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#### PathPointe Magazine

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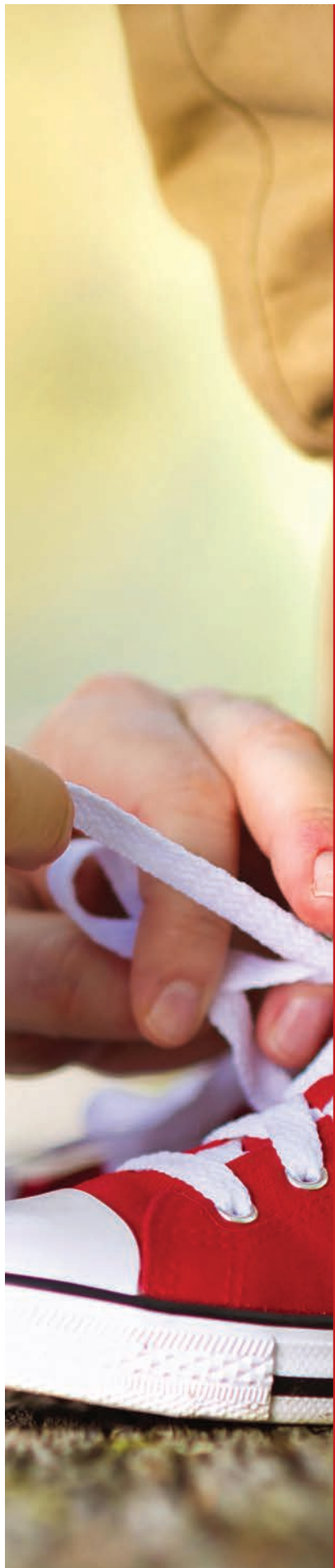
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*“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”*

**II Timothy 2:3**

The role of a dad has sure changed from when I was a kid. Dads aren't relegated to the role of breadwinners and disciplinarians anymore. Still, some men may find becoming an involved parent difficult because the role of a nurturer is a foreign one to most men. Now, to be a good father, you're expected to do more of what mothers used to do, so it is quite natural that our ideas about masculinity have shifted too, but that's another story.

For example, America coming off of the gold standard and consequently the devaluation of the dollar has caused many mothers to have to enter the work force. For example, in 1950 only 18% of women with children under 18 were in the work force, but by 2015 it was up to 70%. Then, their increase in financial power made fatherly

financial support less necessary for some families. Today, many women, unable to count on men for support, depend on the government to assist in supporting their children. A fact not lost on liberal politicians who are glad to purchase their votes with promises of more assistance. Fathers have gotten the message that they're not needed in the modern home. So Dads, although your role has shifted, there are still some things that no one can teach your children better than you.

***Teach Them To Have Grit.***

While the word grit may conjure images of John Wayne sitting on horseback, I would like to apply it to our children. Grit is about teaching kids to imagine and commit to a life and future they want to create. I don't see a lot of grit in many young people today. The cry babies, who are used to getting their participation trophies, are now camping out on college campuses and needing safe spaces

where historical figures and images are removed. I know their history censored education has left them without any true understanding of the past; but Dad you should be teaching them what is missing from their education. I also wonder, where's the work ethic, the grit, the resilience? I never questioned working around the clock just for the joy of working because I believed a good work ethic was a sign of character. It was a sign of grit!

I am talking about toughness and tenacity. It is about teaching your children to push through mental and physical barriers. In life we are put into so many difficult situations that kids must learn to become comfortable with being uncomfortable. This is character building stuff and helps you to learn to overcome adversity. The mind and body are capable of a great deal more than you realize. It's just that most people never push themselves hard enough to discover their full potential.

Grit is about teaching our kids not to be afraid of difficult situations. In fact, they should be encouraged to voluntarily put themselves in difficult situations. Instead of looking for comfort, they should look for a challenge and anything that will build character and make them tougher. They should get out of their comfort zone on a regular basis and see struggle and adversity as a friend and a means for personal growth. So, let's look at some of the specific attributes of grit!

