



VOLUME II:
LONGHORNS TO LADY WONDER

by
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Cover by Janet Griffin-Scott

Study Guide Pt. 2

Chapter 21—Clever Hans

Date Ranges: 1888-1916

Questions and Activities

1. Wilhelm von Osten and Hans lived in Berlin, Germany. Can you locate the city on a map?
2. Von Osten purchased the first Hans in 1888. Beautiful Jim Key was born in 1889 and Clever Hans in 1895. Given the difference in countries, do you think Doc Key and Von Osten knew of each other and were influenced by each other's work?
3. "If von Osten did not know an answer, Hans was correct only 6% of the time." This seems to make it pretty clear that the horse somehow received a signal from von Osten as to the right answer. How do you think Hans was detecting the correct answers?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Lots of Pictures :)

https://upload.wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/5/52/Hans_auf_dem_Hof.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/e/e1/Hans_steigt.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/3/3d/Hans_lernt_addieren.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/4/4a/Hans_1910.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/d/d3/Hans_lernt_offen_2.jpg

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clever_Hans#/media/File:Osten_und_Hans.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hans_lernt_krumm_und_gerade.jpg

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e3/CleverHans.jpg>

Articles

<https://equilibregiaia.wordpress.com/2023/02/19/hans-the-wonderhorse>

<https://www.hestasaga.com/en/2021/02/05/part-2-the-wonder-horse-clever-hans>

<https://www.horsejournals.com/popular/history-heritage/clever-hans>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clever_Hans

This isn't light reading or listening, but this book by Oskar Pfungst explains his examination of Clever Hans and his conclusions.

Print format:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/33936/33936-h/33936-h.htm>

Audio format

<https://librivox.org/clever-hans-by-oskar-pfungst>

Print Resources

Clever Hans: The True Story of the Counting, Adding, and Time-Telling Horse by Kerri Kokias (picture book)

<https://www.amazon.com/Clever-Hans-Counting-Adding-Time-Telling-ebook/dp/B07W9HDD8Z>

Faith Lesson

Von Osten was devastated by Oskar Pfungst's conclusions that Clever Hans didn't possess human levels of intelligence. Despite Pfungst's findings, von Osten remained convinced that Hans had human intelligence.

Some people think the earnestness or sincerity of one's beliefs is what counts. But the Bible frequently warns us to seek truth and not be deceived. However earnest or sincere one may be, believing falsehoods isn't a good thing.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, which are based on human tradition and the spiritual forces of the world rather than on Christ.

Colossians 2:8

I can sincerely believe that I can fly but if I jump off a building, gravity will certainly take over with catastrophic results. My sincere belief will mean nothing at that moment. It's the object of our faith, not the sincerity of it that counts.

*For this reason, even though I suffer as I do, I am not ashamed; for **I know whom I have believed**, and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day.*

2 Timothy 1:12

In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

If you believe that pronouncement, other religions can't be considered equal to Christianity. Jesus eliminated that option when He claimed to be the only way to the Father.

Maybe you've heard someone state something like, "That's your truth, but it doesn't work for me." That kind of thinking isn't rational. Truth can't be true for some and not for others. Either Jesus is the

only way to the Father—or He isn't. He cannot be the ONLY way to the Father, but there are other ways, too. That makes no sense.

Salvation exists in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

Chapter 22—Talking Horses of Elberfeld

Date Ranges: 1888-1916

Questions and Activities

1. Karl Krall had a blind horse, Berto, and used blinders on others so they couldn't see visual clues. What does that mean in terms of how the horse could be “reading” people to determine correct answers?
2. How can you explain Muhamed's voluntary sentence, “Albert has beaten Hänschen.”
3. Professor Ziegler commented on Clever Hans when the horse was at Karl Krall's. “the horses are so friendly they lick your hands all over—all except old Hans, now sixteen years of age, whose temper is very bad although he still calculated extremely well.” Why do you think Hans' temper was bad at this point?
4. Although, it's a shame that any horses (or people) die fighting in wars, what seems especially sad about Clever Hans and the Talking Horses of Elberfeld fighting and dying in World War I?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Pictures

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/2/24/Krall_Zarif_Muhamed.jpg

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/8/81/Zarif_1910.jpg

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/7/74/Krall_Muhamed_1910.jpg

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/b/b0/Zarif_Muhamed_Hans_Elberfeld.jpg

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/4/40/Muhamad_und_Zarif_1910.jpg

https://upload-wikimedia-org.translate.goog/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/Schoeller_Elberfeld.jpg

Articles

<https://cdn.centerforinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2013/03/22164227/p40.pdf>

Print Resources

Clever Hans and the Elberfeld Horses by Maurice Maeterlinck

<https://www.amazon.com/Clever-Elberfeld-Horses-Equestrian-Classics/dp/1590482832>

Faith Lesson

Although most have acknowledged that the “clever” horses did not have human intelligence, perhaps animals possess more intelligence than we give them credit for.

In Job 39 and 40, the amazing abilities God put into some of His animal creation are mentioned.

He even gave two animals the power of speech for a time—the serpent and Balaam’s donkey. (Genesis 3:1-5 and Numbers 22:22-33)

The serpent, of course, used that ability to contradict God’s word, planting seeds of doubt into Eve’s mind. It’s still a major strategy of the enemy today, trying to get us to doubt the authenticity of Scripture. It’s interesting that Eve didn’t appear to be surprised by the serpent’s ability to communicate with her. Do you think all the animals could communicate with Adam and Eve at that time?

Balaam’s donkey was a female, a jenny. The donkey had keener spiritual insight than her master. She saw the angel when Balaam couldn’t.

The donkey is mentioned again in 2 Peter 2:16.

But he was rebuked for his transgression by a donkey, otherwise without speech, that spoke with a man’s voice and restrained the prophet’s madness.

Can you think of other instances in the Bible where God used animals in ways that went outside their normal behaviors?

Chapter 23—Captain

Date Ranges: 1900-1920ish

Related Information

I was curious about what had happened to Princess Trixie after she was sold by Sigsbee. (The correct spelling seems to be “Trixie” not “Trixe.” I saw it spelled both ways and apparently picked the wrong version.)

W. H. Barnes purchased her from Captain Sigsbee and exhibited the mare across the country and in Europe. Barnes was so convinced of the horse’s intelligence he had an offer of \$1,000 printed in newspapers, to be paid to anyone who could “find that the performance of Princess Trixie is in any way aided by signals, signs or tricks. I Have the Most Wonderful Horse In the World So wonderful that men like the “Listener” doubt but cannot disprove my claim that she Is an educated horse, trained to do her work like any child would be.”

This newspaper article is from one of her exhibitions at the Lewis and Clark Exposition, held in Portland, Oregon, from June to October, 1905.

Educated Princess Trixie Enjoys the Day of Rest Portland Sept. 3. While every other performance on the Trail at the Lewis and Clark Exposition which is permitted to open on Sunday is taking in money, Princess Trixie, W. H. Barnes’ educated horse, placidly munches hay in her stall. There Is no work for Princess Trixie on Sunday, because her owner thinks that man and beast deserves one day of rest.

Princess Trixie occupies much the same position at Portland as Beautiful Jim Key did at St. Louis, but, according to people who have seen both, she is even more wonderful than Beautiful Jim. Trixie is now ten years old, and has been studying ever since the age of three weeks.

Altoona Tribune, Altoona, Pennsylvania, Monday September 4, 1905

Sadly, according to the Sioux City Journal, February 23, 1909, Trixie was killed in a train wreck on February 22 on the Pennsylvania railroad at Delmar, Delaware. The train she was traveling in collided with two locomotives that were inexplicably sitting on the track. Trixie was still owned by Mr. Barnes and was valued at \$50,000 (some accounts say \$100,000). She would have been about fourteen years old. Trixie’s groom, Lewis Brockway, was badly injured in the wreck. At first, he refused to leave Trixie’s side. Seven trainmen were also killed.

