

Maranatha

ADULTS 55+ MINISTRY

COMMUNICATION #33

May 5, 2021

Greetings to our Maranatha family from Gordon, Joy and the leadership team! When you survey the history of God's interaction with his followers, you can't help but notice that, like a loving Father, he wants us to trust in all circumstances, even when things seem out of control. Dr. Charles Stanley has written a wonderful reflection that reminds us that we can always rely on the fact that God is in control.

GOD IS ALWAYS IN CONTROL:

I admit that I often don't understand why bad things happen. Even so, I believe that God has a purpose for everything He does or permits. My faith is rooted in the biblical principle that says the Lord is sovereign (Ps. 22:28). He is in absolute control of this universe, the natural and political climate of this earth, and my life and yours. (Isaiah 45:5-70)

When we are in the midst of a trial, it is hard to resist crying out, "God, Why is this happening?" Sometimes we get the answer and sometimes we don't. What we can be sure of is that nothing happens by accident or coincidence. He has a purpose for even our most painful experiences. Moreover, we have His promise to "cause all things to work together for good to those who love God" (Rom. 8:28).

Seeing in advance how the Lord will work evil or hurt for our benefit is very difficult, if not impossible. My limited human perspective doesn't allow me to grasp His greater plan. However, I can confirm the truth of this biblical promise because the Father's good handiwork appears all through my pain, hardship, and loss. I have experienced Him turn mourning into gladness and have seen Him reap bountiful blessings and benefits from my darkest hours.

As believers, we must accept that God won't always make sense to us. Isaiah teaches that His ways and thoughts are higher than our own (Isa. 55:9). He sees the beautifully completed big picture. We can rely on the fact that God is in control, no matter how wildly off-kilter our world seems to spin.

Dr. Charles Stanley

PANDEMIC QUIZ TIME:

For those who are committed to stretching their knowledge about Canadian history, the Old Testament and the New Testament, the following is just for you!

1. Which province has 40% of the arable land in Canada and is the country's largest producer of grains and oilseeds?
2. Which is the largest city in Saskatchewan?
3. The Province of Saskatchewan has the world's largest deposits of which two minerals that are used in fertilizer?
4. Which two brothers met after twenty years in peace and love, although one had vowed to kill the other?
5. Under what did Rahab hide the Israelite spies?
6. Who wrote the Ten Commandments upon the tablets?
7. For which activity was Dorcas admired?
8. Who was known for having a thorn in the flesh?
9. What action of Zacharias caused his speech to return?
10. One manufacturing industry has seen growth because of covid-19 prevention. We must use this item in all public places. What is it?

(1-Saskatchewan; 2-Saskatoon; 3-uranium and potash; 4-Jacob and Esau; 5-stalks of flax; 6-God; 7-her sewing; 8-Paul; 9-writing the name "John"; 10-face mask).

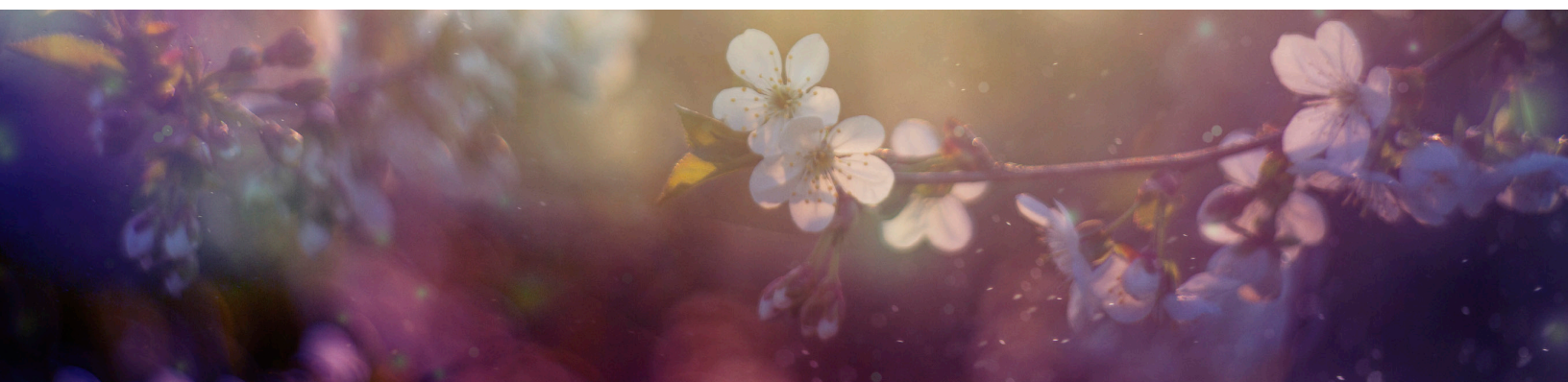
FAMILY FAVORITE RECIPES:

If you are looking for a light, delicious dessert and you love lemon, this dessert is for you! This is a favorite of Gordon & Joy Dirks. Great to put in parfait dishes. Very attractive.

