



# FEBRUARY

⊗ NOW THE GOD OF PATIENCE AND CONSOLATION GRANT YOU TO BE LIKEMINDED ON TOWARD ANOTHER ACCORDING TO MESSIAH YESHUA: ROMANS 15:5 ⊗



## Unusual Winter Weather!

The weather this past month has been crazy! I hope everyone made it through without too much trouble. Thank you to everyone who was offering helpful tips to make it through as comfortable as possible.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Photo Amber Rogers

# Learning Together, Growing Stronger

This past month has been one full of changes for the fellowship. With the leaving of the Fleenors there have been many feelings to work and pray though. Shock, grief, disappointment...But through it all Yah is good and carries us through these changes.

I hope through it all we will continue to seek our Heavenly Father and that as a fellowship we

will be brought closer together. I know everyone in the Fellowship is very special to me and I look forward to the Sabbaths we spend together worshipping Yah, and baring each others burdens.

With spring around the corner I'm looking forward to seeing what wonderful things Yah does in our fellowship in the coming months.

**2026**  
*Moedim*  
*Spring*

**Pesach (Passover)**  
05/01/26  
**Chag Hamatzot (Unleavened Bread)**  
05/02/26 - 05/08/26  
**Yom Habikkurim (First Fruits)**  
05/03/26  
**Shavuot (Pentecost)**  
06/21/26

*Fall*

**Yom Teruah (Trumpets)**  
10/11/26  
**Yom Kippur (Atonement)**  
10/19/26 - 10/20/26  
**Sukkot (Tabernacles)**  
10/25/26 - 10/31/26  
**Shemini Atzeret (8th Great Day)**  
11/01/26

Dates to request off work: 05/02 (UB), 05/08 (UB), 06/21 (Pentecost), 10/11 (Trumpets), 10/19 (Atonement) - 10/20 (Sunset) (Atonement), 10/25 (Sukkot), 11/01 (8th Day)  
All feast days begin at sunrise except Yom Kippur.

## Thank you for sharing!

If you have an article, photo, ad, or help wanted you would like to post in the newsletter, please contact

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## WINTERTIME IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS IN THE '70S

*by Rosemarie Call*

In seeing everyone's winter snow pictures they've been sharing, it takes me back to my childhood days when we still got BIG snow, snow for days, snow that piled up in snow drifts multiple feet high/deep.

Back then, I still lived in my homeplace in Southern Illinois, the first place I ever lived before moving all over later in life. We lived out in the country near the end of a country gravel road with only one neighbor at the top of the hill not far from the start of the gravel road. My brothers were all still living at home and we could go out together for snowball fights and build armies of snowmen to hide behind for said snowball fights. I recall once my brothers tried building an igloo, but I don't recall it working out too well for us to climb inside or anything. We had a pond on our 10 acres and back then it froze hard and thick enough to ice skate on. I still remember my ice skates. They were black leather with LONG laces that my mother or my brothers would put on me and be sure I had lots of good ankle support so I could stand up on them and maybe just maybe skate. I think they ended up holding my hand or helping me stand up more than I was able to skate freely.

Roller skating was more my thing. We also enjoyed that a lot in the wintertime over in the neighboring town. My oldest brother was voted skate king and I got skate princess one time when they were having a contest. Funny the things you remember.

We also had a big german shepherd they tied up in front of my Red Flyer wagon and got him to pull me. That was pretty fun. It was like having my own miniature make believe horse and sly.

One time my third brother and I were playing outside and it was exceptionally cold and I got really tired. We must have gone for a long walk or something and for a young girl 9 years or younger trying to trudge through the deep snow it was pretty exhausting. I just remember him begging me not to lay down and go to sleep because I would freeze and I am sure he didn't want to carry me back to our house!

Once in a while, I am sorry more children do not have these kinds of memories, but I am glad the kids in our fellowship are very good at finding ways to enjoy their time outside!



Many blessings to each of you this winter!