### ***Teach Them To Have Self-Confidence.***

The expectations parents hold for their kids will have a huge effect on attainment. What a parent expects of a child can become a self-fulfilling prophecy. It takes confidence to be a kid. Whether going to a new school or stepping up to bat for the first time, kids face a lot of uncharted territory. Self-confidence rises out of a sense of competence. In other words, kids develop confidence, not just because parents tell them they're great, but because of their achievements. When kids achieve something, whether it's brushing their own hair or riding a bike, they get a sense of themselves as being capable, and tap into that fuel of confidence.

Parents can help by giving kids lots of opportunities to practice and master their skills, letting kids make mistakes, let them skin their knees, let them try something new, but be there to boost their spirits so they keep trying. Self-confidence is grit!

### ***Teach Them To Accept Responsibility.***

Children shouldn't be allowed to blame others for not meeting expectations or completing tasks. Make no doubt about it: kids who see themselves as

victims and are allowed to perpetuate that rationale will have a tough time accepting the responsibility that real life demands. When kids play the victim game with their parents or teachers, they need to be reminded that most "accidents" are really someone's fault; so someone has to accept responsibility.

Remember, consequences are the results of poor choices and not necessarily punishment for bad behavior. On the other hand, when parents make excuses for their children, it's a way they minimize the responsibility their children should be accepting; and these explanations transform into excuses for the child's behavior. Sometimes legitimate reasons may exist, but in my experience in dealing with hundreds of parents over the years, they are rare.

One way to teach your children about responsibility is requiring them to do chores. If kids aren't doing the dishes or cleaning the house or working in the yard, it means someone else is doing the work for them. As a part of the family, they have family responsibilities. When we let them off the hook they're absolved of not only the work, but of learning that work has to be done and that each one of us must

contribute for the betterment of the whole. Accepting responsibility and always pulling your load, that's grit!

### ***Teach Them To Have Good Manners.***

I know, in today's world most adults have crummy manners. But, from a positive perspective that means it is easy to shine today! "Say thank you," "Sit up straight," "Say please," "Say yes sir"; most of us heard things like this as we grew up, because our parents were teaching us manners. Many of us do the same thing with our children. But why do we bother? What is so important about teaching manners, anyway?

At the heart of good manners is a respect for oneself and others. Good manners convey a sense of respect for the sensibilities of other people. When you say "thank you," you're taking the time to make the other person feel appreciated. Saying "please" respects a person's right not to do what you've asked. Good manners also show that a child listens to his parents and does what he is taught; these are good character traits that teachers and other authority figures appreciate. Manners convey quite a bit of information!







Proper etiquette is a lost art in the modern world, but is something that is very important. Being tidy and well groomed, being well dressed or appropriately dressed for the occasion, being punctual, showing respect to authority figures or elders, greeting others in passing, conducting oneself appropriately during social settings; all of these are good manners. Simply put, your child may be more successful in life in general if he has good manners and they will also embarrass you less frequently. Good manners are often ridiculed today, so they require grit!

#### ***Teach Them To Dress Properly.***

For a little girl, dad is usually the man in her life for many years. The way her dad treats her will affect her relationship with other men throughout her teenage and adult life. She looks to him for affection, respect, and affirmation of her femininity. Dad's role differs from Mom's when it comes to teaching girls the basics of appropriate attire. Dad might say, *"You know, I was a teenage boy myself once, and I know that guys look at girls differently than girls look at guys. You can easily attract a guy's*

*attention by dressing provocatively, but I can assure you that it won't be the kind of attention you want. Nor is it the kind of attention I want for you."* Dad can explain from a man's point of view the difference in a woman and a lady, and how men react differently to each. The courage to dress modestly when all your friends dress like harlots requires grit.

#### ***Teach Them To Stand Up To A Bully.***

You can sign your child up for karate lessons, but the key to warding off most tormentors is depriving them of what they're truly looking for: a reaction. Show your kid how to portray positive, forceful, yet quiet body language (*the Fonzie look*). To a bully, lack of attention is akin to lack of oxygen. Of course, sometimes the only way to have peace is to have war first, so fighting might be necessary. Either way, standing up requires grit!