Lemon Fluff Dessert:

- 1 large package of lemon Jell-O
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 ½ cups cold water
- 1 lemon pie filling mix
- 1 - 8 oz. container Cool Whip

Prepare lemon Jell-O with 2 cups boiling water and 1 ½ cups cold water. Let partially set. Prepare pie filling according to package directions and let cool. Cover with plastic wrap to avoid "skin" forming on top layer. Whip together Jell-O, pie filling and Cool Whip in a large bowl. Let set in fridge. Top with whipping cream and garnish with fresh lemon slices. You can also layer with buttered graham crumbs if desired. Should be refrigerated until served.



CSC SENIORS HOME HANDYMAN REPAIRS: Handyman services include: plumbing repairs (leaks, facets, etc.); electrical repairs (wall plugs, switches, circuit breakers, etc.) also small carpentry repairs. Service with experienced handyman is free, however, cost of supplies will be reviewed with customer. Please note that during this pandemic time, cautions will be reviewed prior to a home appointment. Please call Greg Pask at 403-861-5361.

ODE TO MAY:

Queen of months, supremely fair,
Cloth'd with garments rich and rare,
None in beauty can compare
With thee, sweet May.
Lovely month, thou bringest mirth,
Spreadest sweetness o're the earth,
Causes Nature to give birth
To fruits and flowers.
Thou art lov'd by young and old.
Joys for each thou dost unfold;
Never shall our hearts grow cold
To thee, sweet May.
- by Peter Burn

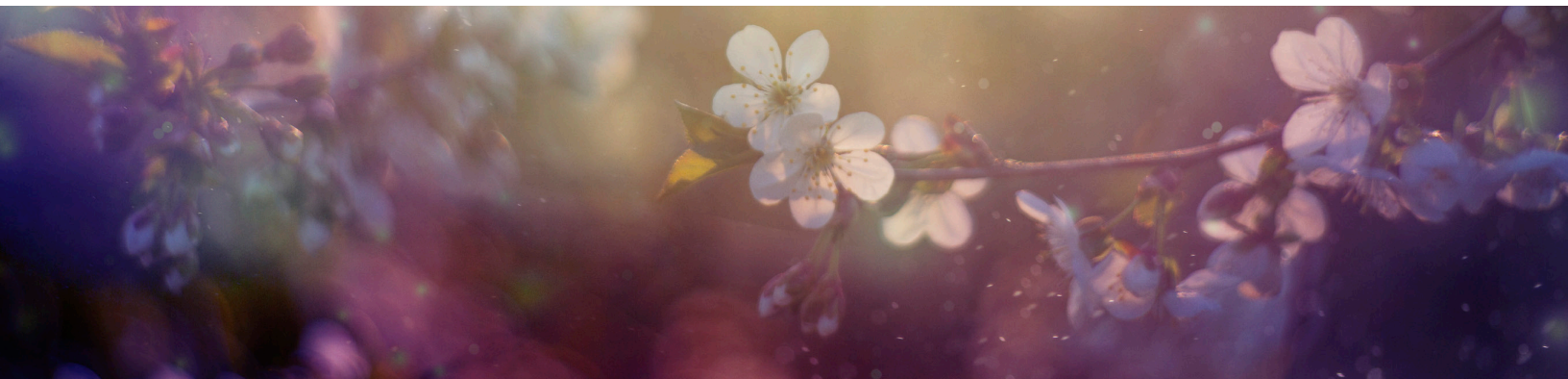
Clean Jokes for Senior Citizens: The Surgeon

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me. Your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife...."

CENTRAL CAMPUS WEEKEND SERVICES:

ONLINE SERVICE TIMES: Saturday, 6:30 pm; Sunday 9 am; 11 am & 6 pm

IN PERSON SERVICE TIMES: Saturday, 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm; Sunday, 9 am & 11 am
(Registration is required for in person services)



VISITATION:

If you would like to have a visit from the Maranatha Visitation Team, please contact Pastor Jared Harrison at jared.harrison@cschurch.ca or phone **403-520-2680/403-293-3900**. During this time of pandemic, all visits will be made by personal phone call.

We want to stay in touch with you! This Maranatha Digest is being sent to everyone in our Maranatha Adults data base. We hope you enjoy it and know that you are not alone during these pandemic times. Please contact us below and let us know how you are doing! You can also send prayer requests to the contacts below, either by phone or by email.

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." Lam. 2-22-23.

Until we meet again, blessings in Christ!

Gordon & Joy Dirks, Maranatha Ministry Coordinators

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