*Photo by Tracy*



# Winter Wonderland

Elaina



Regina



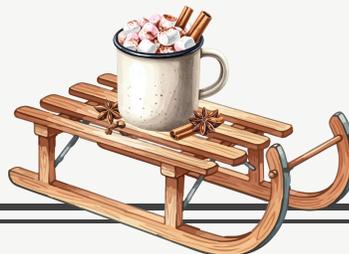
Ginny



Harrison



Liv





# Yah's Medicine Cabinet



by *Kate Coffelt*

MOST OF YOU KNOW THAT I AM A FAN OF WILD PLANTS, BUT NOT SO MANY YEARS AGO I BOUGHT INTO THE LIE THAT 'WEEDS' ARE INHERENTLY UNDESIRABLE AND THAT WE SHOULD ALL BE TRYING TO ERADICATE THEM IN ORDER TO HAVE A 'LAWN'. SURELY OUR FATHERS INHERITED LIES, AND VAIN THINGS. I WAS CLUELESS THAT MANY 'WEEDS' WERE BROUGHT BY SETTLERS FOR THEIR NUTRITIONAL AND MEDICINAL VALUE.

IT WAS NOT UNTIL I MOVED TO THIS HOUSE IN EASTERN TN, WITH A YARD THAT HOSTS A RICH VARIETY OF WILD PLANTS, THAT I GOT SERIOUS ABOUT INVESTIGATING THE VALUE OF A PLANT BEFORE WORKING AGAINST IT. WHAT I'VE LEARNED SINCE HAS INSPIRED ME IN AWE TOWARD THE BRILLIANCE, PROVIDENCE, AND GENEROSITY OF OUR CREATOR.

BELOW I WILL GO ON ABOUT A FEW WILD PLANTS I'VE IDENTIFIED AS FAVORITES OF MY OWN, WITH THE WARNING THAT EACH OF US NEEDS TO DO OUR OWN RESEARCH ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF ANY PLANT BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO USE IT... WHAT PARTS OF THE PLANT TO USE, IN WHAT FORM TO USE IT, AND IN WHAT AMOUNT TO USE IT. PLANTS VARY GREATLY IN THEIR PROPERTIES AND POTENCY... WHICH IS HOW YAH PROVIDED SUCH A RICH SELECTION TO ADDRESS SUCH A VARIETY OF OUR NEEDS.

THERE ARE SO MANY BENEFITS TO LEARN ABOUT PLANTS, BUT THERE ARE ALSO SERIOUS RISKS TO SOME PLANTS THAT MUST BE FULLY UNDERSTOOD... NOT TO MENTION THE SNEAKY POISONOUS PLANTS THAT CAN BE HIDING AMONG THE DO-GOODERS. (PHONE APPS TO IDENTIFY PLANTS ARE VERY HELPFUL, THOUGH NOT ALWAYS ACCURATE.) GATHER INFO WITH PICTURES OF THE PLANT IN DIFFERENT STAGES OF GROWTH (LEAVES, FLOWERS, HEIGHT, ETC.) FROM SEVERAL SOURCES TO GAIN CONFIDENCE. YOUTUBE HAS A GREAT MANY INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS ABOUT IDENTIFYING AND USING WILD PLANTS, THOUGH IT'S ESSENTIAL TO BE CONFIDENT IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TEACHER.

(END DISCLAIMER ;)

MANY PLANTS CAN BE EATEN AS FOOD, BUT ALSO THE HERB'S MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND BE INFUSED INTO A SOLVENT CALLED THE 'MENSTRUUM'. TEA IS SIMPLY AN HERBAL INFUSION IN A WATER MENSTRUUM. I TEND TO LEAN TOWARD TINCTURES FOR THE MEDICINAL PROPERTIES, SINCE IT IS SO EASY, EFFECTIVE, AND SHELF STABLE.

FRESH CHOPPED PLANT MATTER (ACTUALLY THE FRESHER THE BETTER) GOES INTO A JAR; GETS TOTALLY COVERED BY ALCOHOL (THE DRINKING TYPE; 100 PROOF VODKA IS GENERALLY RECOMMENDED); CAPPED; STORED IN A COOL DARK PLACE AND GENTLY SHAKEN OCCASIONALLY IN EARLY WEEKS. AFTER A NUMBER OF WEEKS IT CAN BE STRAINED, BUT AS LONG AS THE PLANT MATTER IS TOTALLY COVERED THERE IS NO HURRY.