#### ***Teach Them To Deal With Loss.***

Sadness, grief, and loss are a part of life. This includes everything from the tinges of sadness that bite all of us at times, to the deep, overwhelming grief

that threatens to wring the life from our core. Perhaps we think it would be nice to stand between our children and any sadness that might come their way, but we can't. So, the next best thing we can do is teach them as much as we can about how to navigate through this unavoidable human emotion with courage, strength, and wisdom. Sadness, like all emotions, is there because it has a job to do. It can teach us a lot if we are prepared for it. Dealing with loss requires grit.

#### ***Teach Them To Lose Gracefully.***

There are far too many poor sports out there. Make sure your child doesn't become one of them. As you teach him to always do his best, also coach him to shake hands, praise the honest victor, avoid excuses, and never, ever blame his teammates. Losing with dignity means that ultimately he wins as well. It also means he has grit.

#### ***Teach Them To Say I Was Wrong And I'm Sorry.***

These words are often difficult for some people to say, especially a child. Teaching kids to apologize seems simple. You instruct them to say sorry to whomever they wronged, and you move on. But, did your child only say sorry to appease you? Does he really understand, or even care about what he did wrong? Teaching kids to apologize with sincerity helps them learn lessons in empathy, nurturing, and forgiveness. And given the messiness of life, those moments requiring apologies tend to be plentiful for practice. Saying please forgive me, I was wrong, requires grit!

#### ***Teach Them To Be A Man Or Lady Of God.***

As children grow up, their desire to have a relationship with God will be extremely dependent on what they have seen modeled by the men in their

lives. Boys need to see their dads submitting to our Heavenly Father. Little girls need to see an image of God reflected in their dad. Remember, what one generation accepts with reservation, the next generation will accept without reservation. To serve Christ and maintain a godly testimony your children will need grit.

### ***Teach Them How To Respect Others.***

Your little boy will learn how to treat the women in his life by watching how you act toward his mother. When I opened the car door for Sherry, I was doing that for the kids, too! One of the best things a father can do for his children is to show his love and respect for their mother. Likewise, little boys need to see their fathers serving outside of the home as well. If you are helping a relative or neighbor with a project, take your little boy along. Although he might not be able to help much, it will be extremely beneficial for that little boy to see his dad serving someone else. Respecting and serving others requires grit!

### ***Teach Them How To Be A Lifelong Learner.***

A lot of kids today are not avid readers. To many kids, reading is just not “cool”. However, this can put them at a distinct disadvantage when it comes to life-long learning. Little kids need to see their dad reading. Little kids also need to see their dad attempting to learn something new. Instilling a love for learning is a key component to ensuring your child’s success. Children need to see their dad as a role model for someone who enjoys learning something new and tackling a hard project! Again, this is something else that requires grit to execute properly.

### ***Teach Them How To Listen.***

We spend lots of time helping little kids speak but tend to shortchange the idea of paying attention to others. If a child is not talking by the time he is two, we wonder if something is wrong, however if a kid is not listening even when he is five or six, we think that is normal. A father needs to teach his children to respectfully listen.

### ***Teach Them To Be Decisive.***

In life you will often have to make quick and decisive decisions that may be unpopular. Often you don’t have



all the information or time that you need to make a well thought out plan. You may not have time to pray as you wish. So, you have no choice but to go with a combination of instinct, gut, and training. Don’t wait for conditions to be perfect before you commit to something. Don’t plan endlessly and never execute. Just get started. You can always adjust and recalibrate later on if the original decision was flawed in some way. But be confident and don’t let fear or uncertainty hold you back from making decisions. Of course, that will require grit.

### ***Teach Them Practical Skills.***

Modern folks are so weak that it doesn’t take much for society to totally

break down. (*Remember Katrina?*) Teach your children how to safely handle a firearm, scan crowds, look for entrance and exit routes and areas of protection, follow instructions, be organized, and never panic. Teach them to be patriotic, be prepared, to stand alone, and to learn the principles of personal self-government. In short, teach them to think and to have grit.