I couldn’t find a date of death for the horse Captain. He was born in 1905. The latest newspaper articles I could find on him were from 1916. Wharton’s book on the horse was published in 1917 and Captain was still alive then and would have only been twelve.

Questions and Activities

1. Why do people enjoy owning or watching a horse that can do tricks?
2. How does Captain Sigsbee's opinion of horse intelligence compare to that of Wilhelm von Osten and Karl Krall? Which do you agree with?
3. What did the three trainers—von Osten, Krall, and Sigsbee have in common with their training techniques?
4. Captain became friends with a pigeon. I'd never heard of a horse/bird friendship before this. Can you think of any other unusual animal friendships—with horses or other animals?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

A page of text and image of Trixie. She describes meeting her first automobile and how she thought it must be the devil.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Princess_Trixie_BHL20976026.jpg

Photo of W. H. Barnes Horses, including Princess Trixie, and two elk (Cuba and King Rex) who dove into a pool of water

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WH_Barnes%27_Diving_Elk_and_Educated_Horse_Show_on_The_Trail,_the_Lewis_and_Clark_Exposition,_Portland,_Oregon,_1905_\(AL%2BCA_1957\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WH_Barnes%27_Diving_Elk_and_Educated_Horse_Show_on_The_Trail,_the_Lewis_and_Clark_Exposition,_Portland,_Oregon,_1905_(AL%2BCA_1957).jpg)

Princess Trixie Autobiography

<https://ia801609.us.archive.org/18/items/princesstrixieau00hutc/princesstrixieau00hutc.pdf>

There are pictures of Captain in this gutenber edition of the book.

The Story Of Captain The Horse With The Human Brain, George Wharton James, The Radiant Life Press, 1917

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/48844/48844-h/48844-h.htm>

This article explores the topic of whether animals can truly think and their relationship to our Creator, I don't agree with everything in here, but I do think most underestimate the intelligence of animals and their ability to communicate with each other. Animals, at least horses, probably read people better than most people read them.

<http://www.lrgaf.org/training/captain.htm>

The entirety of Captain's Prayer of Thanksgiving

<http://www.lrgaf.org/training/prayer.htm>

Faith Lesson

The creation waits in eager expectation for the revelation of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but because of the One who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

Romans 8:19-21

Because of Adam and Eve's sin in the Garden of Eden, people and all of creation were put under a curse. Sin resulted in death and suffering entering the world. The verses in Romans emphasize that not just people but all of creation is under this curse but that we will all, someday, be set free from it.

What do you think creation will be like, including the animals, once the curse is lifted?

Chapter 24—The Great Cowboy Race

Date Ranges: 1893

Questions and Activities

1. Trace the route of the race on a map. Did the race come close to where you live?
2. Why do you think so few (9) cowboys participated in the race?
3. Do you think the humane agencies were right to question the safety of the race? Do you think the cowboys would have cared for their horses the same during the race if the humane agencies hadn't intervened?
4. If you didn't know who actually won, from the list of participants and their horses, which would you have picked as most likely to win?
5. Do you think John Berry should have been allowed in the race? After the others protested about his prior knowledge of the route, why do you think Berry didn't voluntarily drop out? What would you have done?
6. Pick a direction from your home and see where you would be if you traveled 1,000 miles in that direction.
7. What did the humane society representatives think at the end of the race?
8. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<http://www.thelongridersguild.com/chadron.htm>

<https://www.docsmidwaycookhouse.com/cowboy-endurance-race-from-chadron-nebraska-to-the-columbian-exposition>

The revolver won by Gillespie and boots worn by Charles Smith at the Dawes County Historical Museum, Chadron, NE

<https://dawescountyhistoricalmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/1000-Mile-Horse-Race.jpg>

Print Resources

American Endurance: Buffalo Bill, the Great Cowboy Race of 1893, and the Vanishing Wild West by Richard A. Serrano

<https://www.amazon.com/American-Endurance-Buffalo-Cowboy-Vanishing/dp/1588345750>

Faith Lesson

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Although most of us will never compete in a race as strenuous as the 1,000 mile Great Cowboy Race, we are called to run with endurance the “race” God has set before us in this life.

If you’ve ever competed in a sporting event, you should recognize how encouraging it is when you hear a crowd cheering you on. Who do you think this “great cloud of witnesses” are that surround us? What purpose do they serve?

While the cowboys in the race had to carry at least 150 pounds, in Hebrews, we’re advised to cast off anything that might weigh us down or hold us back. Is there anything in your life now, or something you can imagine for the future, that you may need to let go of in order to run your race well?

What does it mean to “fix our eyes on Jesus” as we’re running our race?

The cowboys endured the difficulties of the race by focusing on their goal—being the first to reach the Wild West show in Chicago and winning the prizes. What is our goal as Christians?

Chapter 25—The Great Horse Manure Crisis

Date Ranges: 1894

Questions and Activities

1. What sort of problems arose because of the massive amounts of manure left behind by the horses in large cities? Can you think of any ways these problems could have been resolved?
2. “some New Yorkers claimed that by 1930, horse manure would block third-story windows lining their city’s streets” Why would it be impossible for this to ever happen?
3. Why did the delegates to the urban-planning conference all go home? How was the “Great Manure Crisis” eventually resolved?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.bytesdaily.com.au/2011/07/great-horse-manure-crisis-of-1894.html>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/the-first-global-urban-planning-conference-was-mostly-about-manure>

<https://www.gregorystrachta.com/18.html>

A street sweeper cleaning the street for a lady to cross

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a3/TheCrossingSweeper.jpg>

Faith Lesson

All the worrying that was done about the cities being buried in horse manure was for nothing. It never happened.

The problem resolved itself by the increasing use of automobiles. However, even if automobiles hadn’t appeared, some solution could have been reached that prevented such an awful burial.

Manure was never going to reach third floors, because covering first floors would have prevented people from getting in and out! Some solution would have been found before that level accumulated.

Have you ever worried about something that later turned out not to be as big a problem as you imagined it to be?

Surprisingly, the Bible tells us not to worry about anything.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6,7

Don't worry about anything NLT

Never worry about anything ISV

Have no anxiety at all NAB

Do not be over-anxious about anything Weymouth

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air: They do not sow or reap or gather into barns—and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

And why do you worry about clothes? Consider how the lilies of the field grow: They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his glory was adorned like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles strive after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Today has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:25-34

Of course, not worrying doesn't mean we sit around all day and expect God to drop food or clothing into our houses.

Is there something you're worrying about that you need to turn over to God?

Chapter 26—Horse vs. Bike

Date Ranges: 1818-1900

Questions and Activities

1. The initial motivation for Karl von Drais to create the first patented bicycle was the scarcity of horses for transportation due to the cold summer. Do you think bicycles would have been developed anyway if that bad weather hadn't occurred?
2. "Some were certain the invention [bicycles] would never become popular." Have you ever been certain about something only to be proven wrong later? I was convinced the Windows operating system would never be popular. (I was a computer programmer in the days before Windows.) Come to think of it, I didn't see tablets (what purpose could they serve when you have laptops and phones?) or texting becoming popular either. I was seriously wrong about all of those. :)
3. Why did it take nearly fifty years to come up with the idea of pedals for a bike?
4. What would it be like to ride one of the high-front-wheeled ordinary bicycles?
5. If you were a female who lived in the early bicycling days when women didn't ride, would you have liked to have tried it?
6. Why was there so much interest in racing horses against bicycles? Did the races ultimately prove anything?
7. What do you think of the 1895 newspaper article defending horses and riders against bicycles and their riders?
8. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://veloaficionado.com/blog/cyclist-versus-horse-duel>

<https://www.americasbesttracing.net/lifestyle/2017-the-centuries-old-horses-vs-bicycles-showdown>

Annie Londonderry's around the world bike ride 1894-1895

<https://annielondonderry.com/about-annie-londonderry>

Painting of "ordinary" bicyclists

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_bicycle#/media/File:Bicycling-ca1887-bigwheelers.jpg

Draisine, around 1820

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_bicycle#/media/File:Draisine_or_Laufmaschine,_around_1820._Archetype_of_the_Bicycle._Pic_01.jpg

Early safety bicycle

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/48/Whippet_Safety_Bicycle.jpg

Pat Smullen aboard Moonbi Creek beats Tour de France veteran Nicolas Roche and his McLaren bike, 2014

<https://youtu.be/j9xzO-VnwPY>

Faith Lesson

The author of the 1895 newspaper article defending horses against bicycles fell into what is known as an **ad hominem** attack.