OKAY, ENOUGH RAMBLING! BELOW ARE A FEW PERSONAL FAVORITES I'VE COME TO RELY ON FOR VERY SPECIFIC PURPOSES.

**MULLEIN:** ONCE YOU IDENTIFY IT GROWING WILD, YOU WILL NEVER STOP SEEING IT- LOL! I AM PRONE TO CHEST CONGESTION, AND IT IS ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS FOR THINNING MUCOUS IN THE LUNGS. THOUGH I'VE ALWAYS BEEN DIS-INCLINED TOWARD PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION, I HAD BEGUN TO TAKE GUAIFENESIN (MUCINEX) REGULARLY TO DEAL WITH THE CHRONIC CONDITION. THAT IS, UNTIL I DISCOVERED THE EXPECTORANT PROPERTIES YAH HAD PLACED IN MULLEIN. MOST DAYS I DON'T NEED IT, BUT IN TINCTURE FORM, IT IS FAST ACTING AND IMMEDIATE RELIEF FOR TIMES I DO. THE TINCTURE CAN ALSO BE USED IN A NEBULIZER.

SOME DRINK MULLEIN TEA OR SMOKE IN A PIPE, THOUGH THE PLANT HAS TEENY HAIRS YOU NEED TO BE SURE YOU ARE NOT INGESTING OR INHALING. LEAVES AND ROOTS BOTH HOLD THE MEDICINE.

BONUS: OIL, INFUSED WITH MULLEIN BLOSSOM, IS APPARENTLY THE GO-TO FOR EARACHES!



**ECHINACEA (PURPLE CONEFLOWER) AND RUDBECKIA (BLACK-EYED SUSAN):** THESE TWO ARE THE CONEFLOWER COUSINS, AND THEY APPEAR TO BE SIMPLY SWEET, PRETTY COUNTRY FLOWERS... THINK BASKETS AND GINGHAM DRESSES HAHA. BUT, THEY MORPH INTO THE BIGGEST, BADDEST, FRONTLINE MILITARY-GRADE DEFENDERS YOU CAN CALL UP WHEN INFECTIOUS BAD BUGS ARE TRYING TO INVADE.

I FIND THEM TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE FOR IMMUNE DEFENSE IN THE SPECIFIC MOMENT YOU NEED TO NIP SOMETHING IN THE BUD. IN MY MIND, THAT'S THEIR SPECIALTY. THEY ARE SAID TO BE HELPFUL IN FIGHTING OFF BACTERIAL INFECTIONS AS WELL.

AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THEY SHOULD NOT BE USED IN AN ONGOING OR PREVENTATIVE WAY TO KEEP THE IMMUNE SYSTEM IN GOOD WORKING ORDER, AND SHOULD NOT BE USED IF YOU ARE ALREADY SICK. (I AM NOT AT ALL AFRAID OF THE TINCTURE/HERB. I CONSIDER IT VERY SAFE AND AM VERY QUICK TO USE IT AT THE FIRST SUSPICION SOMETHING MIGHT NOT BE RIGHT... AN UNNEEDED DOSE HERE OR THERE ISN'T GOING TO HURT ANYTHING.)

SO TO CLARIFY: IMAGINE YOU ARE ON A SHIP AND PIRATES ARE SPOTTED APPROACHING. (I.E.: THERE'S A BAD BUG GOING AROUND 'OUT THERE', BUT YOU ARE NOT GOING TO LET THAT GET IN THE WAY OF HUGGING EVERYONE ON SHABBAT :) THAT IS THE TIME TO GENTLY STRENGTHEN YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM THROUGH GOOD NUTRITION AND TEAS, BUT NOT YET TIME FOR THE CONEFLOWER COUSINS!

