have "Chicken Gumbo" on your weekly menu and they have beef sirloin; "buy one get one free", change your menu and take advantage of the sale.

?? If you have a smaller family, why not consider sharing bulk items with a larger family or a second smaller family. When you buy a case of olives at a "buyer's club" store, why not split the case and cost with a friend?

?? Don't buy generic if your family doesn't like it. Cheaper isn't always better.

Also, don't scrimp on food, as it will affect you in the health arena. Fat meat isn't good for you, it's better to eat less than to save and eat too much fat.

## Fuel Up

If you've never experienced the infilling or baptism of the Holy Spirit, you are really missing the biggest blessing of God. The Holy Spirit is the power of God in our lives, and we simply can't survive successfully without him. He is our comforter and the power to be holy. If you have been filled or baptized, you need to continually be infilled. So how do we keep filled up? Let's go to the scriptures:

### Eph 5:18-21

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.



Fill er up!

### Col 3:16-25

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. 18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. 20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. 21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. 22 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: 23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong, which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Here we can see that being filled with the Holy Spirit after you've received him requires more than just an obligatory prayer. It requires a committed life, a sacrificial life where we do pre-ordained things. Many people will do all sorts of "ritualistic" things, but yield very little fruit. Here we have some specific answers to our specific needs as humans.

The first thing we are instructed to do is to speak to one another through the Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs of the bible. If you've ever been in a grey place, there is nothing as encouraging as David as he walks out of a "valley". He begins his psalm with "Woe is me" and ends with "Wow is me, because of my God".

Next we're told to make melodies in our hearts to the Lord. Even if you can't sing a lick, you can make melodies in your own heart. God is tone deaf, because he judges on the heart, he only wants to hear the song that comes from our hearts.

Thanksgiving is more than just an American holiday; it's an ancient thing that we are to partake of every day. We are supposed to live a life filled with thanksgiving towards our God. He is such a loving Father and He does so many wonderful things for us, that we can be filled to overflowing with His Holy Spirit by walking in thanksgiving moment by moment!

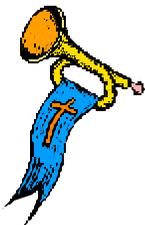
Last of all we're told to submit to one another. Submission isn't a dirty word; it's a power word. To be submitted to God and to be submitted to the many members of the body is a powerful thing. To recognize the individual gifts of the members of the body is to tap into that gift. If you need healing and you're standing next to a person in the body who has the gift of healing, or who can share by teaching you how to receive healing is wonderful. It means you can obtain health! If you're in need of deliverance and you're standing next to someone with the discerning of spirits means you can obtain deliverance! Submission means you have access to the Holy Spirit in the person next to you. You are then filled with a new measure of the infilling of the Holy Spirit!

If you read the rest of Ephesians 5 you will see more detailed instructions. Then read Colossians 3:16-25 and you get another perspective on being filled with the Holy Spirit!

Consider this: Yeshua never did a single miracle until he was baptized in the Holy Spirit and then went out into the wilderness. When you submit to God and allow yourself to be filled with His Holy Spirit, you can walk through the toughest "wilderness" experiences and come out ready for signs and wonders and miracles to follow you! Storms come whether or not your prepared, so isn't it better to be prepared and empowered than not?



"Wow is me,  
because of my  
God".



"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."

## “Calgon, Take Me Away”

There are times when we'd love to say this and have it work, but for those of you moms who can't get away from the children because you're the only adult in the house. When the weather isn't fit "for man nor beast" and you can't think of a thing to do here's a few ideas to help you survive the winter months.

I'm assuming because you have access to this newsletter you have Internet access. If not, you might want to take a trip to your local library and use theirs.

Here's a website with things you can print, download or do right on the computer. It's at [www.kidsdomain.com](http://www.kidsdomain.com) I found winter clipart you can copy and paste on a document and then print out for Kiddo stationary! They also have printable activities like word searches, crossword puzzles (with answer keys), and winter color pages in both PC and Mac formats.

If you like to do crafts and don't mind a mess they have all sorts of fun winter craft projects.

How about jigsaws online? No messy puzzle pieces to get lost and these puzzles free. You need to have Shockwave Player installed on your computer, but if you go to the site it will give you the option to install the necessary software for free. <http://www.dltk-kids.com/puzzle.htm>. I love these puzzles!

A quick note: Never leave your child unattended while on the Internet as there are many unscrupulous people who will take advantage of your child.