This occurs when, rather than sticking to the facts of an argument, one attacks the character of the person who holds the opposing view. Can you point out places in the article where the author does this?

As Christians, we're likely to encounter ad hominem attacks when we present or defend our Christian faith. A good example is believing in a literal six-day creation week as described in Genesis 1 and not believing in evolution. Rather than sticking to facts and logic, evolutionists often dismiss the Genesis account as unscientific and categorize believers in creation as less than intelligent.

One argument I always go back to, that seems irrefutable, is the concept of **irreducible complexity**. In simple terms, it means that all the parts of a system must be present and working in order for the system to function at all. We see it everywhere. I'm sure you can come up with a multitude of examples.

I recently watched a video on penguins that contained amazing facts about their lives. The mama lays an egg, then Dad takes over, placing the egg on top of his feet. By holding it up off the frozen ground, he's able to keep it warm in -100 degree temperatures. He has something like a pouch that fits down over the egg, also providing warmth. If the egg falls off his feet for any time at all, it will freeze and kill the baby penguin inside.

Who taught Papa Penguin to do that? While Papa is busy keeping the egg warm (he doesn't eat at all during this time), Mama swims forty to fifty miles out to sea to catch fish. The food she stores isn't digested and doesn't rot. After several months, she swims back, locates her mate from a couple thousand other male penguins—and usually arrives on the very day the chick hatches! All the fish she stored is now available as food for their hungry baby.

The penguins' lifestyle is a complex system. If the dad drops the egg, if Dad decides he's hungry and leaves the egg so he can eat, if Mama catches a bunch of fish but it's all digested in her stomach, leaving nothing for baby, if Mama swims back, but wanders around unable to locate her mate. If any one of those behaviors isn't present, the baby penguin dies.

Of course, going back further than that, where did penguins come from in the first place? Who designed the egg-laying process, how do they stay warm in such cold temperatures, how did they learn to swim?

Within the penguin are many irreducibly complex systems as well. How could they breath if their lungs developed thousands of years after their mouths? Or how could they eat if they had no stomach? What if the heart developed first but there were no vessels to transport the blood? How did male and female penguins evolve at exactly the same times and in the same geographic locations so that a baby chick could be produced?

These questions don't apply just to penguins, you could ask the same questions for humans and every type of animal. Millions of years of random chance "evolutionary" adaptations doesn't begin to explain irreducible complexity.

Can you think of other ways to defend creation using facts and logic?

Here are some related articles on the Answers in Genesis site.

<https://answersingenesis.org/evidence-for-creation>

Chapter 27—Rural Free Delivery Mail

Date Ranges: 1896-1920

Related Information

Today, the U.S. Postal Service employs over 600,000 people and serves 160 million homes. In 1971, Congress replaced the Post Office Department with the United States Postal Service, an independent entity within the executive branch of the federal government. Currently, it receives no tax funding, but operates on income from postage and shipping. Due to decreases in the volume of First-Class mail and competition from private delivery services, the USPS has been losing money for decades.

Questions and Activities

1. Do you think it was the right thing to do for the post office to begin offering free delivery to rural residents (RFD)?
2. Were you surprised that in the early days of the RFD service children had been “mailed”? Can you imagine mailing a child today? How is this a different country today than back then?
3. In the past, people frequently communicated by writing letters that were delivered by the postal service. Do you write letters? Why has this become a less common means of communicating? Will there be any lasting repercussions from the dwindling of letter writing?
4. Although package services such as UPS and FedEx deliver packages, the post office currently has the exclusive right to deliver material to your mailbox. According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution, [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To establish Post Offices and post Roads. Do you think the Constitution allows for changes to the way postal mail is handled today? Are there changes that could be made to the system to keep the post office from losing money every year?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/parcelpost/cf/view.cfm>

Mailing children

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/brief-history-children-sent-through-mail-180959372>

<https://www.history.com/news/mailing-children-post-office>

Photos on RFD from the Henry Ford Museum

<https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/search-results#advanced-Search=1&tab=artifact-results&s.0.in=keywords&s.0.for=Mail%20wagons&years=0-0&per-Page=10&pageNum=1&sortBy=relevance://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/artifact/233932/#slide=gs-199418>

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2016865324>

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/de/Rural_Free_Delivery_Carrier_in_Greenfield%2C_Indiana.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:US_Mail_Coach_jeh.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/60/Photograph_of_Rural_Free_Delivery_wagon_with_horse_in_Osseo%2C_Minnesota_%284011437780%29.jpg

Library of Congress video of horse delivery

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1LfQpG_31EM

Smithsonian video on RFD

<https://youtu.be/ka1RPGIFqml>

Print Resources

Mailing May by Michael O. Tunnell, Charlotte May Pierstorff mailed seventy-five miles to her grandmother in Idaho, 1914

<https://www.amazon.com/Mailing-May-Michael-Tunnell/dp/0064437248>

Faith Lesson

With none of the modern devices we have today, how did people communicate in Bible times?

Communication was, in most cases, slower.

How did the lack of immediate means of communication like phones and internet, impact the lives of people in Bible times?

Look up these verses to see different means of communication.

1 Samuel 26:13-17

Esther 4:4-9

Job 1:13-18

Matthew 11:2-4

Matthew 13:1-3

Galatians 6:11

Who is someone you could write a letter to? Older people, in particular, might be delighted to find a letter from you in their mailbox. If you can't think of anything else to write, tell them about your favorite story from Horsestory.

Chapter 28—Equine Moving Company

Date Ranges: 1897-1901

Questions and Activities

1. Eminent domain gives the government the power to take your property to use it for something they consider more important than what you're using it for. Of course they pay you for it; the stickler is you have to sell whether you want to or not.

Here's one case I found on an attorney website. An internet search would turn up many more.

“In the early 2000s, a real estate company in Hurst, Texas expanded its private mall to over 127 homes. The city used eminent domain to remove the homeowners, but a handful of them resisted the offers and filed lawsuits. The judge overruled their claims and forced them off of their land.”

Do you think the practice of eminent domain is fair? Should it be limited to certain usages? Or not used at all?

2. It seems unbelievable that horses could move a house. The key was patience with the reality of moving it a little at a time. What do you think it would have been like if you lived in one of the Katonah houses and stayed in it while it was moved?
3. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.horseandman.com/horse-stories/when-houses-were-moved-by-horses/12/03/2018>

<https://www.messynessychic.com/2018/09/28/the-towns-that-were-moved-by-horses>

Katonah The History of a New York Village and its People, Frances R. Duncombe

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015027759342>

Illustration of moving a Katonah house

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/MovingKatonah.jpg>

Modern day Katonah

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4e/Downtown_Katonah%2C_NY.jpg

Belgian horses moving a cabin in winter

<https://youtu.be/97R5pNgkCcw?si=vruGIzXzATIf9vHs>

Amish men picking up and moving a barn!
https://youtu.be/hZL7TqSeDus?si=-C2QaPP_TaUMtM4H

Faith Lesson

The practice of eminent domain reminds me of the time the Israelites clamored to have a king.

“Look,” they said [to Samuel], “you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king to judge us like all the other nations.”

1 Samuel 8:5

And the LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you. For it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected Me as their king.”