IT IS ONLY WHEN YOU GET THAT VERY FIRST WHIFF OF... "UH, OH, DO I FEEL NOT-QUITE-RIGHT? COULD I BE COMING DOWN WITH SOMETHING?" OH NO! THE BAD-BUG PIRATES ARE ATTEMPTING TO BOARD THE SHIP!! THEY'RE CLIMBING UP THE SIDES AND MUST BE PREVENTED FROM GETTING OVER THE RAILING! THE CALL GOES OUT- ALL HANDS ON DECK!! THAT IS THE MOMENT FOR CONEFLOWER INTERVENTION.

I TAKE THE TINCTURE IMMEDIATELY (PERSONALLY, I TAKE TWO DROPPERFULS OF MY HOMEMADE FORMULA... SO LESS THAN 1/2 TSP IN TOTAL), AND THEN CONTINUE DOSES THROUGH THE NIGHT AND DAY TO REPLENISH AS IT LEAVES MY BLOODSTREAM.

AS LONG AS I REMAIN CONCERNED THAT I MIGHT BE COMING DOWN WITH SOMETHING, I TAKE IT... UNTIL I KNOW WHETHER I'VE TRIUMPHED AND THE SHIP IS SAFE, OR WILL NEED TO FIGHT THE LONG BATTLE ON DECK AND LET MY BODY SWITCH TO OTHER WEAPONS. IF THE BAD-BUG PIRATES DO SUCCEED IN CLIMBING ABOARD, THEN THE BATTLE BECOMES AN ALL-OUT FIGHT TO TAKE BACK CONTROL OF THE SHIP AND I STOP THE CONEFLOWER INTERVENTION. (IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT IMMUNITY RAMP UP CAN DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD IF SICKNESS IS RAGING. OTHER BODY SYSTEMS STEP UP TO TAKE OVER THE FIGHT.)

ECHINACEA (THE PURPLE COUSIN) BECAME ALL THE RAGE A FEW DECADES AGO IN THE IMMUNITY ARENA. ACCORDING TO AN HERBALIST I FOLLOW ON YOUTUBE, ECHINACEA IS 'COOL' AND SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH SOMETHING WARM (GINGER; PEPPER; ETC.) TO GET IT CIRCULATING, BUT RUDBECKIA (BLACK-EYED SUSAN) IS WARMER BY NATURE. FLOWERS AND ROOTS ARE BOTH FILLED WITH MEDICINE... THOUGH I BELIEVE THE SEEDHEADS IN THE FALL ARE TOXIC TO INGEST... LEAVE THESE GORGEOUS PERENNIALS TO RE-SEED IN THE GARDEN BED AND IMPRESS YOU NEXT YEAR!

**SPRING WILD PLANTS:** AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO THOSE HEARTENING SIGNS OF SPRING, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR THE ENTHUSIASTIC EARLY EDIBLES THAT OFFER THEMSELVES IN ALMOST EVERY SQUARE INCH OF BARE SOIL THEY CAN FIND! AFTER WE SPEND WINTER INSIDE, WITH LESS SUN AND PERHAPS MORE STAGNATION THAN OTHER SEASONS, THE FIRST GREENS AND BLOSSOMS WILLING TO BRAVELY DISPLAY RENEWAL ALSO HOLD WONDERFUL LIFE-GIVING PROPERTIES THAT HELP CLEANSE THE BLOOD, REPLENISH NUTRIENTS, AND GET ENERGY FLOWING. HOW GREAT IS OUR YAH!



PURPLE DEAD NETTLE WILL BE THERE IN DROVES, AND CHICKWEED, AND HENBIT, AND DOCK... AND DANDELION! EVEN BETTER, GREENS ARE MOST TENDER AND DELICIOUS WHEN EATEN AS YOUNG SPRING SHOOTS. MANY ARE GOOD RAW OR COOKED; GREENS OR BLOSSOMS. DO YOUR RESEARCH- IT IS EASY TO FIND A LIST OF YARD EDIBLES ONLINE ALONG WITH HOW THEY CAN BE EATEN. THIS SPRING, I WILL NOT BE MISSING THE WINDOW, BUT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE ENERGIZING PLANTS GROWING WILD... LITERALLY RIGHT OUTSIDE MY DOOR. FRESH PLANTS FOR TEA OR TINCTURE ALSO WORKS, AS MOST HOLD 'MEDICINAL' VALUE ALONG WITH NUTRITIONAL.

