

RainDancing101.com

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass
It's about learning to dance in the rain

Dance Classes Here

Monthly Newsletter

Rx For The Soul

Don't let schooling
interfere with your
education. - Mark Twain

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Logic will get you from
A to B. Imagination will
take you everywhere.
(FREE @ the local library)

Albert Einstein

Behold, the fear of the
Lord, that is wisdom. And
to turn from evil is
understanding.

Job 28:28

Fear of the Lord is the
beginning of knowledge.

Prov. 1:7

Fear of the Lord is the
beginning of wisdom.

Prov. 9:10



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Editor - Messenger

'No Pretense Here'

"I'm Dreaming of... Mediocrity?"

Who aspires to mediocrity?

Former Fl. Gov. Jeb Bush is a big proponent of Common Core, the new educational standards embraced by 45 states, Wash. D.C. and 2 territories. It purports not to teach but raise achievement standards. Very vocal critics say it is forcefeeding children political propaganda, adding the sexuality part is prepared by Planned Parenthood, starting with kindergarteners.

Jeb Bush said at a Boston conference, "I want to hear (critics') solutions for *the hodgepodge of dumbed-down standards that's created group mediocrity in our schools.*" Quite an admission about today's public schools! Hello...?

We cannot thank public education for the success of Al Pacino, Nicholas Cage, Walt Disney, Hilary Swank, Marlon Brando or Johnny Depp –none graduated high school. Mark Wahlberg got his high school diploma at 42.

A businessman told his associate he had to leave a conference early to go check on his wayward son who was bailing out of an ivy league college – His son? Bill Gates.

Some of the brightest folks I've known did not graduate college...or even high school.

Norvel Hayes dropped out of school in the 8th grade. I knew him via our best friends.

They often spoke at the same conferences that we all attended. Norvel was an entrepreneur & millionaire. He was also known to speak the truth - ready or not! He still does! In 1978 he began New Life Bible College in Cleveland, Tn.

Norvel always said he'd rather have God's favor on his life than a degree from the best university – favor is worth more than money.

I learned a lot from Norvel. I heard stories of his daughter Zona who was out doing - in his words- the 'funky chicken' & God knows what. He prayed & asked God to save her. One day, an angel appeared to her...Today she runs his Bible College.

This story is significant because years later, an angel appeared to my own daughter! She & her husband are now shafts of Light to youth in Mid Tn.

The 'group' Jeb spoke of have mostly graduated! As **individuals** they were consigned to a life of mediocrity, trained only to live by their 5 senses, their minds yet virgin soil, unchallenged & unlearned. Proof of this is, every college in America has remedial classes to bring students up to speed for college level classes...

these failed by existing standards - Now comes Common Core; hence **MORE commonness!**

Ivy League schools that once gave copies of the Bill of Rights & Constitution at orientation, now give condoms & an AIDS packet! More, traditional values are ridiculed as evil!

Today's educational standards fail because: You can't abandon the source of knowledge & wisdom & summon others to valor, nobility or honor! The baser **nature** (flesh) will *prevail*. Take a look: Cheating is thought ok; abortion is used as birth control; 70% welfare boys end in jail & most of today's *adults* don't marry! *Those who sow of the flesh will of the flesh reap corruption.* **2**

Why do we accept mediocrity? Or endorse it? Isn't it intriguing that while schools (now society) are filled with boring mediocrity, today's *churches* are often boring & lukewarm...? **3**

Where IS greatness? Or passion? **You were born for more than common!****4** You won't *change* the world & *be like it!* Learn to *pray!***5** Work to get your offspring into private schools! Meantime, introduce them to a new world – the *library!* Greatness dwells there...!

Do not regret growing
older. It is a privilege
denied to many.

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Remains of what archaeologists
believe was the first politician



I want to say a big Thank YOU to **Nancy Labencki**, the real editor of this Newsletter. She keeps it real & gives it some *class*.

"The person that dares to tell the truth is called at once a lunatic and fool."
Plato, 437 B.C.

Political Correctness is in a word, FASCISM..... posing as manners.