So, what is this stuff called grit? Grit is a distinct combination of passion, resilience, determination, faith, and focus that allows a person to maintain the discipline and optimism to persevere in their goals even in the face of discomfort, rejection, and a lack of visible progress for years, or even decades. People with grit refuse to be defined by failure and rejection. They know that participation trophies aren’t the same as success and that anything worth achieving takes a combination of prayer, passion, and perseverance. They endure hardness as a good soldier. Grit sets them up to overcome whatever obstacles get in their way and gives them the tools they need to become the strong and independent adults God created them to be. . . and no one can teach that like a dad!

And of all the people in the world, Christians should be the grittiest. After all, we have the best instruction book available on having the right attitude and staying motivated; the Bible. We also have the clearest view of what is at stake. Perhaps most importantly, we have the ultimate example of determination in Jesus Christ our Lord.



***Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry over forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries.***



# Radio**bits**

June, 2019

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## Focus On Christ

Perhaps you have read about the story regarding the great sculptor Thorvaldsen, one of the greatest of all time. He produced the beautiful, incomparable statue of Jesus called *The Pleading Christ*. An artist critic from afar had made a journey to Copenhagen to view that beautiful statue.

The story said the critic stood over on one side of the church and then

the other. He went all around that statue, looking at it from different angles, and was not impressed with what he saw. A child standing there noticed him and the expression on his face. The child said to him, *“But sir, you must go near, and you must bow down, and you must look up into His face.”*

The critic did just that. He came close, bowed down, and looked up into the face of the pleading Christ, while saying the words of **Matthew 11:28**, *“Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”* Suddenly the critic understood the hidden beauty of the statue.

As we look into the face of Christ, a lot of uncertainties and unknowns will be brought into focus. That is our goal at **GoMix Christian Radio**; to always keep our focus upon Jesus Christ. Through your prayers and financial support, we are able to do just that. As always, thank you for all you do!



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## *Artist Spotlight - Kevin Denton*

**Kevin Denton** grew up in Wilson, NC, and has always had a great love for music. Between playing the saxophone and singing, Kevin has been participating in music since he was in 6th grade. Although he has been singing for many years, his passion for music was birthed when he got saved in 1997 as a Bible College student. He had already spent 2 years traveling the country with an ensemble and a quartet, but realized his need for a Saviour. After that decision for Christ, things started to fall into place. He met Susan, his wife, in Bible College, and they were married June 5, 1999. They have two children, Meghan and Miles, who are now 16 and 14. Kevin has served as the Worship Pastor at Faith Church in Goldsboro since August of 2004. He works with all the music for the church, including choir, orchestra, and band as well as oversees the music for Faith Christian Academy. Susan also serves in the music department at FCA as well as piano player and cello player for Faith Church.