1 Samuel 8:7

This will be the manner of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them to his own chariots and horses, to run in front of his chariots.

He will appoint some for himself as commanders of thousands and of fifties, and others to plow his ground, to reap his harvest, to make his weapons of war, and to equip his chariots.

And he will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers.

He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his servants. He will take a tenth of your grain and grape harvest and give it to his officials and servants. And he will take your menservants and maidservants and your best cattle and donkeys and put them to his own use.

He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. When that day comes, you will beg for relief from the king you have chosen, but the LORD will not answer you on that day.”

Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We must have a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to judge us, to go out before us, and to fight our battles.”

1 Samuel 8:11-20

Do you think our government today is like the kings of Israel? How or how not? What do you think would be an ideal government?

Chapter 29—Rough Walkers

Date Ranges: 1898

Related Information

The Rough Riders held annual reunions in Las Vegas, New Mexico until 1968. The two last Rough Riders were Jesse Langdon and Ralph Waldo Taylor. Langdon, who joined the Rough Riders at sixteen, passed away in 1975 at ninety-four. Taylor lived a dozen more years, passing away in 1987 at the age of 105.

At the end of the Spanish-American War, Spain ceded the Philippines to the United States in the Treaty of Paris. The Filipinos didn't want to be under U.S. control any more than under Spain's. Fighting broke out against the U.S. almost immediately. This little-known conflict was called the Philippine-American War, fought from 1899–1902 in the Philippines. Although fighting ceased, the country didn't gain full independence from the U.S. until 1946.

Questions and Activities

1. Do you think the U.S. should have become involved in the war against Spain in Cuba? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think the regiment ended up with so many untrained horses?
3. Why weren't there better means of transporting and caring for the horses—by rail to Florida and from Florida to Cuba?
4. The name Rough Riders has stuck with the group that fought in Cuba. Do you think many people realize that most of the horses were left in Florida and most of the soldiers walked rather than rode?
5. What happened to the Rough Rider horses who didn't travel to Cuba?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

The Rough Riders by Theodore Roosevelt, 1899

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/13000>

<https://freerangeamerican.us/rough-riders>

Roosevelt in uniform

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7d/Col_roosevelt_rough_rider.jpg

Horses arriving at the rail station

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/Rough_Riders_arrive_at_Tampa.jpg

Painting of the battle (a couple men apparently dead)

<https://www.nationalguard.mil/Resources/Image-Gallery/Historical-Paintings/Heritage-Series/The-Rough-Riders/FileId/319469>

Print Resources

Teddy Roosevelt: American Rough Rider by John Garraty

<https://www.amazon.com/Teddy-Roosevelt-American-Rough-Rider/dp/1402741448>

Faith Lesson

Dishonest scales [or a false balance] are an abomination [toebah] to the LORD, but an accurate weight is His delight.

Proverbs 11:1

Toebah - the highest level or worst kind of abomination or offense to God

This verse might seem a bit mysterious at first. Why would God find scales used to weigh products so abhorrent?

It wasn't the scales that the LORD abhorred, but the person using them. That person was deliberately using scales that weighed inaccurately to cheat people who bought from him. Let's say the businessman sold cornmeal for \$2.00 a pound. He might rig his scale to show one pound when the actual weight of the product was only 3/4 of a pound. His customers paid too much. They were being cheated.

Although some might think something like that isn't a big deal, God views cheating people or unfair business practices as a serious matter. Do you see any connection between this Scriptural principle and the Rough Riders chapter?

Although the request had been for horses that were "well broken to saddle," many of the horses they purchased were nearly wild. Whoever sold those horses was doing the equivalent of using "dishonest scales."

A trained, reliable horse costs a lot more than an untrained one. The sellers had found cheaper horses somewhere and were passing them off as trained animals. By doing this, they were able to pocket the extra profit made on the sales.

This happened during the Civil War and both World Wars. Lying and deception are unfortunately quite common when selling horses. I have a scene about that in my fifth Sonrise Stable book, *Outward Appearances*, based on an experience I had when looking at a horse that was for sale.

I had a similar experience about a year ago when I bought a horse that had apparently been drugged the first time I went to look at her. Sadly, I hadn't learned my lesson and trusted the seller—who seemed to vanish when I tried to contact her after realizing the true nature of the horse I'd purchased.

The verse in Proverbs concludes with “an accurate weight is His delight.” As much as He finds dishonesty and deception an abomination, God is pleased/delighted when we deal fairly and honestly with others.

Chapter 30—Rodney

Date Ranges: 1888-1918

Related Information

The Artillery Horse's Prayer, attributed to French Captain de Condenbove, from **Sound of the Guns** by Fairfax Downey, pages 206, 207

To thee, my master, I offer my prayer

Treat me as a living being, not as a machine.

Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work is done, groom me carefully so that my circulation may act well, for remember: a good grooming is equivalent to half a feed. Clean my feet and legs and keep them in good condition, for they are the most important parts of my body.

Pet me sometimes, be always gentle to me so that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you.

Do not jerk the reins, do not whip me when I am going up-hill. Do not force me out of the regular gait or you will not have my strength when you want it. Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not understand what you mean, but give me a chance to understand you. Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet.

Don't draw the straps too tight: give me freedom to move my head. Don't make my load too heavy, and oh! I pray thee, have me shod every month.

Examine my teeth when I do not eat; I may have some teeth too long or I may have an ulcerated tooth and that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie my head in an unnatural position or take away my defense against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail.

I cannot, alas, tell you when I am thirsty, so give me pure, cold water frequently. Do all you can do to protect me from the sun; and throw a cover over me—not when I am working, but when I am standing in the cold.

I always try to do cheerfully the work you require of me: and day and night I stand for hours patiently waiting for you.

In this war, like any other soldier, I will do my best without hope of any war-cross, content to serve my country and you, and, if need be, I will die calm and dignified on the battlefield; therefore, oh! my master, treat me in the kindest way and your God will reward you here and hereafter.

I am not irreverent if I ask this, my prayer, in the name of Him who was born in a stable.

Questions and Activities

1. What were the limber and caisson used for? What was the advantage of using the limber versus simply harnessing the horses to the gun carriage?
2. How many horses pulled a limber? What position did Rodney have in the team?
3. What was it about Rodney that made the men love him so much?
4. Why was Rodney ordered to be sold? How was he protected by his men?
5. What job was the older Rodney given? How did he avoid working? (This makes me smile. I can just picture the old horse doing this.)
6. Who were the two other artillery horses mentioned by Fairfax Downey in his book, *Sound of the Guns*?
7. Of course the Artillery Horse's Prayer was written by a person. What do you think this prayer tells us about the character of the man who wrote it? What he must have been like?
8. Do you like the older version of the Army song better or the newer one?
9. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Sound of the Guns by Fairfax Downey

<https://archive.org/details/soundofguns0000fair>

September-October 1933 issue of the Field Artillery Journal, section on Rodney begins on page 91 of the pdf

https://tradicofcoeccafcoepfwprod.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/fires-bulletin-archive/1933/SEP_OCT_1933/SEP_OCT_1933_FULL_EDITION.pdf

<https://ushorsemanship.com/rodney-a-veteran-artillery-horse-merry-christmas>

Good re-enactment of hitching and driving artillery horses

<https://youtu.be/iyfBw1dwGWw>

Shows unhooking gun from limber, horses move off, gun fired

<https://youtu.be/ogwh2ypvU9c>

Videos of the modern Ft. Myer stables and artillery horses

<https://youtu.be/UIJeR8XXneY>

<https://youtu.be/nLJsu2hDVZw>

Photos of Rodney at Fort Myer taken in 1916

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/hec.03778>

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/hec.02459>

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/hec.06411>

Limber and caisson

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ec/CWcaisson.jpg>

Funeral horses at Arlington Cemetery begin on page 26, Fort Myer Caisson Platoon on page 34 (pages are from the viewer, not the #'s on the pages themselves)

https://issuu.com/whhpubl/docs/horses_issue_19?e=1800979/10496513

Faith Lesson

Rodney served faithfully during the battles in Cuba. He and his partner, Shaw, freed the artillery equipment from deep mud multiple times. Rodney could have shirked his duties or fled from the difficult and dangerous duties he faced, but he didn't. A horse of his size and strength could have easily broken free from the men and run away, but Rodney put all his heart and strength into each task the men set before him. In doing so, he earned their love and respect.

