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A Perspective Digest Feature: In Focus

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IN FOCUS

A LIVING FAITH

I've dreamed many dreams that
never came true,

I've seen them vanish at dawn,

But I've realized enough of my
dreams, thank God,

To make me want to dream on.

I've prayed many prayers when no
answer came,

Though I waited patient and long,

But answers have come to enough
of my prayers,

To make me keep praying on.

I've trusted many a friend that
failed,

And left me to weep alone,

But I've found enough of my
friends true blue,

To make me keep praying on.

I've sown many seeds that fell by
the way,

For the birds to feed upon,

But I've held enough golden
sheaves in my hands,

To make me keep sowing on.

I've dined the cup of disappoint-

ment and pain,

And gone many days without
song,

But, I've sipped enough nectar
from the roses of life,

To make me want to live on.

—Hubert E. Smith

One Liners From My Friend Beau- dreaux

1. Give God what's right—not
what's left.

2. Man's way leads to a hopeless
end; God's way leads to an endless
hope.

3. A lot of kneeling will keep you
in good standing.

4. He who kneels before God can
stand before anyone.

5. In the sentence of life, the devil
may be a comma—but never let him
be the period.

6. Don't put a question mark
where God puts a period.

7. Are you wrinkled with burdens?
Come to the church for a face-lift.

8. When praying, don't give God
instructions—just report for duty.

9. Don't wait for six strong men to
take you to church.

10. We don't change God's message—his message changes us.

11. The church is prayer-conditioned.

12. When God ordains, he sustains.

13. WARNING: Exposure to the Son many prevent burning.

14. Plan ahead—it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.

15. Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position.

16. Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.

17. Exercise daily—walk with the Lord.

18. Never give the devil a ride—he will always want to drive.

19. Nothing else ruins the truth like stretching it.

20. Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.

21. He who angers you controls you.

22. Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop.

23. Give Satan an inch and he'll be a ruler.

24. Be ye fishers of men—you catch them, and he'll clean them.

25. God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called.

26. Read the Bible—it will scare the hell out of you.

MY PROGRAMMER

The Lord is my programmer,
I shall not crash.

He installed his software on the

hard disk of my heart;

all of his commands are user-friendly.

His directory guides me to the right choices for his name's sake.

Even though I scroll through the problems of life,

I will fear no bugs, for he is my backup.

His password protects me.

He prepares a menu before me in the presence of my enemies.

His help is only a keystroke away.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and my file will be merged with his and saved forever.

Amen.

EVERY DAY IN AMERICA. . .

Three youth die from HIV

Six children commit suicide

13 children are homicide victims

14 children are killed by firearms

280 children are arrested for violent crimes

781 babies are born with low birth weight

1,403 born to teen mothers

2,430 born to unmarried mothers

1,827 born with no health insurance

2,430 born into poverty

2,756 drop out of high school

8,470 children report being abused

That's every day in America!

—Statistics from Children's Defense Fund