



Abundant Living Ministries

Encouraging Christian Living since 1978

October 2018

Still Celebrating the 40th!

In the last newsletter, we recognized ALM's 40th birthday. It's been a great 40 years! I've enjoyed going back and reading the earliest newsletters where Dad and Mom shared enthusiastically what the Lord was doing:

They wrote in their second or third newsletter, *We are excited about what the Lord has been doing...*

*... for the numerous letters from people who are rejoicing in healed memories. We showed these people the necessity of dealing with attitudes of unforgiveness, of choosing to put aside **feelings** and of **acting** on God's principles. Now they have found a refreshing cleansing of their memories... the burden gone! Praise the Lord!*

... for victories in family relationships as members have chosen to look at each other with "eyes of faith" and envision God's finished work in their lives.

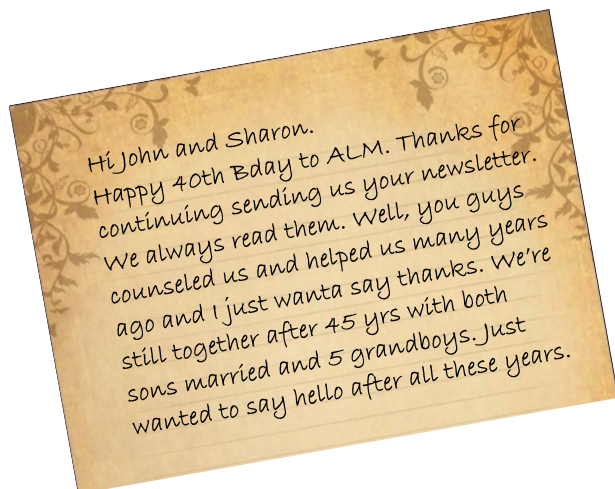
... for numerous marriages that have been reunited... like the divorced couple who recently were remarried as a result of their sons' prayers of faith and a change of attitude and action on the part of the wife.

In their January, 1980 newsletter, they commented,

Each victory, each answer to prayer gives us increased faith to believe for greater things in the future. As we enter 1980, it is with anticipation of what God is going to do. We believe it will hold greater challenges than ever before and will require renewed commitment on the part of all of us. How good to know that through Jesus Christ, we will have the victory!

They continued in the newsletter with this prayer...

*We commit ourselves 100% to You for Your use. Fill each of us anew with Your love, Your peace and Your joy so that we will be lights shining for You in this world's darkness. Bless each one of our many friends who have helped us in the past. May each one experience the satisfaction of a life lived **in Christ!** And bring those things across our paths this year which will cause us to become more united and efficient as parts of Your Body. Tie us together with bonds of love! In Jesus' Name, Amen.*



Here we are... 40 years later... continuing to rejoice in the Lord's divine touch as relationships are healed, marriages reconciled, and personal spiritual growth experienced. And, just as 40 years ago, ALM continues to depend on the prayers and financial gifts received from you who affirm and appreciate this ministry. As you know, in these 40 years, ALM has never had a specified fee for the counseling services. Your continued prayer and generous donations are helping those who, in the midst of great pain and challenge, are unable to contribute financially... you are helping those who are unable to "pay their own way." THANK YOU! Yes, we thank you so very much for continuing to partner with us!

Hoping you enjoyed the 40-year-old newsletter,
John (for Sharon and the rest at ALM)

Family **MANNERS**

Question: *Our children lack common courtesy. They don't even say "thank you" without me reminding them over and over again. Do I just resign myself to having a rude household?*

Response: Manners are appropriate ways of behaving toward other people. Children left untrained in this area will not instinctively be polite and courteous... in fact, the Bible says that they will be an embarrassment to their mother (Proverbs 29:15). But a well-mannered child will bring much joy to others and will be a happier child himself. In Romans 12:9-21 we are encouraged to *Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.* Good manners involve much more than just using the right fork. They help the child develop honor and respect for others. By training your children to act politely, you will be helping them grow in self-control and unselfishness... two characteristics which are necessary for a truly fulfilling life. Consider embarking on a "manners matter" journey with your family:

1. Decide on a "manners lesson" that you will focus on with your family for the next three weeks. Example: How to appropriately make a request.
2. Explain the behavior to family members (perhaps at dinner-time). Demonstrate it. Using a tone of voice and facial ex-

pression that conveys cheerfulness and respect say, "Daddy (or Mommy) may I please have a snack?"

3. Ask the children to mimic what you just did, having them repeat it numerous times. Make this a fun and light-hearted exercise as you get the whole family involved, from youngest to oldest.
4. Practice this behavior daily, talking about it often throughout the day as well as at bedtime. Pray about it with your children, asking the Lord's help in making this new behavior a habit.
5. Praise their success. Correct their mistakes matter-of-factly. Don't reinforce bad manners by rewarding rudely-stated demands. Simply ask the child to "try again," but this time with respectful words and expression.
6. Give frequent cheery reminders ... we human beings do, after all, learn by repetition.
7. Once the behavior has become consistent, choose a new lesson and introduce it to the family. Before you know, you will have established some wonderful "mannerly" habits!

In Titus 2:11-14 we read, *The grace of God that brings salvation... teaches us to say "no" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and Godly lives in this present age.* When children genuinely experience God's salvation for themselves, they will have a greater desire to do right. But no matter where they are in their relationship with the Lord, teaching them to be polite and courteous will help them grow in self-control and unselfishness.

So, don't throw in the towel ... your patient perseverance will reap good rewards as your child grows in uprightness, Godliness, and self-control.



Sharon Charles

Do you know about the ExtraGive program?

Your donation on November 16, designated for ALM, will be forwarded to ALM with increase!

The Lancaster County Community Foundation is promoting giving to nonprofit organizations... ministries and organizations which serve residents in Lancaster County.

The Foundation has created a "Stretch Pool" of at least \$500,000 which will be distributed proportionally among the participating nonprofits.

Here's an illustration: If nonprofit ministry "XYZ" were to receive 1% of the total designated gifts on Nov. 16, THEN, that nonprofit "XYZ" would also receive 1% of the Stretch Pool, increasing the total amount received by the nonprofit. NICE!

The instructions are pretty simple:

1. On Friday, November 16, go to the website ExtraGive.org.
2. Click on the SEARCH tab; Search for Abundant Living Ministries.
3. Contributions are by credit card; An email receipt, for tax purposes, will be provided by the ExtraGive program.
4. ExtraGive will forward your designated contribution plus an amount from the Stretch Pool, to ALM.

THE **EXTRA** **GIVE**TM
 ORDINARY

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