As Rodney was a servant to the soldiers, we are servants of Christ, not serving ourselves but our Master. Our duty is to faithfully carry out the tasks God has given to us.

So then, men ought to regard us as servants [hyperetas] of Christ and stewards [oikonomos] of the mysteries of God. Now it is required of stewards that they be found faithful [pistos].

1 Corinthians 4:2

Hyperetas - under rower, a rower in the belly of a galley ship. This person was most likely a slave with no say in the destination of the ship or the duration of his service. His duty was simply to row.

Oikonomos - a household manager who didn't own but managed the resources of the owner

Pistos - worthy of trust, one that can be relied on

We're given many duties as Christians, but in this verse, we're called to be a steward of the "mysteries of God"—to share God's truths with others as well as to preserve and defend them.

Many today deny the truths of Scripture or distort them. One of our jobs is to know the Bible so well that we are aware when it is being twisted to mean something it doesn't really say. Although we can't force anyone to believe, we can certainly stand for truth when God's word is under attack. When we provide that truth, a seed is planted that may later take root and grow in someone's life.

As Rodney was rewarded for his faithful service, God will also reward us; maybe not in this lifetime, but certainly in eternity. When the Master returns or we meet Him, we want to hear,

Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!

Matthew 25:21

Chapter 31—Lifeboat Horses

Date Ranges: 1823-1899+

Questions and Activities

1. Did you know about the role horses played in these lifeboat rescues?
2. How would you have felt as a farmer if your horses were required to be used for a rescue?
3. Although the focus is on the horses in this chapter, what kind of men do you think manned the lifeboats, rowing out in a small boat into the stormy seas?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Shows horses pulling lifeboat to a launch, 1933
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgtwVgi7yis>

Another horse-drawn launch in 2008. This one actually shows the horses pulling the boat into the water and later, back out. Note the very minimal harness the horses wear.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOthLl0epAI>

Another good re-enactment with twelve horses, 2014
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-rwKA30lV8>

Royal National Lifeboat Institution. There are some lifeboat coloring pages in their education section.
<https://rnli.org>

These articles will have a photo or two of horses in them

1880: Zetland lifeboat final launch
<https://rnli.org/about-us/our-history/timeline/1880-zetlands-final-launch>

1899: Launch from Porlock Weir
<https://rnli.org/about-us/our-history/timeline/1899-launch-from-porlock-weir>

1936: Last horse-powered launch
<https://rnli.org/about-us/our-history/timeline/1936-last-horse-powered-launch>

More on the Forrest Hall rescue, good photos and illustrations (some dead horses shown) :(
<https://louisalifeboat.weebly.com/the-rescue.html>

<https://louisalifeboat.weebly.com/horses.html>

The Forrest Hall ship

<https://louisalifeboat.weebly.com/forrest-hall.html>

Online version of The Overland Launch, C. Walter Hodges

<https://archive.org/details/overlandlaunch0000hodg>

Print Resources

The Overland Launch, C. Walter Hodges, Penguin Books, 1969

<https://www.amazon.com/Overland-Launch-C-Walter-Hodges/dp/0861834089>

Faith Lesson

The horses and lifeboat crews were used to save many people from a horrible death at sea. While there aren't technically any lifeboats mentioned in the Bible, there was a boat God used to save lives.

Noah was instructed to build a huge ark. Many children's Bibles depict Noah's ark in a cute or comic manner with animals peeking over the sides. I increasingly see presenting Bible stories in a childish manner as a potentially harmful approach. Too often, as children grow up, it's easy for them to think they've outgrown those "childish" Bible stories. The Ark Encounter in Kentucky presents a life-size replica of the ark. <https://arkencounter.com>

They also have a youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@arkencounter/videos>

On the other hand, I don't think young children need to be traumatized either, Noah's ark isn't a happy story. All of mankind except for Noah's family drowned—most of the animals as well.

Just as the RNLI lifeboats saved lives, so did Noah's ark.

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great upon the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was altogether evil all the time. And the LORD regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out man, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—every man and beast and crawling creature and bird of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them."

Noah, however, found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Genesis 6:5-8

I will bring floodwaters upon the earth to destroy every creature under the heavens that has the breath of life. Everything on the earth will perish. But I will establish My covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.

And you are to bring two of every living creature into the ark—male and female—to keep them alive with you.

Genesis 6:17-19

The entire world had become so corrupt and violent that the only people God saw as worth saving were Noah and his family. Noah wasn't perfect but he was called righteous.

I find it interesting that Noah and his sons didn't have to catch the animals and bring them onto the ark. God directed them to go and enter the boat.

The clean and unclean animals, the birds, and everything that crawls along the ground came to Noah to enter the ark, two by two, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.

Genesis 7:8,9

It may have taken Noah and his sons up to 120 years to build the ark. During that time, Noah not only worked as a carpenter, he preached to those who were curious as to what he was doing.

if He did not spare the ancient world when He brought the flood on its ungodly people, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, among the eight;

2 Peter 2:5

The following is part of God's instructions to Noah as to how to build the ark.

You are to make a roof for the ark, finish its walls a cubit from the top, place a door in the side of the ark, and build lower, middle, and upper decks.

Genesis 6:16

Of particular interest is the door—one door, one way into the ark, one way to be saved from the flood. Of all the people alive in Noah's day, only eight chose to enter through the door and be saved.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door [thyra] of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door [thyra]: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,

John 10:7-9 KJV

thyra—door, entryway

Jesus calls Himself the door, the only way to salvation.

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through [dia] Me.

John 14:6

Dia can mean both "through" and "by." For me, "through" emphasizes the concept of a door or gate more strongly.

Enter through the narrow gate [pylē]. For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate [pylē] and narrow the way that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Matthew 7:13,14

Although the Greek word here is different, pylē vs. thyra, the concept is the same, the way into or out of an area. The idea that only a few find the way to salvation matches the few who found their way onto the ark.

When the time for the flood arrived, God shut the door of the ark. Once the door was shut, the opportunity to be saved ended.

And they entered, the male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

Genesis 7:16

Don't wait until the door closes for you. Don't put off a decision to step through that door of salvation.

Behold, now is the time of favor; now is the day of salvation!

2 Corinthians 6:2

Here's an article about the door in the ark.

<https://arkencounter.com/blog/2018/03/29/enter-ark-of-salvation-today>

This video describes the parallels between the ark and Jesus.

https://youtu.be/5igne3jgrbU?si=WJ_1M6Wbty0emJwO

Chapter 32—Horse Fountains

Date Ranges:1899-1920

Questions and Activities

1. Using the online resources below, can you locate the fountain closest to you? Is it close enough to visit?
2. Do you think the donation of water fountains by Hermon Ensign was an unusual way for him to leave his wealth?
3. The fountains were not only functional, they were beautiful. Compare the photos of these fountains to today's people drinking fountains or horse's water troughs. Why do you think the NHA fountains were created in such a striking way?
4. What brought about the end of the public water fountains for horses? What happened to them afterward?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Here are photos of fountains around the U.S.

<http://electronicvalley.org/derby/quiz/pages/wateringtrough.htm>

A more extensive list here.

<http://www.electronicvalley.org/derby/greenway/fountains/NHAFountains.htm>

This seems to be the one closest to me.

<http://electronicvalley.org/derby/Greenway/Fountains/Marietta,OH.htm>

The National Humane Alliance Fountains Facebook page with lots of photos.