How Betty Learned to Love

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Betty Klem was the wife of John, once head of the Psychology department at Ball State University. We all became friends through a professional men's group.

John was quirky and fun. He would enter an elevator & face the back of it. Once the door closed - every eye upon him - he would say, "I guess you wonder why I've gathered you all here..."

One time when Betty spoke at a luncheon, she shared how as a young graduate, she accepted a teacher's aid job. Students were preschool and were mentally retarded and/or emotionally disabled. One lil boy was particularly distracting to the class, as he came late, filthy dirty, hair disheveled, and wearing a diaper. Dirty. It became her duty to wash and clean up,

plus change Tommy's clothes so he could be presentable for class. Then, he was still disruptive to classmates.

Betty abhorred that job and dreaded each new day that always started with Tommy.

Finally, she told God she just couldn't do it anymore. It made her gag! She considered quitting her job...

One day as she worked to get gum out of his curly hair, God spoke to her. He said, "Don't look AT him. Look IN him...and call forth that which is made in My image."

At home later, she thought about this. She then decided to try and find one positive thing every single day to say to Tommy.

Next day, she started. She told him she loved his curly blond hair - (once it was cleaned!) He smiled. Next,

she told him he had a nice smile. His blue eyes sparkled.

Before long she found she was actually looking forward to each day. A few weeks later, Tommy arrived & had combed his own hair. Before long, he'd washed his face. Then, he'd haphazardly changed clothes. He began to engage other children in play, then in class. Teachers praised him...and Betty too!

The transformation in lil Tommy took months, but it came! She continued to take note of his skills and praise him when he tried. He told Betty he loved her. "We love because..."⁶

A terrible and disgusting responsibility now *somehow* delighted Betty...and taught her *how* to love! She listened to that still, small voice. Oh if we would be still, and listen.⁷



Ask Agatha

I hate it when you offer a sincere compliment to someone on their mustache - and just like that - she's not your friend anymore!

I didn't mean to push all your buttons. I was just looking for mute.

Everything Hitler did was always *legal*. Beware.

Ref's 1.Is. 5:20 2.Gal. 6:8; Heb 13:4 3.Rev. 3:15-16 4.II Cor 6:18; I Tim 6:15 5.I John 3:22 6.I John 4:19 7.I Kings 19:11-13 8.Matt. 18:19 9. Acts 16:31; Prov. 11:21

Pained Grandparents...?

Dear Agatha: I am middle-aged and married (second time for both) and we each have two adult children. We have holiday get-togethers & it's great. But we're concerned about our two sons. They seem detached and neither seem to value extended family normally. We do see the grandchildren, but they don't want any input and resent suggestions we might make—we don't make many. What do you think? **Doris.**

Dear Doris: I know this is painful to grandparents who want to be a part of shaping young lives. After all, they are an extension of themselves!

You can know there is a reason these two act this way. It no doubt goes to hurts in childhood, compounded

further by a society today that certainly doesn't put much worth in extended family. Being spread apart by miles and busy lifestyles is also a fairly new dynamic in families.

Little ones *do* need the security of extended family however. Not to mention the many things they can learn.

Some young parents feel their little family is 'enough' for all of them, and it's all it *should* be! They want no outside influence of any kind. Who knows why...but it's not normal by any means. And besides, 'exclusivity' is not healthy on any scale. We're made to need each other...

It is wholly possible that in the future, families will become more dependent upon one another due to our

changing times, even sharing housing or creating 'compounds' to cut expenses such as high energy & food costs due to inflation, etc. So that might be a reason to cultivate warmth & closeness! You never know what can happen. Remember 9/11.

Take an honest look at *yourselves* to see what they react to. Then ask them! It might be simple! In any event, prayer never hurts. Find a good Bible believing church. Look for a friend to pray with. The prayer of *agreement* is most powerful! ⁸

Not to mention you & hubby need to pray. *Nothing brings a couple closer than praying together!* Prayer changes things. And often changes *you*... Healing *can* come to your house ⁹ Yes