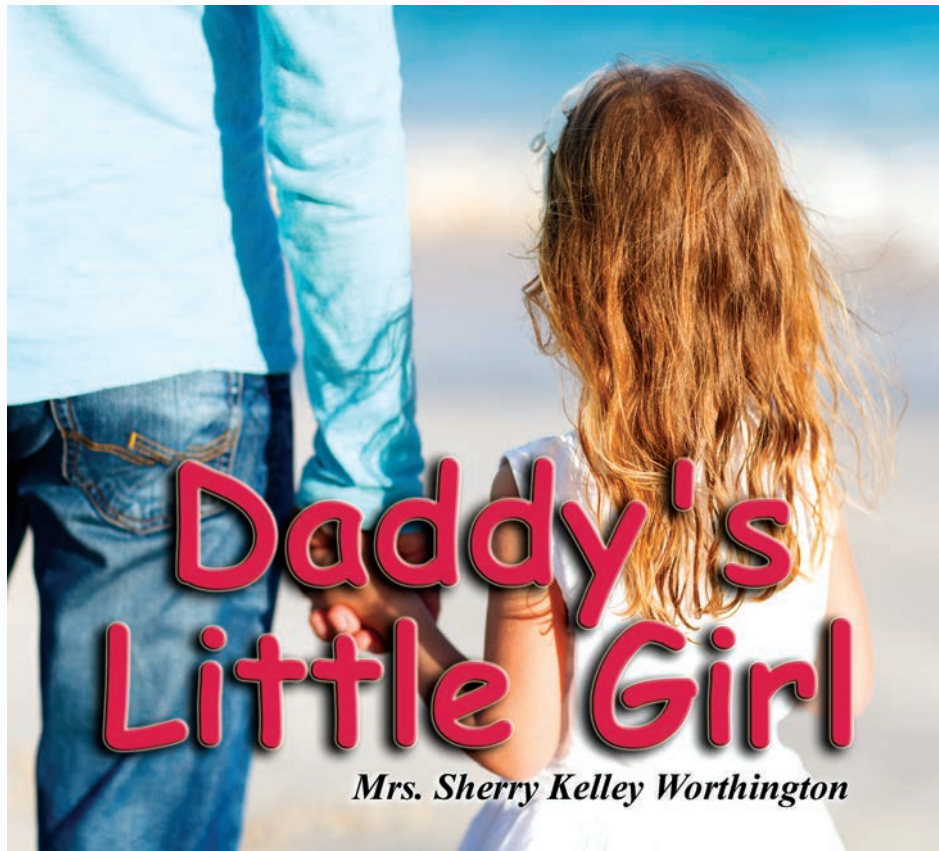
Meghan and Miles also enjoy music, as they both participate and sing in the music ministry.

Meghan plays the piano and keys while Miles plays saxophone in the church orchestra.

Beginning in 2017, Kevin started to travel and sing in churches and at events to promote his first ever recording, *The Anchor Holds*. In 2018, he was privileged to work on a second recording, *Beneath the Cross*. Both recordings are available on iTunes.

Kevin is always looking for opportunities to sing at revivals, conferences, and special events. You can contact him at **919-922-9861** or ***kdenton@faithfwbc.com***.

*“I am grateful for all the opportunities God has given me to serve Him. Traveling and singing is just another way for me to honor Him and be a blessing to His people. I thank **GoMix Christian Radio** for playing my music and continuing to share the Gospel through song with the world.”*



Well, Daddy! Here we go again. I am sitting here watching you sleep in the hospital, different time-different place. Six years ago, I thought I had lost you, but God worked a miracle in your life. You fought hard, and He brought you back to us. You went through three long months in three hospitals and rehab centers, but God blessed, and you came home. Of course, there were months of hard work ahead, but you were up for the task.

We have been through other difficulties, but this one is the worst since then by far. Four out of five months you have been in and out of hospitals for a week at the time. Your leukemia has progressed now. Doctors say they don't know how much longer you have left, but God keeps surprising them. You're a fighter and always have been.

All of my life you have been bigger than life. I have admired you from

day one. Your kind, gentle spirit has prevailed through my memories. I have always been Daddy's little girl, but I also knew when you meant business.

The first memory I have of you "*meaning business*" was when I was seven years old, and I crossed a four-lane highway to go to the store. I tried to blame the babysitter, but I knew better. It was one of those "this hurts me more than it hurts you" moments. It was years later when I finally understood what that meant. *By the way, the babysitter was looking for another job.*

I also remember talking back to my mom when we were at the beach. You didn't hesitate to walk up to me in front of God and everyone and pop my bottom. I was embarrassed more than anything, but I learned real quickly you weren't going to allow me to disrespect my mother—no matter how old I was.

There were other times you straightened me out, but those will remain private. Being willing to discipline was so important, and it showed me you loved me. Thank you for loving me enough to make me mad. I am so thankful for those lessons.

