



# GREETINGS FROM THE GRIFFINS

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The golden rule for understanding spiritually is not intellect, but obedience. If a man wants scientific knowledge, intellectual curiosity is his guide; but if he wants insight into what Jesus Christ teaches, he can only get it by obedience. If things are dark to me, then I may be sure there is something I will not do. Intellectual darkness comes through ignorance; spiritual darkness comes because of something I do not intend to obey.

No man ever receives a word from God without instantly being put to the test over it. We disobey and then wonder why we don't go on spiritually. "If when you come to the altar," said Jesus, "there you remember your brother hath ought against you...don't say another word to Me, but first go and put that thing right." The teachings of Jesus hits us where we live. We cannot stand as humbugs before Him for one second. He educates us down to the scruple. The Spirit of God unearths the spirit of self-vindication; He makes us sensitive to things we never thought of before.

When Jesus brings a thing home by His word, don't shirk it. If you do, you will become a religious humbug. Watch the things you shrug your shoulders over, and you will know why you do not go on spiritually. First go-at the risk of being thought fanatical you must obey what God tells you.

Oswald Chambers

## Spiritual End

So many times in our lives we believe that the circumstances we are going through have nothing to do with God's plan for us. We believe God is sitting up in heaven watching and doing nothing to alleviate the difficult and oftentimes crushing things that threaten to overwhelm us. We believe He doesn't care or worse, can't change things. We get a distorted view of who our Lord and Savior is.

All through the Bible we see God calling us to know Him, and to know Him means to love Him. If we have a distorted view of Him we can never truly know who He is or what He is doing in our lives. We see a mean, uncaring, vengeful God.

Life is filled with tragedy, heartache, and suffering. Everywhere we look today we see man's inhumanity to man. We see murders, terrorist bombings, rapes, and countless other hostilities. We hear, "Where is your God in this?" "How can you believe in a God that would allow this?" Sometimes these questions cause christians to shrink away from the people asking for answers. This response is often a result of our own misgivings or lack of faith. We might even think these questions in the recesses of our own mind. We would never say them out loud for fear of others questioning our christianity or belief in God. We also sometimes say "Well God is in control" but even that is often a christian cop-out. Mainly because we may know from our church teachings that is what we are supposed to say, but we don't have strong spiritual convictions that would support our true belief that God IS in control. "Unless we can look the darkest, blackest fact full in the face without damaging God's character, we do not yet know Him."

It is God's plan for all of our lives to completely and truly know Him. And in that knowledge we have total faith, love, respect and a desire to be with Him at all times. The very essence of our lives should be centered around a personal dedicated life to our Lord and Savior.

## Summer

We have officially passed the mid-point of our hosting season. We consider ourselves seasoned hosts now. We survived Memorial Day, Fathers Day, and July 4th. We have dealt with bears & mountain lions roaming through the camp ground. We watched firefighters dipping water from the lake to put out a fire on the mountain. We assisted with many medical emergencies and had fire & ambulances here often. Three in one weekend. The lady involved in one had to be airlifted to Tucson. Bill has been bitten or almost bitten by several dogs that were not on leashes. We have had to bring the sheriff in more than five times. Unfortunately Bill has become well acquainted with the two sheriffs that patrol the mountain. He has also had to fill out many reports regarding these incidents. One Sunday afternoon in July while looking for two bear cubs strolling the campground, Bill stepped off a rock and tore his right hamstring. He kept saying everything would be fine in a



day or so, and then these bruises showed up. We googled information about leg injuries, and found he has a 3rd degree tear. The only tear worse is when the hamstrings pull completely away from the bone or pulls the bone with it.

What a blessing that didn't happen. Bill still walks with a limp and uses a heating pad everyday, but is getting better daily. Cindy is still the Prov. 31 wife and takes good care of him.

Needless to say we had no idea being a camp host would be so involved and so dangerous. We do feel the Lord is still taking care of us and providing all we need.

The summer did get away from us and we didn't get our grandsons as much as we had hoped, but the few times we had them were enjoyable, and we got to catch up with them. What camping experience would be complete without smores on the grill?



## Time Hop

Zambia 2004

Bill, welding supports for an orphan rescue unit. Cindy, preparing meals at the first matrons unit.



## The Future

The future is in the Lord's hands. We still do not know what He has in mind for us, but we continually seek His guidance and ask you to pray with us for a clear direction. We have looked into a ministry here in Tucson; Gospel Rescue Mission. We have also sent for applications for SOWERS, (servants on wheels ever ready) a ministry that utilizes retired people with RV's. SOWERS helps out churches and other ministries that can't afford to pay for construction and maintenance. What we can say for sure is we want to be where the Lord wants us, doing what He wants us to do. We are ever ready to serve as He leads. Thank you all for praying and supporting us in the ministry Jesus has called us to.