

# You Have Crowned Him With Glory And Honor Psalms 8:5

## Everyday Survival Kit



### Items Needed:

Toothpick, Rubber band,  
Band aid, Pencil, Eraser,  
Chewing gum, Mint, Candy  
Kiss, Tea Bag

### Here's why:

- ✓ Toothpick - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others...Matthew 7:1
- ✓ Rubber band - to remind you to be flexible, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out...Romans 8:28
- ✓ Band Aid - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's...Colossians 3:12-14
- ✓ Pencil - To remind you to list your blessings everyday...Ephesians 1:3
- ✓ Eraser - to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay...Genesis 50:15-21
- ✓ Chewing gum - to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything ...Philippians 4:13
- ✓ Mint - to remind you that you are worth a mint to your heavenly father...John 3:16-17
- ✓ Candy Kiss - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday...1 John 4:7
- ✓ Tea Bag - to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings...1 Thess. 5:18

## WRITTEN IN SAND AND STONE



A story tells of two friends who were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, she wrote in the sand: "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE"

They kept on walking, until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but her friend saved her. After she recovered from the near drowning, she wrote on a stone: "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE"

The friend, who had slapped and saved her best friend, asked her, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand, and now, you write on a stone, why?"

The other friend replied: "When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand, where the winds of forgiveness can erase it, but when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone, so no wind can ever erase it."

LEARN TO WRITE YOUR HURTS IN THE SAND AND TO CARVE YOUR BLESSINGS IN STONE.

"...Contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him ..." 2 Corinthians 2:7.

## Dear Bertha...

This was written by an 83 year old to her friend. The last line says it all.

Dear Bertha,

I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden.

I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time working. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

I'm not "saving" anything; we use our good China and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom. I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries. I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank. "Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary; if it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now.

I'm not sure what others would've done had they known they wouldn't be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted. I think they would have called family members and a few close friends. They might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner or for whatever their favorite food was. I'm guessing; I'll never know.

It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband and parents often enough how much I truly love them. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

Every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God. People say true friends must always hold hands, but true friends don't need to hold hands because they know the other hand will always be there.

"Redeeming the time..." -Ephesians 5:16

### Star Performer on the Winter Circuit



Go almost anywhere in the suburbs or the country and you will see chickadees. A full-grown chickadee seldom weighs more than half an ounce, about the weight of an ordinary letter. Inside that tiny body is a heart that beats close to 500 times a minute, so fast that through a stethoscope its sound is practically a buzz. Its body temperature ranges around 105 degrees, which accounts for that high-tension activity.

On a cold day a chickadee needs its own weight in food to keep the inner fires burning. Its feathers, which make it appear the size of a sparrow when they fluff out, help hold warmth, while the dark back and head gather additional heat from the winter sun.

This bird is a lively personality! It can be a ham actor, a bully, a wheeler or an acrobat. It loves a human audience and comes to the dooryard feeder as much for companionship as for a snack. As an entertainer, the feathered song-and-dance performer gets, and deserves, top billing on the winter circuit of the dooryard feeders.

"And God created... every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good" - Genesis 1:21



# Neighborly News

## Want To Wear A Crown?



IN THE ANCIENT athletic games, a fragile, leafy crown was awarded the winner.

This garland -- called the victor's crown -- was a collection of pine leaves, wild olive leaves, parsley, celery leaves, or ivy. In the Isthmian Games, the prize was a pine wreath. With this crown came instant fame, high acclaim, and the life of a hero. Winners were immortalized, much as they are today. These wreaths were taken home with great pride. But in a few days they would soon wither and discolor.

Making a striking comparison, inspired authors contrasted these earthly crowns with the imperishable crown of Christ -- Heaven's Heisman. What can be said about God's eternal crown?

- It is called "the unfading crown of glory." 1 Pet. 5:4
- It is called "the crown of righteousness." 2 Tim. 4:8
- It is called "the crown of life." James 1:12
- It is called "an imperishable wreath." 1 Cor. 9:25

When we stand before Christ, each of us will long to hear Him say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant." The Master's approbation, His approval, is all that will matter. Then Christ will take an incorruptible crown, shining in all its resilient glory, the emblem of God's approval for a race well run, and place it upon each winner's head.

Of course, to win the crown we have to be in the race! Are you running the Christian race? Do you want to wear a crown?

-adapted from Steven J. Lawson, quoted in KneEmail, Mike Benson, editor

"And also, if anyone competes in athletics,  
he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Tim. 2:5).