There are so many other memories I have of you, Dad. You have this great sense of humor. We were talking in the hospital, and I asked you what you wanted to do. I said we can talk, we can watch TV, we can take a nap, or... and you interrupted me with a song. You sang, "*I Want to Hold Your Hand.*" We just laughed. The funny faces you make at the grandchildren remind me of how you used to play with us as children. They always loved the stories you made up, and I have passed down the tradition. Thank you for teaching me to laugh.

We knew how to play together. Oh, how you loved to fish. I never really enjoyed fishing, but you and Curt could spend hours. We had some of the greatest fish dinners, though. My favorite was shark. That part I really enjoyed! I also remember you being in the backyard having fun with all the kids in the neighborhood. Our yard was called "*Kelley Field.*" You even mowed the grass in the shape of a ball field. Mom always enjoyed watching us through the kitchen window. She held down the fort, so we could play. Now that I am a mom, I understand so much more about the part she played in you being a great dad.

No matter what the situation, you have always been someone I could talk to. I knew you wouldn't tell anyone. My secret was safe with you. I can remember my first heart-break. I came into the room and cried on your shoulder. Oh, Mom was there too,



but she was trying to hold you back. You were ready to find that boy and teach him a thing or two. You were both always so protective.

We also shed tears together watching a sad movie, or rejoicing over something beautiful. My heart gets so full sometimes. Thank you for teaching me how to be compassionate.

I have found that many people have a hard time admitting they are wrong, but not you, Daddy. You taught me to say, *“I was wrong, and I am sorry. Please forgive me.”* You were never too prideful

to admit you were wrong. Thank you for being humble. May I learn this lesson well.

Another great gift you gave me, Dad, was your work ethic. You showed me by example what it was to work hard, but you and mom also expected me to work hard. But that wasn't enough. It had to be done right. I can remember having to do things over until I got it right. Thank you for that lesson.

The greatest gift you and Mom gave me was a Christian home. You taught me about faith and that God is the answer in every situation. When things get tough, He keeps us going. We were always in church, and there were no excuses. If we weren't sick enough to miss school, we weren't sick enough to miss church. I can remember staying up late on Wednesdays to do homework, because we didn't miss church. When I had a big project due, you said I should have planned better. You taught me to be faithful and not

to make excuses to miss church. In fact, you didn't accept excuses for



anything. When I started my first job, I was expected to be at church if I was not working. I remember going to my boss and explaining I could work morning shift or late shift, but not mid-shift. I needed to be at church at least one of the services on Sunday. Thank you for teaching me to be faithful.

One neat thing about you, Dad, was you were always singing about the Lord. You led music for the church sometimes, you sang in a quartet, you sang while you worked, and you sang in the shower. You sang about Jesus in the good times and the bad. You never stopped singing. You sang praising His name, and you sang when you were hurting. When you couldn't talk during your tough times in the hospital, you could still sing. When I hear a song you used to sing, I think of you. It is one of the sweetest memories I have of you, Daddy. Thank you so much!

So many of the attributes I have already mentioned were because you

loved the Lord and were living your Christian walk. Thank you for your testimony, Dad. I am thankful to know Jesus, too! You are such a big part of who I am today. I am so proud to be your daughter.

It won't be long until you meet Jesus in glory. Only the Lord knows the day and the hour. I do know that you will be with Him soon, and I can picture you joining in the Heavenly Choir.

I will always be your little girl. If only every child had a father that she could admire and look up to as

I do you, Daddy. Every child needs a godly home where his father and mother are living examples of what Christ is. Thank you for the example you have always set for me and the home you gave me. May your life inspire others to be the fathers they need to be.

I love you, Daddy!  
*Your little girl*

*\*Every father is different, but every father needs to show their children what it means to be like Christ. May you show your child an example of what a Christian should be. It is a tough world out there for Christians. We need to give our children all the help they can get.*



***Mrs. Worthington has five children and eleven grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.***





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In the world we live in, there are many religions. Of the three monotheistic religions: Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, each one says their way is the way to heaven. There are many who say as long as you are a good person, you will go to heaven. Others say you have to work your way into heaven.