<https://www.facebook.com/NHAFountains>

Faith Lesson

The fountains provided by the National Humane Alliance provided water that was essential for hard-working horses. Physical water is vital for people also, but Jesus offers us something even better—living water.

In John 4, Jesus asked the Samaritan woman to get Him a drink.

*“You are a Jew,” said the woman. “How can You ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?”
(For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)*

Jesus answered, “If you knew the gift of God and who is asking you for a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

John 4:9,10

Jesus went on to explain that when we drink physical water, we'll eventually become thirsty again. The “water” Jesus provides isn't physical but spiritual.

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a fount of water springing up to eternal life.”

John 4:13,14

Physical thirst makes people seek water to drink, while spiritual thirst should make us seek after God, and coming into a relationship with our heavenly Father through Christ is the only thing that ultimately satisfies.

The second time living water is mentioned is in John 7.

On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and called out in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said: ‘Streams of living water will flow from within him.’” He was speaking about the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. For the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

John 7:37-39

In John 7, Jesus specifies that the living water is the Holy Spirit that would be given to believers after Christ's death and resurrection.

Thirst isn't a thing in itself, it's a lack of something. When we recognize our own emptiness without God in our lives, we will cry out for Him to fill that empty place in us.

Chapter 33—The First Cowgirl

Date Ranges: 1885-1940

Questions and Activities

1. Etymology is the study of the origin and historic usage of words. Do you find it interesting to see where words came from and how their meaning has changed over time? One of my great finds was that the word “nice” originated around 1300 from the Latin “nescius” meaning ignorant or unaware. Back then, it wasn’t nice to call someone nice!
2. What do you think it would be like to grow up on an 80,000 acre ranch?
3. How would you feel if you were one of Lucille’s siblings when she seemed to get all the public attention?
4. What were Lucille’s principles when training a horse?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Thesis by Iris Koch, Northwestern State Teachers College History Department, Alva, Oklahoma, 1940
This 60 page pdf was one of the best sources about the Mulhall family. This link goes straight to a download of the file. It’s the only link to it I could find.

<https://shareok.org/bitstream/handle/11244/46403/Thesis-1940-K76z.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

<https://www.okhistory.org/crossroads/issue10/page.php?no=1>

<https://flinthillsspecial.com/2020/12/04/lucille-mulhall-and-the-mulhall-wild-west-show>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/the-ballad-of-lucille-mulhall-americas-original-cowgirl>

Print Resources

The Original Cowgirl: The Wild Adventures of Lucille Mulhall, picture book by Heather Lang, 2015

<https://www.amazon.com/Original-Cowgirl-Adventures-Lucille-Mulhall/dp/0807529311>

Faith Lesson

Despite her popularity with the public, Lucille’s personal life may not have been satisfying. She experienced two failed marriages and seemed to suffer physically from the injuries she’d experience when younger.

I just happened to be reading Ecclesiastes as I write this. It reminds me of how a life that isn't focused on Christ can feel pretty empty. (I don't know whether Lucille Mulhall was a Christian or not, so I'm not criticizing her personally.)

There are many in today's world who seek fame and/or fortune and find when it's achieved, it doesn't satisfy.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men, yet they cannot fathom the work that God has done from beginning to end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

The Amplified Bible has an interesting paraphrase of that verse.

He has made everything beautiful and appropriate in its time. He has also planted eternity [a sense of divine purpose] in the human heart [a mysterious longing which nothing under the sun can satisfy, except God]—yet man cannot find out (comprehend, grasp) what God has done (His overall plan) from the beginning to the end.

The phrase “under the sun” is used twenty-nine times in Ecclesiastes, indicating Solomon wrote from an earthly perspective. I like how G. Campbell Morgan points this out.

This man had been living through all these experiences under the sun, concerned with nothing above the sun, until there came a moment in which he had seen the whole of life. And there was something over the sun. It is only as a man takes account of that which is over the sun as well as that which is under the sun that things under the sun are seen in their true light.

Solomon considered that much of his life had been vanity or futile, but he concluded with these verses.

When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commandments, because this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, along with every hidden thing, whether good or evil.

Ecclesiastes 12:13,14

Too many people live their entire lives thinking only about what is “under the sun.” If we understand what Solomon didn't realize until the end of his life, we won't spend our lives pursuing things that do not satisfy, “chasing after the wind.”

Chapter 34—Horses, Dogs, And Diphtheria

Date Ranges: 1895-1925

Questions and Activities

1. Why were horses used to create the diphtheria antitoxin?
2. What is the connection between Jim, the lab horse, and Bessie Baker?
3. Do you think the punishments for Dr. Ravold and Henry Taylor were strong enough?
4. Why do you think many in the U.S. gave so much attention to Balto rather than Togo? How did Leonhard Seppala feel about it?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/blog/2013/08/how-horses-helped-cure-diphtheria.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_\(horse\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_(horse))

The real Jim (horse)

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/JimHorse.png>

How they made antitoxin from horses

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/fromdnatobeer/exhibition-interactive/illustrations/diphtheria-alternative.html>

PETA working to end the use of horses in producing antitoxin

<https://www.horsetalk.co.nz/2016/11/24/project-horses-diphtheria-antitoxin>

Balto and Togo Pics

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/82/Leonhard_Seppala_with_dogs.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4f/Gunnar_Kaasen_with_Balto.jpg

Print Resources

Togo Takes the Lead by Bruce Berglund

<https://www.amazon.com/Togo-Takes-Lead-Heroic-Animals/dp/166639422X>

Dog Diaries: Togo by Kate Klimo

<https://www.amazon.com/Dog-Diaries-4-Kate-Klimo/dp/038537335X>

The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story of Balto by Natalie Standiford

<https://www.amazon.com/Bravest-Dog-Ever-Story-Step-Into-Reading/dp/0394896955>

Faith Lesson

It seems blatantly obvious to me that humans never came about by accident. The Bible says we are “fearfully and wonderfully made.”

For You formed my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Your works, and I know this very well.

My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in secret, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all my days were written in Your book and ordained for me before one of them came to be.

Psalm 139:13-16

The immune system, created by God to protect us from disease, includes various parts of our body working together through complex interactions. Learning about the complexity of our bodies and observing the intricacy of the natural world all around us confirms my faith in an all-wise and all-powerful God.

Years ago, I read a book related to this topic - *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: A Surgeon Looks at the Human & Spiritual Body* by Paul Brand. I searched and was disappointed there weren’t more books with this theme. The Paul Brand book is written at an adult level, but if you’re interested in this topic, you might give it a try.

The complexity of creation is an undeniable testimony to the existence and character of God. In fact, this is stated in Romans.

For what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship, so that men are without excuse.

Romans 1:19,20

Romans also states.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress [katechō] the truth by their wickedness.

Romans 1:18

The word katechō is most often translated “suppress.” Other translations use hinder, detain, crush, hold down, or prevent. All indicate a deliberate effort to avoid the undeniable truth about our Creator.

People willfully suppress the knowledge of the existence of God when they attribute the complexity and harmony of everything in creation to random chance.

Chapter 35—Black Jockeys

Date Ranges: 1875-1921

Related Information

The Plessy v. Ferguson decision was technically never overturned, but in Brown v. Board of Education (1954), the Supreme Court overruled it, deciding that segregation in public education was unconstitutional.