Keeping the kids happy on a rainy winter's day?

## Godliness And Cleanliness

The old adage is that "cleanliness is next to godliness", but if you live with a dirt magnet you may need a little divine help to get the perpetual chain of stains out. Here's the Ivory Soap method to eradicate many of those everyday stains:

1. Wet the stained item with cold water.
2. Rub a bar of Ivory soap directly into the stain and then rinse.
3. If that doesn't remove the stain, rub Ivory soap on the stain again, and then soak the fabric for 30 minutes or so in cold water with a bit of powdered detergent dissolved in it. (If you forget and leave stuff soaking longer, it doesn't really matter; you won't hurt the fabric.) Rinse.
4. If that still doesn't work, rub more bar soap into the stain, scrub it with a scrub brush (be gentle with the brush as you can damage fibers), and rinse.
5. If a second scrubbing attempt doesn't remove the stain, blot it gently with some color-safe bleach (oxygen-bleach, not chlorine bleach) diluted with water, then rinse with clean water to remove all of the bleach.

Here are some additional things to try for specific stains:

- ?? Fruit and berry stains: Apply fresh lemon juice and then use Ivory soap.
- ?? Mold and mildew: Wash with oxygen based bleach detergent and warm or hot water depending upon fabric. Line dry in straight sun.
- ?? Rust: Soak item in 50/50 solution of water and lemon for half an hour. Never use chlorine bleach on rusty items.
- ?? Sweat stains: Use lower dryer temperatures for items that tend to have sweat stains before they develop stains. After stains line dry in direct sunlight, as the sun is good at bleaching out perspiration stains.

## Secret Family Recipe

So you have tried washing your windows with white vinegar and came away disappointed with all the streaks. Here's a recipe that will clean your windows and not leave a single streak. Not only is it effective but it's also cheap!

Combine 2 cups of water, 1/4 cup of white distilled vinegar, and up to 1/2 teaspoon of liquid soap or detergent in a spray bottle.



*One of the most satisfying things is to have a clean home before the Sabbath!*



Study to show yourself approved by God!



Sparkling clean with vinegar and water.

## Mrs. White, In The Kitchen, With The Vinegar

Sounds like a game of Clue to me, but what you have here is a recipe for killing bacteria. According to Heinz representative Michael Mullen, vinegar is an excellent anti-bacterial agent. Did you know that a 5% solution of vinegar kills 99% of household bacteria, 82% of the household molds we deal with, and 80% of the viruses that live in our homes? A natural anti-bacterial, vinegar is an inexpensive and good replacement for the thousands of anti-bacterial products that are sold over the counter. The medical profession is concerned that these other products may be responsible for creating drug resistant bacteria. It just makes sense and cents to use vinegar and leave those over the counter items on their respective shelves.

### Lavender Soft Scrub

A clean kitchen is such a nice thing, but if you have a stinky sink your whole kitchen may smell. Here's a recipe for your own soft scrub mixture with a twist, it's lavender or tea tree scented.

1/2 C. baking soda,

Enough liquid soap or detergent (detergent is for hard water areas) to make a frosting-like consistency,

5 drops antibacterial essential oil such as lavender, tea tree oil, or rosemary.

Place baking soda in a bowl; slowly pour in the liquid soap or detergent, and fragrance oil stirring until the consistency is frothy. Store in clean-lidded jar. When you need it, scoop the mixture onto a sponge, wash the surface, and rinse.

### Getting Better Everyday

#### Get organized:

Vacuum faster by using a long extension cord and never plug and unplug again!

Before you dump those holiday cards and envelopes get ready for next year by recording names and addresses of all who sent you a card! Buy next year's cards during the weeks after the holidays for the best prices.

Organize your clothes closet. The best thing you can do is start, so buy several dozen sturdy plastic hangers, a vertical skirt hanger (the kind that hold 5-6 skirts). Get hangers in one color, or if you share a closet get two colors and be faithful to use one color for each of you. Recycle your metal hangers by taking them to your local dry cleaner. Also get a couple sturdy pant hangers.

Get rid of 3 outfits you haven't worn in over a year. Take them to Goodwill or Salvation Army and bless someone else. Why not throw in the matching scarf or handbag and be a bigger blessing. You reap what you sow. Wouldn't it be nice to get a matching purse and outfit from some unexpected source?

### American Sign Language

Want to learn sign language? Need the sign for a specific word? How about a browser for American Sign Language? Neat, I thought so.