ALRIGHTY THEN, I MIGHT NOT SEE YOU IN THE GARDEN, BUT YOU CAN FIND ME IN THE WEED PATCH! :)

"HE CAUSETH THE GRASS TO GROW FOR THE CATTLE, AND HERB FOR THE SERVICE OF MAN: THAT HE MAY BRING FORTH FOOD OUT OF THE EARTH" PSALM 104:14



ONCE OUR HOME WAS BUILT AND WE WERE ESTABLISHED WITH MORE ROOM WE CHOSE TO BUILD A MOVABLE COOP AND IMPLEMENT ELECTRIC NETTING ON THE PERIMETER FOR THEIR PROTECTION. THIS WAY THEY GET FRESH GRASS EVERY WEEK, NOT WALKING IN THEIR WASTE AND ALSO FERTILIZING OUR GRASS AS THEY ARE MOVED FROM SECTION TO SECTION. THIS SYMBIOTIC SYSTEM BENEFITS BOTH OF US PLUS IT IS ECONOMICAL TO SET UP INITIALLY. NOW FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT FACTOR: THESE ANIMALS ARE SO COMICAL TO WATCH. THEY CHASE EACH OTHER, JUMP AND CHASE BUGS, ARE CLUMSY AND JUST FUN. THE THING THAT SURPRISED ME ABOUT CHICKENS THE MOST IS HOW LOVING THEY CAN BE IF YOU CHOOSE TO SPEND TIME WITH THEM. ONCE THEY KNOW YOU THEY RUN TO YOU AND JUMP UP WANTING TO BE PET OR CARRIED AROUND. WE HAVE ONE THAT JUMPS IN THE FEED BUCKET NEARLY EVERY MORNING RACING PAST THE OTHERS TO GET TO IT FIRST.

AS FAR AS CARE GOES THEIR NEEDS ARE PRETTY BASIC: CLEAN WATER DAILY AND A 16% OR HIGHER PROTEIN FEED. TO KEEP DOWN THE POSSIBILITY OF ILLNESS WE ROTATE BETWEEN OREGANO OIL AND APPLE CIDER VINEGAR IN WITH THEIR WATER; THESE ACT AS AN ANTIBACTERIAL. IN WINTER THEY NEED TO BE KEPT OUT OF DIRECT WIND BUT CAN HANDLE VERY COLD TEMPERATURES.

IN EXCHANGE FOR THESE BASIC NEEDS THEY PROVIDE LOTS OF PROTEIN FOR OUR FAMILY DAILY AS WELL AS ENTERTAINMENT AND LOVE. I WOULD ENCOURAGE ANYONE WITH ANY AMOUNT OF YARD TO KEEP CHICKENS DUE TO THEIR EASE OF CARE AND THE REWARDS GAINED.

## **REASONS TO CONSIDER KEEPING CHICKENS/ THEIR CARE**

*by Christine Osborne*

WHEN I WAS ASKED TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ABOUT WHY I KEEP CHICKENS AND HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THEM MY FIRST QUESTION WAS HOW LONG CAN THE ARTICLE BE? NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE A DIFFICULT ANIMAL TO KEEP BUT BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY OPTIONS OF HOW TO KEEP THEM- FREE RANGE, STAGNANT COOP, OR MOVABLE COOP AND ELECTRIC NETTING.

HERE ON OUR HOMESTEAD WE HAVE TRIED A FORM OF ALL THREE. ORIGINALLY WE SET UP A STAGNANT COOP AND CHOSE TO FREE RANGE THEM DURING THE DAY AND HAVE THEM ROOST IN THE COOP AT NIGHT FOR PROTECTION. IN THE END WE DECIDED WITH ALL THE PREDATORS IN THIS AREA OF EAST TENNESSEE THIS WAS NOT THE WAY TO GO AS WE LOST MANY TO HAWKS, COYOTES AND RACCOONS.