In **John 14:6** Jesus tells us exactly how to get to heaven. He said, *“... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*

Some will then say, *“How about the person who has never heard the Gospel and therefore has never heard of Jesus?”* Let’s look again at the Biblical answer. Paul says in **Romans 1:19-20**, *“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:”*

**Romans 2:14** goes on to say, *“For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:”*

We look at nature, including all of creation, and see beauty. We see how everything fits together. We see how intricate things are made. We have all heard the question, *“What comes first, the chicken or the egg?”* Another question those who have doubt about God and believe in evolution should ask is, *“Did the chicken’s eyes, or beak, or feathers, or heart, or feet come first?”*

For those who do not believe in Creation and God as Creator, they cannot answer these questions. It is obvious that the chicken came first. With all its parts working together, the chicken is whole and can function as a chicken. It is apparent there is a God. Even for unbelievers, He has made His existence evident by nature around us and the conscience He has given us. Our conscience was given to us by God and makes us aware of what is right and wrong, whether we abide by it or not.

Now back to the original question; *“Is Jesus the only way to heaven?”* If we are honest, we know there is a Creator. Jesus said in **John 10:30**, *“I and my Father are one.”* In **John 1:1** we are told, *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”* Jesus is the Word, and Jesus is God. Since Jesus and God are one, there is no way to heaven without Jesus.

In conclusion, there is a God who created all things. That God lives in heaven and is one in the same with Jesus. Together, with the Holy Spirit, they equal the Trinity. If someone wants to go to heaven, one must do so through Jesus Christ. He went to the cross and shed His precious blood as a sacrifice for our sins. To go to heaven, all we have to do is believe in Him and make Jesus the Lord of our lives – no more, no less.

*Mr. Linwood Grant is a retired Principal with Lenoir County Schools in NC. He and his wife, Nancy, currently reside in Kinston, NC.*



# And Finally...



(Photos submitted by Ron Peters of Princeton, NC)

## My Favorite Fishing Trip...

I lived in Iowa with my family, and we began going fishing in Ontario, Canada, nearly every summer starting after my seventh grade year in school. At times, black flies, giant mosquitoes, and even a seven inch rain storm took its toll on the less hardy of the family. Also, tangled and broken lines from monster pike caused us to shed some tears on numerous occasions. However, when the fishing was slow, you needed to be alert because when you least expected it a giant walleye or northern pike would try to yank your fishing pole out of your hands. The fish we caught each morning were devoured at a shore lunch that was hard to beat. Everyone pitched in to make that time very enjoyable. The smell of freshly caught fish cooking on an open fire was wonderful. Fish caught after lunch were taken back to camp, cleaned, and quickly frozen for the trip home. The Canadian wilderness was so beautiful. The fresh air, clear water, early morning sound of pontoon planes carrying other fishermen to remote lakes and the smell of breakfast cooking will always be fondly remembered. Words yelled out such as, "Give him line," and "Get the net," still remind me of those treasured times with my loved ones.

**R. P.**

I think one of my favorite fishing trips was a day trip my husband and I took to the Fort Macon State Park on the North Carolina Coast quite a few years ago. It was just one of those days where "all was right with the world." Funny thing is, I don't remember catching anything significant. I just remember it was relaxing,

the weather was perfect, and we had a great day just spending time together.

**J. T.**

One of my favorite places to fish is Lake Tillery in the Uwharrie Lakes Region of North Carolina. I love to go in the beginning of April every year, as that's when it seems the crappie are ready to catch. This past April, it seemed as though the catfish were fishing, too. As I was reeling in a black, spotted crappie, a catfish came right up and swallowed it whole, including my hook! As most of you know, you don't always catch fish every time you go fishing. Either way, it sure is peaceful sitting out on that lake taking in all the beauty our Creator gave us to enjoy.

**C. C.**

## "World Photography Day"

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of "And Finally..."

World Photography Day is in August!

If you're a photographer, send us your best picture of a location in our listening area with a description. The deadline for submission is June 30, 2019.

You can send an email to: Attn: PathPointe  
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