Questions and Activities

1. Were you aware that black jockeys were so dominant in the early days of horse racing.
2. Although we have some history of the black jockeys who were successful, with the jockeys starting at such young ages, do you think others were injured or killed in their attempts to become jockeys?
3. Why do you think nothing was done about the rough riding techniques that forced black jockeys out of racing for a time?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.kentuckyderby.com>

<https://www.kentuckyderby.com/history/kentucky-derby-winners>

<https://www.derbymuseum.org>

African-Americans in Racing Told In Five Artifacts

<https://www.derbymuseum.org/res/uploads/media/AATR-in-five-artifacts-web-sm.pdf>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-kentucky-derbys-forgotten-jockeys-128781428>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-african-americans-disappeared-kentucky-derby-180963159>

Currier and Ives print of the Great Match Race between Salvator and Tenny

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/pga.03207>

The Project to Preserve African American Turf History, Lots of info and paintings of jockeys

<https://ppaath.net>

African-American Jockeys | Kentucky Life | Kentucky Educational Television
<https://youtu.be/pJxuUSZ4Z70>

Print Resources

Black Winning Jockeys in the Kentucky Derby by James Robert and Monica Renea Saunders
<https://www.amazon.com/Black-Winning-Jockeys-Kentucky-Derby/dp/0786414022>

Faith Lesson

According to the Reconstruction Era website*, the top three Bible verses for the North during the Civil War were

Acts 17:26

Isaiah 58:6

Leviticus 25:10

How do those three verses reflect the Northern view on slavery?

The South preferred to quote other verses. What do those verses say about their view of slavery?

Ephesians 6:5

Colossians 3:22

1 Peter 2:18

Abraham Lincoln countered the view of some that slavery was a good thing. “As a good thing, slavery is strikingly peculiar, in this, that it is the only good thing which no man ever seeks the good of, for himself.”

Even well-known preacher, Jonathan Edwards, famous for his sermon, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*, owned slaves.

John Piper has a good article on Edwards' slave ownership (something he hadn't known about for years) and what the slave-master relationship was transformed into when both were Christians.

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-could-jonathan-edwards-own-slaves>

Some find the Bible confusing with respect to slavery. We should keep in mind that we are all related if we could trace our ancestry back to Adam and Eve. Then, the golden rule and the command to love our neighbor as ourselves seem to eliminate the option of owning or abusing another human being.

Piper offers many other related verses in his article.

In everything, then, do to others as you would have them do to you. For this is the essence of the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these.

Mark 12:31

* <https://thereconstructionera.com/what-were-the-top-three-bible-verses-in-the-north-and-the-south-during-the-civil-war>

Chapter 36—Wink

Date Ranges: 1882-1961

Related Information

In 2018, Kendrick Carmouche won the Jimmy Winkfield Stakes at Aqueduct Racetrack in New York, a black jockey winning a race named after James Winkfield.

I was surprised to find Winkfield has a granddaughter, Amie Casey (daughter of Winkfield's daughter Lillian), who is a veterinarian at Delta Downs racetrack in Louisiana. I wrote a fictional great granddaughter of Winkfield into my fifth *Sonrise Stable* book, having no idea Amie Casey existed. Dr. Casey is a horse lover herself.

She says Winkfield spoke four languages His second wife was Russian. She talks a little of his experiences in Russia and Europe during WWI and WWII.

<https://youtu.be/6VlbTkcOagg?si=Yj7PhT4vRlwQaPEz>

Questions and Activities

1. This is the only chapter where I used a bit of fiction in an otherwise non-fiction book. This encounter at the hotel really happened, however I've made up the dialog and thoughts. Do you think this little bit of fictionalization makes you understand the experience better than a purely factual statement of what happened?
2. How would you have felt if you were James Winkfield or his daughter during that experience?
3. Why do you think no one, other than Roscoe Goose, spoke to the Winkfields that night? After all the banquet was held in Winkfield's honor. How do you think he would be received if the banquet were held today?
4. Although the reporter Marjorie Weber probably would have never considered herself a racist, what is racist about her comments regarding Winkfield?
5. Why do you think Russia and European countries were more welcoming to James Winkfield than America was?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.racingmuseum.org/hall-of-fame/jockey/james-winkfield>

<https://www.nyra.com/aqueduct/news/%E2%80%8Bthe-extraordinary-life-of-jimmy-winkfield>

<https://vault.si.com/vault/1961/05/08/around-the-world-in-80-years>

<https://www.si.com/horse-racing/2023/02/21/jimmy-winkfield-kendrick-carmouche-black-jockeys-kentucky-derby>

Video with lots of photos

<https://youtu.be/IGIw1mFoECU?si=KdsCtX4UhrEPrcVi>

This video talks about the Hotel incident beginning at around 7:16

https://youtu.be/iFG_3KzxtnE?si=lenLJM9_Kbd5PHiC

Article about jockey Kendrick Carmouche

<https://www.timesunion.com/tuplus-sports/article/New-York-racing-s-1st-black-jockey-in-decades-6438291.php>

Print Resources

Last Black King of the Kentucky Derby by Crystal Hubbard (picture book) I haven't read this book. Some of this author's books for adults look questionable.

<https://www.amazon.com/Last-Black-King-Kentucky-Derby/dp/1600608914>

Wink: The Incredible Life and Epic Journey of Jimmy Winkfield by Ed Hotaling

<https://www.amazon.com/Wink-Incredible-Journey-Jimmy-Winkfield/dp/0071467564>

Black Maestro: The Epic Life of an American Legend by Joe Drape

<https://www.amazon.com/Black-Maestro-Epic-American-Legend/dp/0060537299>

Faith Lesson

Inherent in racism is a person's belief that he (or his race) is superior to another. That is clearly unscriptural.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think of yourself with sober judgment, according to the measure of faith God has given you.

Romans 12:3

The Amplified Bible expands on that.

For by the grace [of God] given to me I say to everyone of you not to think more highly of himself [and of his importance and ability] than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has apportioned to each a degree of faith [and a purpose designed for service].

A big part of racism is also the concern over what we look like on the outside. My fifth Sonrise Stable book, *Outward Appearances*, focuses on that theme. God is not concerned with our externals but the condition of our heart and our inner character. This is evident when God directed Samuel to Jesse to select one of his sons to be the next king of Israel.

But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or height, for I have rejected him; the LORD does not see as man does. For man sees the outward appearance, but the LORD sees the heart.”

1 Samuel 16:7

The other thing I noted in the racism of those days and especially the incident at the hotel was how “programmed” everyone was to go along with the culture. Roscoe Goose was the only one to break from the social norms to sit with and talk to James Winkfield and his daughter.

Romans 12:2 was my favorite verse for years when I first became a Christian. I was in my late twenties before I came to my senses and turned to God, so I had plenty of years of conforming to the world to undo.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

It’s not always true, but often the behaviors and beliefs of the world are in opposition to God’s word. If something is wildly popular with the world, see what God’s word has to say about it before joining the crowd.

I think His word is clear that He doesn’t want us to think we are better than others, especially based solely on the color of our skin.

Chapter 37—The Midnight Ride To The Presidency

Date Ranges: 1880-1901

Questions and Activities

1. Theodore Roosevelt overcame his childhood illnesses by engaging in challenging physical activities. Is it always possible to do that?
2. Roosevelt never consider himself a great rider. What do you think his standard for a great or expert rider was? Would you consider him one?
3. Roosevelt left his newborn daughter Alice Lee for two years when his wife and mother died on the same day. What do you think about his decision? Do you think his absence had an impact on Alice's life?
4. Did you know about Roosevelt's "midnight ride to the presidency?" That was something I'd never known. How do textbook writers decide what to include or exclude in their books?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Theodore Roosevelt: An Autobiography, 1913

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/3335>

Letters to His Children by Theodore Roosevelt, 1919

<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/6467>

<https://www.nps.gov/sahi/learn/historyculture/people.htm>

Roosevelt family in 1903 (approximate ages) with Quentin (6) on the left, Theodore Roosevelt, Ted (16), Archie (9), Alice (19), Kermit (14), Edith, and Ethel (12).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Roosevelt_Longworth#/media/File:Theodore_Roosevelt_and_family,_1903.jpg

Faith Lesson

So to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn [skolops] in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment [kolaphizō] me.

2 Corinthians 12:7

Skolops - a pointed piece of wood, a tent stake, splinter

Kolaphizō - to strike with the fist, deal a blow, batter

The Weymouth New Testament comes closest to giving the severity of those words.

therefore lest I should be over-elated there has been sent to me, like the agony of impalement [skolops], Satan's angel dealing blow after blow [kolaphizō], lest I should be over-elated.

