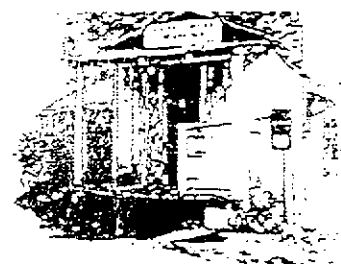


The Acmar Soul Miner

Searching for wisdom

As for hidden treasures...

For the Lord gives wisdom



Acmar United Methodist Church June 2025 Vol. 27 Issue 6 Acmar Post Office

Daddy's Blessing

John McKay was a former great football coach at the University of Southern California (USC). His son John Jr. was a successful football player on the USC team.

A television interviewer asked Coach McKay to comment on the pride he must have felt over his son's accomplishments. McKay's answer was most impressive.

Coach McKay said, "Yes, I'm pleased that John has had a good season this year. He does a fine job and I'm proud of him."

McKay continued, "But I would be just as proud if he had never played the game at all."

Coach McKay was saying, in effect, that John's football talent is recognized and appreciated, but his human worth does not depend on his ability to play football.

Thus, his son would not lose his respect if the next season brought failure and disappointment. John's place in his dad's heart was secure, independent of his performance.

I wish every child could say the same.¹

God chose the Israelites to be a special people. He did not choose them because they were more in number or were more skilled or talented than other people.

You are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. (Deuteronomy 7:6)

The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;

But because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh, King of Egypt.

(Deuteronomy 7:7-8)

God made a promise to Abraham and renewed it to his son, Isaac, and his son, Jacob. In Jeremiah 31:3, the prophet was inspired to write how God led the Israelite people.

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."

For I am a Father to Israel ... (Jer. 31:9)

God was a Father to the people of Israel. It is through them that God would send His Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Savior of the world.

It is through the acceptance of Jesus that we become the children of God. God chooses to love us not because we have more ability or are better than others. Our worth to God does not depend upon our accomplishments. We are children of God because we believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, as our Savior and Lord.

You did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

(Romans 8:15-16)

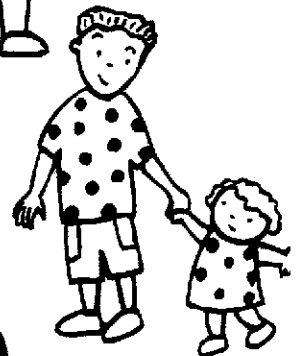
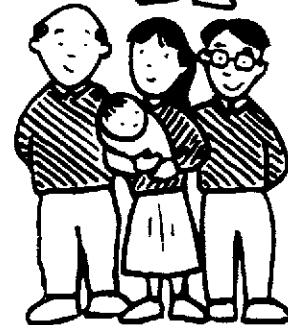
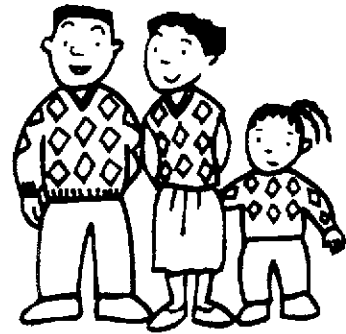
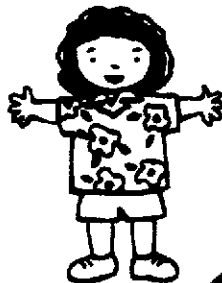
¹ Dobson, James. *Home with a Heart*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1996, pages 222-223.

Children's Camp

Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles.

Puzzle 80

Draw a line to match each child with his or her family.



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have
to dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

**God says, "We are children of God. We
call God, 'Father.'" (Romans 8:15-16)**

Digging In:

We are children of God.
We can call God, "Father."
We are in God's family.

God also gave us a family on earth.
We love God and our family on earth.

The Acmar Community Quilt

So much of the information we share in our Community Quilt focuses on the duration of the Alabama Fuel & Iron Company in Acmar 1908 –1950: the company, the miners, and their families. There's another generation that grew up in Acmar in the decades after the company's closing. No, we never had to walk two miles in the snow (both ways) to go to school. But there are some aspects of those days our grandchildren might find interesting (and wonder how on Earth did we survive?!)