# Proverbs 31 Women

10 WHO CAN FIND A VIRTUOUS WOMAN? FOR HER PRICE IS FAR ABOVE RUBIES.

11 THE HEART OF HER HUSBAND DOTHS SAFELY TRUST IN HER, SO THAT HE SHALL HAVE NO NEED OF SPOIL.

12 SHE WILL DO HIM GOOD AND NOT EVIL ALL THE DAYS OF HER LIFE.

13 SHE SEEKETH WOOL, AND FLAX, AND WORKETH WILLINGLY WITH HER HANDS.

14 SHE IS LIKE THE MERCHANTS' SHIPS; SHE BRINGETH HER FOOD FROM AFAR.

15 SHE RISETH ALSO WHILE IT IS YET NIGHT, AND GIVETH MEAT TO HER HOUSEHOLD, AND A PORTION TO HER MAIDENS.

16 SHE CONSIDERETH A FIELD, AND BUYETH IT: WITH THE FRUIT OF HER HANDS SHE PLANTETH A VINEYARD.

17 SHE GIRDETH HER LOINS WITH STRENGTH, AND STRENGTHENETH HER ARMS.

18 SHE PERCEIVETH THAT HER MERCHANDISE IS GOOD: HER CANDLE GOETH NOT OUT BY NIGHT.

19 SHE LAYETH HER HANDS TO THE SPINDLE, AND HER HANDS HOLD THE DISTAFF.

20 SHE STRETCHETH OUT HER HAND TO THE POOR; YEA, SHE REACHETH FORTH HER HANDS TO THE NEEDY.

21 SHE IS NOT AFRAID OF THE SNOW FOR HER HOUSEHOLD: FOR ALL HER HOUSEHOLD ARE CLOTHED WITH SCARLET.

IT'S BEEN SUCH A PRIVILEGE TO GET TO KNOW ALL OF THE WOMEN OF THE FELLOWSHIP OVER THE YEAR AND A HALF WE'VE BEEN COMING TO SABBATH SERVICES. AS A YOUNG WOMAN I YEARNED FOR THE KIND OF UPLIFTING FEMALE COMPANIONSHIP THAT I HAVE FOUND WITH BEREAN ECHAD. YOU HAVE ALL BEEN AN ANSWER TO PRAYER FOR ME. I LOVE HOW WE LIFT EACH OTHER UP, PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND PASS ALONG THE DIFFERENT SKILLS AND TALENTS EACH OF US HAS BEEN GIVEN. MY HOPE IS THAT AS THE WEATHER TURNS WARM AGAIN IN THE SPRING WE CAN RESUME VISITING AND HELPNIG ONE ANOTHER MORE OFTEN ONCE AGAIN!



22 SHE MAKETH HERSELF COVERINGS OF TAPESTRY; HER CLOTHING IS SILK AND PURPLE.

23 HER HUSBAND IS KNOWN IN THE GATES, WHEN HE SITTETH AMONG THE ELDERS OF THE LAND.

24 SHE MAKETH FINE LINEN, AND SELLETH IT; AND DELIVERETH GIRDLER UNTO THE MERCHANT.

25 STRENGTH AND HONOUR ARE HER CLOTHING; AND SHE SHALL REJOICE IN TIME TO COME.

26 SHE OPENETH HER MOUTH WITH WISDOM; AND IN HER TONGUE IS THE LAW OF KINDNESS.

27 SHE LOOKETH WELL TO THE WAYS OF HER HOUSEHOLD, AND EATETH NOT THE BREAD OF IDLENESS.

28 HER CHILDREN ARISE UP, AND CALL HER BLESSED; HER HUSBAND ALSO, AND HE PRAISETH HER.

29 MANY DAUGHTERS HAVE DONE VIRTUOUSLY, BUT THOU EXCELLEST THEM ALL.

30 FAVOUR IS DECEITFUL, AND BEAUTY IS VAIN: BUT A WOMAN THAT FEARETH THE LORD, SHE SHALL BE PRAISED.

31 GIVE HER OF THE FRUIT OF HER HANDS; AND LET HER OWN WORKS PRAISE HER IN THE GATES.

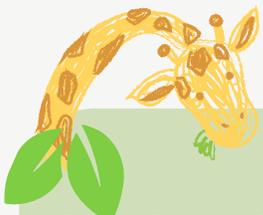
Proverbs 31: 10-31 kjv



# Kids Corner

Color me!!

