

Significant things

By Rev. Tom Mansbarger

Have you ever attempted to sit down and compile a list of all of the things in life that are important? Recently, while talking to my oldest son, Jeff, we had a good conversation about the value of things in life and how they change over time. As I ponder the significance of life, I realize that there are many things that mean a lot to me. I am not putting mine in a prioritized fashion, but just a list.

1. Freedom – I am thankful that I am an American, and I live in a free country. I am proud of my flag and have great respect for it. I am thankful for all the men and women who have served our country faithfully so I can enjoy this freedom.

2. Family – I have been truly blessed with a wonderful family. I have had the privilege to marry my childhood sweetheart that I met at age eleven. We recently celebrated fifty years of marriage. The love of my life has stuck with me through thick and thin. The Lord has blessed her with exceptional skills and abilities that have made her a well-rounded person. I can easily say that I wouldn't be the person I am today without her influence.

For the latest information on COVID-19, go to IN.gov. The site gives current information about testing, what stage Indiana currently practicing.



JUST A THOUGHT

Rev. Tom Mansbarger



We have been blessed with two sons, Jeff and Tim, who have been successful in life. It has been good to watch them mature into confident, outstanding men. The best part of the family are the grandchildren. They are the icing on the cake.

3. Friends – As a young boy, I remember my dad telling me that you can count your good friends on one hand. I have learned during the course of my life the value of having real friends, and being a real friend. There are lots of people who claim to be

friends, but only in the good times. I have learned through life that my friends are my friends. Circumstances don't dictate friendship. In good times and bad times you stick with your friends. Through the hardest days of my life I have seen who really cares and who loves you. If you are my friend and you are in jail, you are still my friend.

4. Faith – I have had the opportunity to do a lot of different things in life. As a young boy I was blessed to have lots of good memories in athletics and other things. However, the best and greatest decision I have ever made was trusting Christ as my personal Savior. As a young person, I went to church, but I never dreamed that faith in Jesus Christ would change my life like it did. When the Lord called me to the ministry, I knew He had a sense of humor. The things that have happened since then have only come about because of Him. I have nothing to offer in and of myself. I am nothing, but the grace of God has stepped up where I was lacking. He is a Wonderful Savior!

Your list may not look anything like mine. I could have talked about health, happiness, possessions, and

a long list of other things. However, the four things that I have written about are the significant things of my life. I always have a reason for what I write about, and my reason is that we might stop for a

moment and realize all that we have. God is good to each and every one of us. We have a whole lot more than we deserve. Take a few minutes and make your list. It will cause you to think, but it will also cause

you to be thankful!
The Rev. Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor at Grace Community Church. He offers free counseling. Reach him at 765-517-1187 or tom@graceccmarion.org.

Crossword and Sudoku answers, page 12

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15				16				
17						18								
19						20				21				
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		24	25						26				27	28
29	30							31				32		33
34						35	36					37		
38						39						40		
	41		42						43	44				
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	47	48						49					50	51
53							54				55	56		
57											58			
59						60					61			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Cyprinids
6. Icelandic literary works
10. Break in half
14. Japanese mushroom
15. Have offspring
17. Not feeling well
19. A very large body of water
20. Witch
21. Behemoth
22. Speak negatively of
23. Absence of difficulty
24. Pampering places
26. Drives
29. Truck that delivers beer
31. Makes
32. A team's best pitcher
34. __ Carvey, comedian
35. Seas
37. S. American plants
38. Time zone
39. Deviate
40. No longer are
41. Moving in slowly
43. Patrick and Glover are two
45. Living quarters
46. Taxi
47. Pancake made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Not happy
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal
58. Give way to anxiety
59. Greek war god
60. 2K lbs.
61. Word of farewell

CLUES DOWN

1. __ ex Machina
2. WWII diarist Frank
3. Concluding passage
4. Supplement with difficulty
5. Title of respect
6. Cubic measures
7. Remnant
8. __ Jones
9. Salts of acetic acid
10. Long, upholstered seat
11. Capital of Okinawa Prefecture
12. A one-time aspect of Egyptian sun god Ra
13. Prefix denoting "in a"
16. Propels upward
18. What we are talking about
22. Prosecutor
23. Employee stock ownership plan
24. He brings kids presents
25. Burmese monetary unit
27. Hurries
28. Injury remnant
29. Tooth caregiver
30. Elvis backup singer Betty Jane
31. "The Partridge Family" actress Susan
33. Midway between east and southeast
35. Most excellent
36. Heat units
37. Possess legally
39. Food items
42. Skeletal structures
43. Challenge to do something bold
44. Blood type
46. Sammy __, songwriter
47. Farmer (Dutch)
48. Clare Booth __, American writer
49. Piers Anthony's protagonist
50. Malaysian coastal city
51. Hairstyle
52. NY-based department store
53. Geosciences organization (abbr.)
54. Brazilian city
55. Niger-Congo languages
56. Gesture

SUDOKU

					4	7		
8		5						
9			6				2	
		7	9	1				
	5							
4		6			8			
			3					4
	4	8			1		7	
		2	5				8	3

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!