<http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm>



Why not go and check out this great website?



Ps 68:12

*"Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil."*

## Curses or Blessings

**Proverbs 26:2** “As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.”

**Galatians 3:13** “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written. Cursed is everyone who hangeth on a tree, that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.” (Deut. 21:23)

Not so long ago people used to be very superstitious and afraid of curses being put on them by witches or other wicked people. They would do all sorts of odd things to prevent curses from being said over them and to protect themselves from hexes and other similar things. Today we have more knowledge of God’s word so we can stand against the fear of curses. Nearly 2,000 years ago Yeshua/Jesus took on all the curses of man and actually became the curse and took the payment for the curse for breaking the law.

We all need to understand the covenant concept of a curse. A curse was the consequence of breaking a covenant. Two tribes or two parties would decide to covenant together and become “brothers”. They would exchange gifts, share a meal, drink wine, cut themselves and exchange blood, declare the blessings of the covenant (the good stuff they would exchange) and finally decide the curse for breaking the terms of the covenant. Every member of the tribe or family was sworn to uphold the covenant. If one person broke the covenant everyone was to inflict the curses on the offending party.

Proverbs tells us that a curse won’t come without a reason. We need to know that we can’t sin and get away with it. God isn’t up in heaven waiting for us to break the law, but the devil is. He is the supreme legalist. He demands his rights; he knows he has 6,000 years to do as he pleases within the terms of the covenant that God has made with man. He knows the word backwards and forwards and he enforces the terms like the most merciless judge on the planet. He loves to accuse the children of God of sin, but we have an advocate and we have an intercessor, Yeshua. He is on the right hand of God the Father where he ever lives to intercede for us. We’re instructed to keep the laws of the land for the Lord’s sake. Why is this? Because if we break the law, the adversary will demand his rights and expect consequences to be enforced. He has been defeated by the Lord, but as long as we are under his deceptive influence and don’t know the terms of our covenant he has a right to trick us into payment.

Let me put this in the easiest terms possible. If we break the law by speeding, he can cause us to get a ticket, pay a fine, wreck our car (if we do it habitually), and even die. If we steal things from work like pencils, paper, staples, folders, etc. The adversary demands a door be opened so someone can steal from us. Worse yet, whatever we sow we reap. If we steal one thing and it’s like planting seed, we reap a harvest and the thief can steal much more than one item. Yeshua is up there doing his best to intervene, but as long as we break the law and don’t know we’ve been delivered from the power of sin and are dead to sin, the devil will take advantage of our ignorance. He is determined to do his best to kill, steal and destroy us. He’s one hateful fallen angel.

It’s important to spend time in the word. It’s important to meditate in it until we know how to put it into action. We need to know that Deut. 28 tells us every curse that was issued against the sinner. It’s important to know that we’ve been redeemed from the curse and stand against those curses. On a similar note, we need to refrain from cursing one another by speaking negative things about our fellow humans and ourselves.

My advice is to take time to read the curses in Deuteronomy 28. Read the blessings in that same chapter. Type them up and print them out and make it a regular practice of confessing that Yeshua broke the deathblow of the curses by becoming the curse!



The curse causeless shall not come.



*“Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree”.*



Know your rights in the kingdom of God!

## THE PROVERBIAL WOMAN

*A virtuous woman, who can find?*



Feel free to write with thoughts, recipes and ideas. I love interacting with other Proverbial Women! Know the story of a PW? Send it to me at the address below.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB: [HTTP://WWW.PROVERBIALWOMAN.COM](http://WWW.PROVERBIALWOMAN.COM)

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## Homeschool Helps

I homeschooled my daughter from 5<sup>th</sup> grade through high school and then began college level teaching. I know how great finding resources can be. If you're teaching your child how to sew, here is the web address for 35 sewing tips from the Texas Federation of Square and Round Dancers:

<http://www.squaredancetx.com/35sewhints01.DOC>

I will also add a copy of the 35 Sewing Tips to the Proverbial Woman website in the event that it is removed from this site.

Here's a website for new and experienced home educators:

<http://www.homeeducator.com>

Free homeschool help of all sorts.

<http://www.thehomeschoolershelper.com/?source=overture>

## The Best Gifts

Children are a gift from God,  
Of that there is no doubt.  
They bring us so much happiness  
And make us run about.  
So when the day seems very long,  
And exhaustion seems to loom.  
Remember that babies grow too fast  
And chase away the gloom.