Behold, how good and  
how pleasant  
it is for brethren to  
dwell together  
in unity!  
Psalm 133:1



DID YOU KNOW???  
GIRAFFES CAN RUN UP  
TO 35 MPH (60 KM/H)  
OVER SHORT  
DISTANCES.

WHY DID BEETHOVEN GET RID OF HIS  
CHICKENS?

ALL THEY EVER SAID WAS "BACH,  
BACH, BACH!"





Mosheim, TN



## Welcome to Triple Chicken Gardens!!

The more I garden the more convinced I am that the garden season doesn't really ever end. There always seems to be some task or another to work on. Most recently I've been working on planning our 2026 garden. I have notes and drawings and gardening apps all in an effort to keep myself on track for the coming season!

This year I'm trying something new (probably a lot of new things truth be told haha). It's called winter sowing. You take a plastic jug such as an empty water, milk, or tea jug. Cut it in half, fill it with dirt and then sow your seeds in the soil. After doing all of this, you place the jugs **OUTSIDE** in a sunny location and wait. The idea behind this is that the seeds will germinate when the weather is just right for the kind of seed you have planted. It's supposed to have your seedlings stronger, healthier, and better able to withstand the elements when planting them into your garden. I shall report back with how this experiment works out in a few months.

### Winter Sowing Instructions:

**STEP 1. FIND AND WASH A PLASTIC JUG**

**STEP 2. CUT 8-10 DRAINAGE HOLES IN THE BOTTOM OF THE JUG**

**STEP 3. CUT THE JUG IN HALF LEAVING A SMALL "HINGE" ATTACHED**

**STEP 4. FILL THE BOTTOM OF THE JUG WITH MOIST POTTING SOIL.**

**STEP 5. SPRINKLE SEEDS ON THE DIRT, THEN LIGHTLY COVER WITH MORE SOIL.**

**STEP 6. REPLACE THE TOP OF THE MILK JUG, GENTLY TUCKING THE TOP INTO THE BOTTOM.**

**STEP 7. SET THE JUGS OUTSIDE WHERE THEY WILL RECEIVE RAIN/SNOW AND SUNLIGHT.**

**STEP 8. WAIT FOR THE SEEDS TO GERMINATE AND GROW.**

**STEP 9. TRANSPLANT THE SEEDLINGS INTO YOUR GARDEN AND WATCH THEM TAKE OFF.**

**STEP 10. ENJOY YOUR HARVEST.**



**IT'S IMPORTANT TO LEAVE THE LID OFF OF THE JUGS SO RAIN AND SNOW CAN GET INSIDE. IF IT DOESN'T RAIN OR SNOW ENOUGH DON'T FORGET TO WATER YOUR SEEDS ONCE IN A WHILE.**

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## DIVIDED HOUSES

by Michael Rogers

Let's confront some ugly truths, shall we? In the U.S. statistics show that around 41% of first marriages end in divorce, and the odds of a lasting marriage only worsen for subsequent marriages. Strangely, divorce rates seem to be falling, but how can this be? The answer lies in a sex-crazed society that seeks gratification outside the sanctity of marriage. Additionally, when pregnancy gets in the way of ambition or comfort, abortion is used as a contraceptive.

These are just a few of the evils that modern Western Culture champions as moral goods. Is it possible that these and other evils share a common cause? Surely a lack of faith and disobedience to God's law is the broader answer for all the depravity around us. But why then is abortion and divorce more prevalent in America today than America in the 1800's? Certainly there was a lack of faith and disobedience to God's law back then.

We can find the answer hinted at from the beginning. This ideology has seen generations where mankind dismissed it, and like now, generations where mankind embraced it. This worldview is designed to pit men and women against each other, and causes an upheaval of the natural order that God created. It negatively impacts both men and women, and both sexes are at fault for its institution and continuance. In our modernity, we unwittingly call the manifestation of an ancient curse, "Feminism".

