





**BENEDICTION EVERY  
THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.**



October 18  
Allison Rockey

October 19  
Charlie Volk  
Bob Wendell

October 20  
Chrissy Wendell

October 21  
Rose Brubaker  
Jane Cadwallader

## **LAUGHTER IS GOOD**

My wife, a registered nurse, once fussed over every pain or mishap that came my way when we were dating. Recently we got married. I think the honeymoon may be over.

I was about to fix the attic fan. As I lifted myself from the ladder in the attic, I scratched my forehead on a crossbeam. Crawling along, I picked up splinters in both hands. I cut one hand replacing the fan belt. On the way down the ladder, I missed the last two rungs and turned my ankle.

When I limped into the kitchen with my splintered hand still bleeding, my wife took one look at me and said, "Are those your good pants?"





**MAN IN BOXERS LEADS POLICE ON BRIEF CHASE**



**YOU KNOW YOU'RE RICH**  
**WHEN YOU OPEN THE DOOR OF YOUR GARAGE AND A BOAT COMES OUT OF IT**

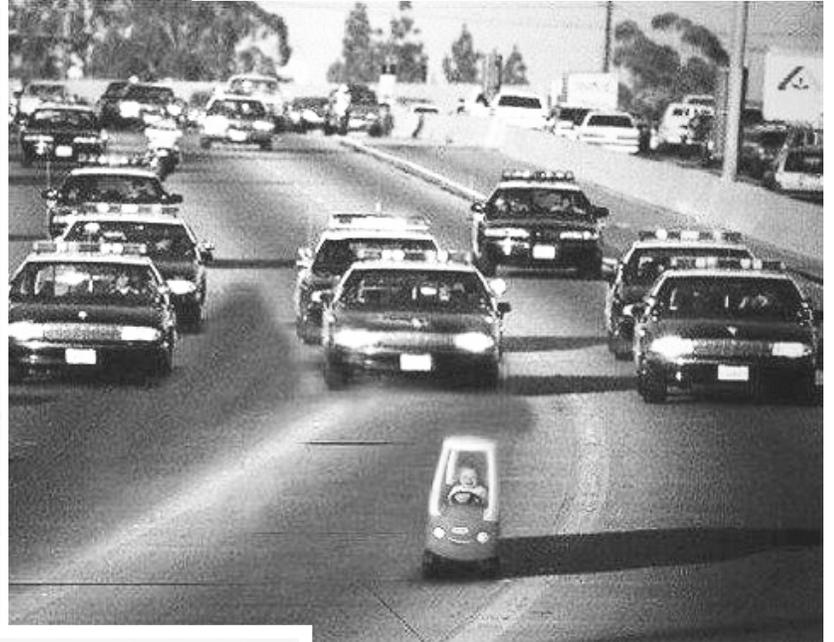
www.UShumor.com



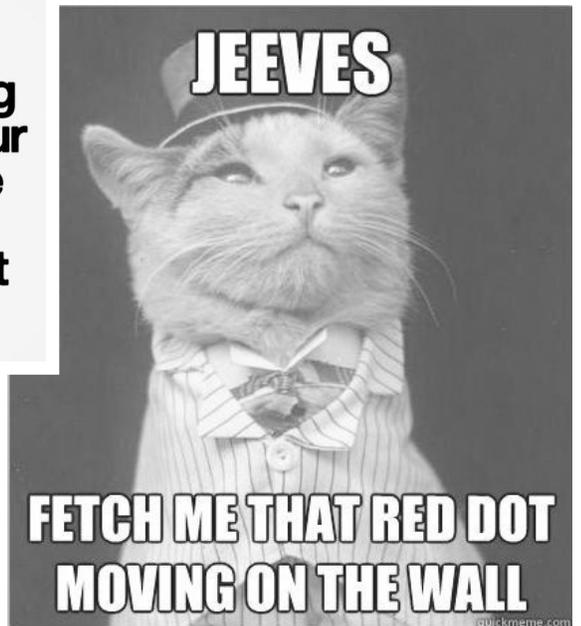
**GIRLFRIEND**



**NO GIRLFRIEND**



**A beautiful heart can bring things into your life that all the money in the world couldn't obtain.**



**JEEVES**

**FETCH ME THAT RED DOT MOVING ON THE WALL**

quickmeme.com

## SERMON FOR TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY

When I was a kid, I got a pair of walkie-talkies for my birthday. It was two radios that can broadcast your voice to someone far away. Suddenly, I became a popular kid in the neighborhood. But I soon realized they wanted to be my friend only to get on the radio. They friended me only to play with a neat toy. There is a false doctrine that treats God the same way. This false doctrine is gaining popularity because of the many TV evangelists who proclaim it. It is called the “Prosperity Gospel” also known as the “Health and Wealth Gospel.” They teach that if you have faith in Jesus, He will not only forgive your sins, but also give you material prosperity and good health – that prayer is a tool to force God to give you wealth and health. The more faith you have in God, the more wealth and health you get. These TV evangelists have amassed huge sums of wealth by preaching this false Gospel. If you give to my ministry, God will make you rich. No wonder Joel Olstein is worth 40,000,000 million dollars and lives in a 17,000-square-foot home worth 10.5 million dollars.

I have a suspicion that the man who ran up to Jesus was one of the first Prosperity Gospel believers. He wanted validation that he is saved. He believed he was good so he calls Jesus “good.” Sort of like saying, “We good guys know one another.” Jesus blows that away by saying only God alone is good. This man believed he was good because he followed all the commandments from his youth. As a sign of his goodness he believed God rewarded him with the wealth of many possessions. I really think the man expected Jesus to say all your possessions, all your prosperity shows God will give you eternal life as well. There is nothing more you need to do. Then Jesus drops a bomb – sell it all, give it away, make heaven your only treasure. Follow me.

Not only was the rich man crestfallen (my favorite word), but the apostles became “exceedingly astonished” as well. I suspect the Apostles believed that if they gave up everything now and followed Jesus, He would give them even more wealth later on in the world. They were blown away when Jesus declared they were not going to get wealthy in this world like they expected. Like the rich man, the Apostles thought being rich in this world was a sign of divine favor that they were chosen for eternal life. When Jesus says true wealth is found in the “present age,” He meant not in today’s world, but the in Kingdom of God which is replacing the world. God will bestow the wealth of His Kingdom only on those who make Jesus their true treasure. God’s wealth is not measured in gold nor silver. God’s wealth is the fruits of His Spirit – love, joy and peace. The world can’t give that. The Kingdom of God will give you more than you could ever dream of now, and eternal life in the age to come.

I once met a man in the hospital who won the lottery. He received millions of dollars. He quit his job to live a life of luxury, so he thought. He said, “There are only so many fine restaurants to dine and places to travel and things to buy before I got bored with it all. I fell into depression. My life became meaningless. A spiritual director told me to give it away. Help someone in need. I set up a charitable trust fund. I found the greatest joy in writing checks to buy a car or provide a home or pay for college knowing I was making another person’s life better.” This man had terminal cancer when I met him. He seemed very much at peace, even joyful as he neared his passing. Before leaving he remarked, “Father I did some good. Do you think I have a chance of getting up there?” I replied, “Yes, you made heaven your treasure.” I quoted Matthew 6:21, “Your heart will always be where your treasure is.”