Well, we caught the school bus after waiting beside our dirt roads. The bus was freezing cold in winter and steamy hot with clouds of dust swirling in the open windows during warm days. The bus driver was sometimes just a high school student. No one had parents dropping them off at school and picking them up. The term "carpool" would have been unknown to us, so we would have never expected it. School "supplies list" would have only consisted of pencils and crayons. Before the state and local school systems provided textbooks, parents could go downtown Birmingham to a place that sold used textbooks to get what was needed. Kids knew to make book covers for their textbooks and handle them with great care knowing that younger siblings would need them next year. We didn't have pediatricians. Our parents gave us aspirin or paregoric. Immunizations for school could be given at the Health Department in Leeds, or by the traveling school nurse, Miss Zackey. (She struck fear in our hearts because she seemed to get great pleasure from giving shots to crying kids (whether they needed it or not). The day you lined up to get your Polio vaccine on a sugar cube was certainly more pleasant. We also had lots of information on how to survive a nuclear attack. "Duck and Cover" under the desk would help and you'd be okay if you just stay inside for two weeks. Then it would be safe to go back outside. There was no Spring Break. There was usually three days off that was called "AEA". Most of us had no idea what the letters stood for, nor did we care. The last day of school was kind of sad knowing you wouldn't see most of your friends until the next school year unless there were friends who lived within walking distance from your house. Talking to friends on the phone was rare as available phone time was quite limited with the "party line" that served the Acmar circle was usually "busy".

There was just one car to each family, and if Dad was gone, you're staying home. With no restrictions on what age or how many could sit up front, it was a treat sometimes to load up as many of us that would fit to go for a day at Oak Mountain. There were no seatbelts and no car seats. It was kind of fun to be the kid who got to curl up on the space under the back windshield of a big yellow and white Pontiac.

On days at home we could ride bikes, although you had to be very determined to handle the two major hills in the Acmar community. There were no bike helmets, no knee pads or elbow pads. Playing in the trails and woods, we knew to watch out for snakes because no one wanted to have to try to suck out the venom from a friend who had been bitten! The ball diamond was a great gathering place. There were no lightning alerts for your area. We didn't know that lightning could strike from miles away. We just continued to play until the rain or hail started. There were no warning labels on products. We experienced the fun of finding a broken thermometer and letting that little ball of mercury roll around the palm of your hand.











There was no such thing as "fast food". Meals were taken at home with Mama usually being the cook. Food was often homegrown and simple. There were no "Best Buy or Expiration" dates. You went by how the food looked or smelled before deciding to eat or throw it out, which was seldom done. Often the leftovers from Sunday dinners or Thanksgiving Dinner were left on the table all afternoon until supper time to be enjoyed again.

We didn't know we were poor until somebody pointed it out later. No air-conditioning, no dryers or dishwashers, no TV for many (and only two or three black and white channels if there was one.)

Our grandchildren are most appalled at the thought of no internet!

Looking back on all these things and more, somehow, we survived, and we smile.

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  CHURCH 9 am	2	3	4  MCA 3-5 White's Chapel	5	6	7
8 CHURCH 9 am  PENTECOST	9	10	11  Highway 77 Fish Market 11 am 74551 AL 77 Lincoln AL	12  Moody Sr. BINGO 10 a	13	14
15 CHURCH 9  James Turner	16	17  Maggie Lamphear	18  MCA 3-5 White's Chapel	19  JUNE PENTECOST	20  SUMMER	21
22  CHURCH 9 am	23	24	25  Heather Reeves	26  Henry Turner	27	28
29 CHURCH 9  Sp. Offering: ALS	30  Clara Byers Calye Fernandes			Website <u>www.acmarumc.org</u>	Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	Soul Miner on the Website in Gallery

Mon., June 2	Acts 2:1-21	Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Tue., June 3	Psalms 104:24-35	Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 205 640 4325
Wed., June 4	Romans 8:14-17	Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
Thur., June 5	John 14:8-17	Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
Fri., June 6	Lamentations 3:19-24	Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
Sat., June 7	Acts 17:1-12	Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., June 9	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Mon., June 23	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Tue., June 10	Psalms 8	Tue., June 24	Psalms 77:1-2, 11-20
Wed., June 11	Romans 5:1-5	Wed., June 25	Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Thur., June 12	John 16:12-15	Thur., June 26	Luke 9:51-62
Fri., June 13	Psalms 46:1-11	Fri., June 27	Psalms 18:25-32
Sat., June 14	Luke 6:46-49	Sat., June 28	Proverbs 4:1-10



Mon., June 16	1 Kings 19:1-15a	Mon., June 30	2 Kings 5:1-14
Tue., June 17	Psalms 42	Tue., July 1	Psalms 30
Wed., June 18	Galatians 3:23-29	Wed., July 2	Galatians 6:1-16
Thur., June 19	Luke 8:26-39	Thur., July 3	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Fri., June 20	Jonah 4:1-11	Fri., July 4	
Sat., June 21	Psalms 121:1-8	Sat., July 5	