God created Eve from Adam's side in Genesis Chapter 2. He didn't make Eve from Adam's head, to signify the woman's superiority over man. Neither did God make her from Adam's feet, to signify her subservience to man. He took her from Adam's side, Eve was literally and figuratively Adam's "missing half". An equal partner designed to share creation with Adam.

After the fall, in Genesis Chapter 3, God gives curses to the Serpent, the Woman, and the Man. This is the woman's curse: *To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."*

The woman is cursed in two areas: pain in childbirth and being under her husband's dominion. Most people read right over "Your desire shall be for your husband", but what does it mean? Perhaps we can glean some clarity from a verse that uses a very similar phrase, spoken by the same entity: our God. Genesis 4:7 reads: If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." God was warning Cain that sin desires to have him, but God is declaring that Cain should rule over it. Tragically, we know that Cain succumbed to sin and let it rule over him when he murdered his brother Abel. Consider that there are only 15 verses between the curse in Genesis 3:16 and God's warning to Cain in Genesis 4:7. The context clearly shows that the last part of the Woman's curse was to desire to overcome the authority given to Man.

Throughout history women had been abused and neglected by the very men who were ordained to protect them. In the mid-1800's, Elizabeth Cady Stanton took inspiration from the Declaration of Independence, and championed the idea that "men and women are created equal". This was done in the hopes of achieving political power for women, and to right the wrongs women had suffered at the hands of unrighteous men. By the 1920's the Feminist movement achieved victories ensuring property ownership for married women separate from that of their husbands, social acceptance for women to serve on local government boards, reforms to higher education and the workplace, and most notably secured women's right to vote.



The Feminist movement continued with a “Second Wave” into the 1960s, focusing on women’s sexuality and reproductive rights. This was made possible by the introduction of the combined oral contraceptive pill (commonly known as “the pill”) being made available in the U.S. in 1961. With this invention, women didn’t need to worry about mundane silly things like having children and being a helper to their husbands, but could focus on pursuing careers without the fear of unwanted pregnancies. The Pill also allowed unmarried couples to fornicate without the threat of an unwanted child looming over them. During this time we saw the emergence of “No-fault divorce”, and the successful push for the legalization of abortion with Roe v Wade in the 70s.

Feminism didn’t stop there either, rather it barreled down into our modern age showcasing ideas like “intersectionality”, redefining concepts of gender and sexuality, and expanding concepts concerning sexual liberation. This ideology has been the figurative springboard for the rise in Transgenderism, Homosexuality, “Hook-Up Culture”, the Desecration of Marriage, Abortion, and other abominations. Feminism seeks to emasculate men by stripping them of their God given authority, to embolden women to step outside the protection of their husbands and fathers, and destroy the foundational building block of society: the family. The nature of Feminism is to rebel against the consequences of mankind’s sin, and by reason the authority of Almighty God to judge the sinful. The fruit of Feminism is putrid because the tree of Feminism is rotten to the core.

We have been called out of our modern wicked society, and into the Kingdom of God. It is our job to take our own inventory and ensure that we do not let poisonous ideas, like Feminism, pollute our faith. I implore that both men and women sincerely test Feminism against God’s word, then examine themselves for the holdovers of worldly ideologies we are engulfed in.

Our houses are made of a collection of individuals bound together in love. Disunity, especially between husband and wife can turn a peaceful home into a desolate ruin.

Likewise, our fellowship is made up of a gathering of houses, some large and some small, but we are all members of the household of faith. If left unaddressed, the leaven of Feminism (like all sin), will leave our fellowship divided. As our Messiah said, “[a] house divided against itself will not stand”. With all this in mind, let’s embrace the order He gave for our individual houses, as well as the order He established for His house in His Word. (Numbers 30:1-16; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Ephesians 5:22-33, etc).



## *Prayer & Praise*

Michael & Amber would like to give thanks for the beautiful snow we have been enjoying this past week.

Also, they’re asking for prayer for Yah’s direction to a good job for Michael.

Do you have a praise report or prayer request you would like to share with the body? Please contact Amber Rogers at [amberrnrogers97@gmail.com](mailto:amberrnrogers97@gmail.com)