



What is This?

I was recently picking up the kids' clothes for the wash when I grabbed a pair of jeans that belonged to my 10 year old son, Jason. In his pockets I found: three flattened bottle caps, an arcade game token, a movie ticket stub, and (the weirdest find) two empty Chick-fil-A sandwich wrappers.

As I was searching each pocket for new discoveries, I was amazed at what he must have deemed as valuable, thus stuffing it in his pocket for safe keeping. If you were to quiz him on the details of each object of adoration, he could give you a complete detailed reason why he kept these "treasures". The question that I and every other parent would ask is, "Do you really need this bottle cap, movie ticket stub, and Chick-fil-A wrapper? Honey, this is trash!"

Switching the role here a moment, what if God searched your pockets (your heart)? What would He find? Would He ask, "Do you really need this in your life? Honey, this is only trash!"

The Bible tells us to search our pockets (heart). Psalm 139:23-24 gives this instruction, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life." In other words, empty your pockets.

Remember to only place worthy items in your heart, "My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart, for they will give you a long and satisfying life." (Psalm 3:1).

So take time to search your heart today, focus on the things of God and not the trash on the ground. The good stuff only gains value and builds a stronger, longer life!

Picking up treasures,
Todd

Hi Morning Glory Folks...As you can see, this is a little different newsletter. This is the one we do for On Track & I've just modified it to personalize to you. We are a little displaced, my computer is still in storage so my updated mailing list is not available to me. Please let the new Morning Glories know that I'm not ignoring them, but just don't have the last few new additions for this mailing. I have the addresses from Sept, but no bdays. I wish each of you Oct & Nov bday folks a wonderful belated or to come special day and am sorry that I don't have a list to get something extra to you. Will catch up with you guys in Dec.

When you read the story on back, you'll see what's been going on. I'll give you more details later. In the meantime, know that you've all been thought of & I miss our time together. I love writing your newsletters & getting your letters and treat it like we're sitting on the porch swing together sharing bits of our lives with each other. Our struggles are similar in many ways - we all have to learn to trust God wherever we are and follow in obedience wherever He leads. We all have to deal with disappointment and believe that He never wastes a hurt. This has been a long road. I want to get into my own space again, but I do trust that God will use this experience to further His kingdom & know He will use each of you too.

Thanks to those who have written...This has been a long & lonely road. I really miss you all! Your prayers are appreciated and I will continue to think of & pray for you! You are each very special people to God & to me!!! Love ya...Lisa :)



Lisa's Lines... "Chasing the Mailman"



One year, several years ago, Todd & I were leaving Ocala for a race up north. We were heading out of town without the funds to get back home. For two adults, we could handle that concept. Add the two children and those adventures become a little less appealing. We were waiting on the mailman to come by when a friend came by out of the blue and gave us some gift certificates for restaurants. He said God told him we would need them. We did!

We thought we knew the route of our mail carrier so we tried to catch up with her to see if anyone had mailed donations we could use for the trip. After a futile attempt to locate her and our possible donations, we decided to go ahead & leave town. We would just have to trust God that if He sent us out on a mission, He would provide the funds for us to return to our home.

We used the gift certificates to have dinner on the road and then had several racers walk up and hand us money to support our work. Not only was it enough to get back home, we had some extra to pay bills when we returned. What a blessing that was and what a lesson in trusting God to provide for us.

While not everyone is called to learn lessons the way we are, we seem to have experienced another lesson in God's timing and provision. We had all our plans for moving to VA, had the "perfect" home picked out, and everything was falling into place. Enter God, stage right, with a whole new script! It was difficult accepting that He was changing our plans, but He has a way of taking care of us that we've just learned to trust. He always has our best interests in mind! His plan and provision is always better than anything we could ever imagine!

We are now preparing to close on house #3 (#2 was a whole other weird story). It is much more of what we were originally looking for,

more land, more secluded, about the same price, and many features that we thought we were going to have to give up. If He doesn't change the plan again, we will be in our new home in time to decorate for and enjoy Christmas.

I look forward to sharing more about our move in next month's article. In the meantime, we are getting excited about being surrounded by a cattle farm, beautiful mountains, a creek on the adjoining property, a Christmas tree farm around the back of the property, and 2.5 acres of our own to enjoy. We will have a cool, older home with much character, but a master suite addition with all new features. Jason will have a cozy room upstairs off the loft and Krista will have the room with a 6 ft. double window looking out upon the scenic pastures. God seems to have found more than we thought we could get and provided it according to His timing.

If you find yourself in a situation where things just aren't working out, ask yourself if God is trying to teach you to trust Him, be more flexible (something I've had to work a LOT on), depend on His provision, and model peace to those looking at how you handle your challenges. Stop chasing the mailman & let Him provide according to His plan. You never know who's watching you to see what this "God thing" is all about and you never know what kind of blessing He has waiting right around the corner.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Rom. 15:13)

Here's to changes, surprises, and trust,



