

FEATURES

Faith Found in a Friend

by Lea Pardue
Staff Writer

As a freshman at Mars Hill College, I have been through and am continuing to go through a series of changes. Although the students and faculty have offered their full assistance and support, this transition has been difficult for me. My faith in God gives me the stability and consistency that I need at this time.

Like many of you, my major is undecided. I do not know what God wants me to do with my life. I am constantly asking myself how I can use my talents to serve Him. At times I have felt bogged down by my classes, homework, and the neverending reading that is assigned each day. Sometimes, I even wonder if college is the right decision. I wonder if I will be forgotten back home because I am here and not there. I left a family, friends, and a church that I love dearly. I know homesickness is normal, but at times, I can almost be overwhelmed. After all, leaving home for the first time can be a traumatic experience. College can be quite lonely.

As I think myself into depression and dwell on the sacrifice that I made to come to school, I can only remember the tremendous sacrifice Christ made for me. This doubt that I feel now is nothing compared to my future glory with God. In II Corinthians Chapter four, you can find these encouraging words: "We are often troubled, but not crushed; sometimes in doubt, but never in despair; there are many enemies, but we are never without a friend; and though badly hurt at times, we are not destroyed. . . And this small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble."

We should all try to keep our hearts open to God and His will for our lives. We will never be happy and content unless we know that we have given ourselves COMPLETELY to God and are living according to His will. "My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak." Keep your heart and soul devoted to the Lord and He will not fail you. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. . . For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Answers and Messages

Always go to God first, He will use other people if He desires.

HE IS THE ONLY ANSWER!!!

Speak, Lord in the stillness, while I wait on Thee;
Hushed my heart to listen in expectancy.
Speak, O blessed Master, in this quiet hour.
Let me see Thy face, Lord, feel Thy touch of power.
For the words Thou speakest, "They are life" indeed;
Living Bread from heaven, now my spirit feed!
All to Thee is yielded, I am not my own;
Bliss, glad surrender, I am Thine alone.
Fill me with the knowledge of Thy glorious will;
All thine own good pleasure in my life fulfill.

Father, I pray thus the Holy Spirit will be my teacher in all things in God's word.

I claim John 14:26 which says

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. . . .

A SPECIAL THING

A special thing Jesus told me in my prayers last night, was that He would be here today and let me see the golden light that helps me find my way. Jesus is the light that helps me find the way. And He spreads something special each and every day. He shows this special thing in a special way, It may be glad It may be sad It may be good, It may be bad. But this special thing you may keep in your heart and never, never let it part. This, special thing he made for you and me. It's whiter than a dove and prettier than the sea. This, special thing you cannot see or hear. This thing is LOVE He shows, for you and me. And spreads on our path way each and everyday.

Why Ask Questions

by Ed Hix
Staff Writer

Is there something that really bothers you? Well, there is for me and that is when people ask questions. It seems that when I ask a question I never get the answer I want or when someone asks me a question I never give them the answer that they want to hear. Take, for example, those supposedly vital questions that professors tend to ask; like, where is your homework, or where is your already overdue paper, or did you know you had 15 absences in the class. I mean those are some really stupid questions!

Of course people have been asking stupid questions throughout history it seems. Philosophers did it all the time in olden days. In Plato's *The Republic*, everyone sat around talking about the just and the unjust man. Is the just man juster than the unjust man or is the unjust man juster than the just man? If the just man is juster than the unjust man, then what justifies him being juster than the

injust man? But if the unjust man is juster than the just man then what justifies the unjust man being juster than the just man? (Try justifying that one. All they ever did was answer a question with a question! I wish I could make living that way.

Another thing that bothers me about asking questions is when people ask them when they don't need to. Take Shakespeare, who writes in *Hamlet*: "To Be or Not To Be, that Is The Question." To begin with, there is not a question in that phrase. I mean, really, I thought these were supposed to be educated men! It is clear to me, as sure it is to everyone else, that you either are or you aren't; you either will or won't; you either can or you can't. There is simply no question of being really think that asking questions is dumb! Don't you think so?

Counselor's Corner

By Merry Burgess
Contributing Columnist

In the office of *Roots* author Alex Haley hangs a picture of a turtle sitting on a fence. Says Haley, "Anytime I start thinking, 'Wow isn't this marvelous what I've done!' I look at that picture and remember how this turtle - me - got up on that post."

We are all a part of each other. There is not one among us humans who can claim to be without the help and influence of others. We all like to think we did it "My Way" as the old song popularized by Frank Sinatra suggests, but in reality "my way" is made up of bits and pieces of different people's influence on us.

"It is this variety of influences that makes you a distinct, unique person."

Think of the number of individuals you have known in your life so far, and imagine the many who will cross your path in the future. They have touched your life as you have touched theirs. We are made up of portions of all who have touched our lives, whether with love or carelessness. We are better because of it. We have learned, been influenced, shared, and grown as a result of the impact others have had on us. As Tennyson wrote in his poem *Ulysees*, "I am a part of all that I have met."

It is this variety of influences that make you a distinct, unique person. No one else has had the experiences or has known the same people as you. The contributions of others to your life do not make you the same as them, but aid in

the formation of your singular personality.

How many people rely upon you? How many do you rely upon! We are interdependent people, sharing our hopes, dreams, and ideas. Everything we do is through an interconnectedness with others. We are a part of each other; we owe each other so much. Sometimes (frequently) we forget, in our self-centeredness, to acknowledge the contributions others make to our lives.

So the next time you are sitting on a fence post surveying your world, think of the turtle, and think of all who help you get up there. Take time this month, to affirm those people who have contributed to your life. Thank your friends for their love and caring. Thank your teachers for the knowledge they impart and the concern they show. Thank your family members for their support and encouragement. Let people know you appreciate what they have done to help you along your way.



Stash
your trash.