

TRUTH & RIGHT

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I WANT TO HEAR YOU SAY IT

There was a classmate of mine in high school who was so naturally smart, he never had to study for any of his tests and aced them all. However, he was also exceptionally lazy and indifferent and refused to do any work or assignments required for his grades. This really bit him grade wise in his AP Biology class. Aside from the tests which he always aced without ever taking a book home to study at all, he was also required to complete and turn in assigned lab reports which accounted for the majority of his grade. Since he never did a single lab report, he received incompletes on all of his assignments, so regardless of acing his tests, he always received a final grade of 0. The teacher had a custom of reading each student's final grade for each quarter out loud, and so every time he came to read the classmate Newman's

grade aloud, he would always shake his head in disbelief and say, "Newman....zero..." When they came to the final quarter, the teacher read the grades aloud, "Smith, A....Johnson, C....Mason, B.....Newman.....the usual...." Unsatisfied, Newman responded, "Wait....I want to hear you say it." So the teacher obliged and said aloud, "Newman....zero." I don't know why Newman wanted to hear his teacher say such a dismal grade out loud, but when it comes to verbally complying with God's will in our lives, He wants to hear us say it. Specifically, he wants to hear us say, "Amen." When Paul was dealing with the chaotic worship services going on in Corinth, he emphasizes the importance of understanding what is being said so that those engaged in the worship can be in agreement to say "Amen." "I will pray with the spirit and I

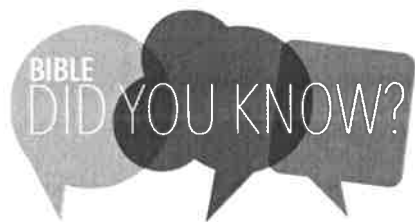
will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also. Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?" 1 Cor. 14:15-16. He is inferring that it is actually expected for those in worship to say it, and would be near impossible for them to do so when no one understands what is being said. This is why he is emphasizing how important it is that everyone is able to understand completely what is being said in worship, since it is expected that a verbal "Amen" is said in response. "Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground," Neh. 8:6. Don't be timid. Don't be shy. When God is being praised in worship through prayers, singing, and preaching, say "Amen." He wants to hear you say it. - Daniel Ruegg **The Devil's Up To Something** A mouse one day was looking through the hole of a farmer's house. A package was delivered to the farmer. The mouse, curious about what was in the package, stared as the farmer and his wife opened the

package, and saw it was a mouse trap. The mouse scurried out to the side of the house and comes to the chicken. The mouse says to the chicken, "I just want you to know that the farmer and his wife just got a mouse trap." The chicken said, "Oh, I feel sorry for you!" The mouse then went to the pig and said, "Piggy, the farmer and his wife just ordered a mouse trap." The pig said, "I'm praying for you!" The mouse then went to the cow and said, "Hey, the farmer and his wife just got a mouse trap." The cow said, "What does that matter to me? I don't care about a mouse trap!" That night, the farmer's wife heard the trap go off. She got out of bed and went to check the trap, to find the trap had caught the tail of a snake. When the wife got too close to the trap, the snake bit the wife. Poison worked its way up her arm, so the farmer took his wife to the doctor. The doctor gave her an anecdote and said, "Go home and see how this anecdote works, and give her some chicken soup." So when the farmer went home, he found the chicken and killed it so his wife could have chicken soup. The farmer had to work while his wife was trying to recover, so he invited some friends over to keep an eye on his wife while he went to work. To make sure he was able to feed everyone

who came to the house, he went out and killed the pig so they could eat well while watching the wife. Sadly, the wife died. So the farmer had a funeral, and to make sure he could feed everyone who came to the funeral he went out and killed the cow to have enough food for all who came. The mouse looked out and said, "I told them the farmer and his wife got a mouse trap. I tried to tell them!" It may not look like the devil's up to much, but if you ignore him, he's got a way to pull you in. - Author

Unknown "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen," 1 Peter 5:6-11. "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to

to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God,' for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death," James 1:12-15.



"And a leper came to Jesus, beseeching Him and falling on his knees before Him, and saying, 'If You are willing, You can make me clean.'

Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed."

Mark 1:40-42

BIBLE TRIVIA

C H A L L E N G E

DIRECTIONS: After searching through your Bible, circle which answer is correct.

1. Jesus healed Peter's Mother-in-law, who was sick with a ____.

- a) Cold
- b) Fever
- c) Rash
- d) Virus

2. Jesus once healed a leper by stretching out His hand and ____.

- a) Pointing
- b) Motioning
- c) Waving
- d) Touching him

3. A woman was healed of a hemorrhage by touching ____.

- a) Jesus
- b) Apostles
- c) Scripture
- d) Magic stones

4. 10 lepers were cleansed by Jesus, who told them to show themselves to ____.

- a) Apostles
- b) The public
- c) Magicians
- d) Priests

5. After putting clay on a blind man's eyes, Jesus told him to ____ in the pool of Siloam.

- a) Wash
- b) Swim
- c) Splash
- d) Stand

6. Before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus said to ____ the stone against his tomb.

- a) Hit
- b) Place
- c) Knock on
- d) Remove

7. In answer to a royal official begging Jesus to come heal his son, Jesus said, "Go, your son ____."

- a) Dies
- b) Cries
- c) Lives
- d) Walks

8. Jesus said to a paralytic brought to Him to heal, "Your sins are ____."

- a) Bad
- b) Forgiven
- c) Many
- d) Big

9. In the company of loud mourners, Jesus said, "The child has not died, but is ____."

- a) Faking
- b) Alive
- c) Asleep
- d) Sick

10. At a funeral procession for a dead man, Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, ____."

- a) Speak
- b) Walk
- c) Live
- d) Arise

ANSWERS & VERSES:

- 1) B, Reference: Mk. 1:30-31
- 2) D, Reference: Mk. 1:40-41
- 3) A, Reference: Lk. 8:43-46
- 4) D, Reference: Lk. 17:14
- 5) A, Reference: Jn. 9:6-7
- 6) D, Reference: Jn. 11:39

- 7) C, Jn. 4:46-50
- 8) B, Mt. 9:2
- 9) C, Mk. 5:38-39
- 10) D, Lk. 7:11-14