2 Corinthians 12:7

Although commentators have suggested things such as headache, ear ache, eye affliction, malaria, or some type of mental affliction, the Bible tells us nothing specific about Paul's "thorn in the flesh."

Undoubtedly, the thorn was left unspecified so future readers of Scripture could identify their own trials with Paul's affliction.

Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest on me. That is why, for the sake of Christ, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:8-10

We can ask God to remove trials or physical ailments in our lives, but as in the example of Paul, He may choose not to. In some cases, our physical weakness allows Him to more fully work in our lives. "My power is perfected in weakness."

As Spurgeon points out, Paul came to see his "thorn in the flesh" as a gift rather than a trial.

He reckoned his great trial to be a gift. It is well put. He does not say, "There was inflicted upon me a thorn in the flesh," but "There was given to me."

Would Theodore Roosevelt have grown up to be the same man if he hadn't been a sickly child? Perhaps as with Paul, the afflictions Roosevelt endured made him stronger than he might have been without them.

Chapter 38—The Roosevelts Are Horse People

Date Ranges: 1901-1909

Questions and Activities

1. Quentin, the youngest Roosevelt, was only three years old when his father became president. What do you think it would be like to be a child of the president and grow up in the White House?
2. What did Theodore Roosevelt mean when he said, “The Roosevelts are horse people.”
3. When I was young, my neighbor and I brought her pony, Frosty, into our house. It must have been a much bigger adventure to bring the pony Algonquin into the White House. I’m not aware of any books or stories about this event; can you write one? (see the illustration by F. W. Brouard listed below)
4. Which of the Roosevelt horses would you have liked to own?
5. Why was it so hard for horses to become accustomed to automobiles?
6. Why do you think Roosevelt came up with his “Rules of the Road”? Do you think there was a good reason for it? Or does it seem a bit arrogant?
7. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/theodore-roosevelt-familys-horses>

<https://www.nps.gov/thrb/learn/historyculture/roosevelt-horses.htm>

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/videos/theodore-roosevelts-family-at-the-white-house>

Quentin on Algonquin

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/quentin-roosevelt-on-his-pony>

Algonquin Visits Archie in Bed with the Measles

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/photo-5-10>

Photos of some of the Roosevelt pets

<https://www.presidentialpetmuseum.com/whitehousepets-2>

Print Resources

Bully for You, Teddy Roosevelt! by Jean Fritz

<https://www.amazon.com/product-reviews/0698116097>

Remarkable Rough-Riding Life of Theodore Roosevelt and the Rise of Empire America by Cheryl Harness

<https://www.amazon.com/Remarkable-Rough-Riding-Theodore-Roosevelt-America/dp/1426300085>

Theodore Roosevelt for Kids: His Life and Times by Kerrie Logan Hollihan

<https://www.amazon.com/Theodore-Roosevelt-Kids-Times-Activities/dp/1556529554>

Faith Lesson

Although there may have been a valid reason for Roosevelt's Rules of the Road, they could certainly be taken as arrogant or prideful. Roosevelt had to always be in the lead with any other riders situated somewhere behind him.

As with many things, the Bible often turns commonly accepted notions upside down.

James and John asked of Jesus, "Grant that one of us may sit at Your right hand and the other at Your left in Your glory." Mark 10:37

The other disciples were equally ambitious and were unhappy when they learned what James and John had requested. Jesus' response indicates that greatness involves serving others as He Himself did.

"You know that those regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their superiors exercise authority over them. But it shall not be this way among you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:42-45

Is your attitude closer to the words of Jesus or to Roosevelt's Rules of the Road where everyone should fall in somewhere behind you?

Chapter 39—Horses And Bears

Date Ranges: 1909-1919

Related Information

Not only was Theodore Roosevelt the first to ride in, and own, an automobile, he was the first president to ride in a submarine (the Plunger, 1905) and in a plane (piloted by Archibald Hoxsey for the Wright Brothers, 1910).

Roosevelt was the first president to win a Nobel Peace Prize. He helped arrange peace between Japan and Russia in 1906.

Theodore Roosevelt died in his sleep at the age of sixty on January 5, 1919 from a blood clot that traveled to his lungs.

Questions and Activities

1. Riding ninety miles in three days shouldn't be that challenging for a military man. Why do you think the military objected to Roosevelt's proposed physical challenge?
2. In Roosevelt's time there were no women in the Army. Today, the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) is designed to screen the physical fitness of those who want to join the Army, or receive promotions. What are your thoughts on women in the military? If allowed, should women have to pass the same physical standards as men? Here is a video on the ACFT test from the U.S. Army. <https://youtu.be/g321hildFC0?si=ZVycgkXLGt6gadJG>
3. In 1912, Roosevelt decided to run again as part of the Bull Moose party. Since the mid-1800s, Independents or Third Party candidates have never won a U.S. election. Why do you think third parties are so ineffective in the U.S.? What usually happens when a third-party candidate runs?
4. Why do you think Roosevelt went on to complete his campaign speech after he'd been shot by John Schrank?
5. Why would someone want Roosevelt to kill a bear that had been tied to a tree?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Teddy Bear illustration

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/TheodoreRooseveltTeddyBear.jpg>

Print Resources

Teddy: The Remarkable Tale of a President, a Cartoonist, a Toymaker and a Bear by James Sage
<https://www.amazon.com/Teddy-Remarkable-President-Cartoonist-Toymaker/dp/1771387955>

The Teddy Bear Men: Theodore Roosevelt and Clifford Berryman by Linda Mullins
<https://www.amazon.com/Teddy-Bear-Men-2nd-Roosevelt-dp-0875886310/dp/0875886310>

Faith Lesson

Roosevelt's commitment to physical fitness is admirable, but the Bible reminds us there is something even more important. A pastor at a previous church I attended, somewhat jokingly referred to 1 Timothy 4:8 as an excuse for him not to exercise, always stressing the first phrase in that verse.

For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. KJV

In reality, I don't think the verse is telling us to avoid physical exercise. Only that in relation to it, godliness has far more and long-lasting benefits. Some other translations bring that meaning out more clearly.

for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. ESV

For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. NKJV

Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come. NLT

For physical training is of some value, but godliness (spiritual training) is of value in everything and in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and for the life to come. Amplified

What kind of spiritual exercise can help us become more godly?

Chapter 40—Billings' Banquet

Date Ranges: 1899-1917

Questions and Activities

1. The banquet put on by C.K.G. Billings was certainly unique and memorable, but do you think it was a wise use of his money?
2. What do you think the horses thought about being taken into the fancy hotel with people seated on them for the banquet?
3. Do you think Lou Dillon was poisoned so she wouldn't win the race against Major Delmar?
4. Why did Billings purchase Major Delmar?
5. Why would Billings sell his stable and home after spending so much money on them?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

The banquet

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C. K. G. Billings#/media/File:Billingsparty.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._K._G._Billings#/media/File:Billingsparty.jpg)

Lou Dillon under saddle

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c7/Lou_Dillon%2C_horse.jpg

Lou Dillon in harness

https://www.harnessmuseum.com/sites/default/files/hof_images/Lou%20Dillon.jpg

Photos of the Billings estate

<https://myinwood.net/ckg-billings-estate>

Faith Lesson

Obviously I never knew Mr. Billings personally. I don't want to cast aspersions on his character. He may have been a very generous man. This is simply what the story of his expensive banquet and elaborate stable and mansion reminded me of.

In response to a man's request for help in getting his inheritance, Jesus replied, "Watch out! Guard yourselves against every form of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15

Then Jesus told the crowd a parable.

The ground of a certain rich man produced an abundance. So he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, since I have nowhere to store my crops?' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and will build bigger ones, and there I will store up all my grain and my goods. Then I will say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry!"

But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be required of you. Then who will own what you have accumulated?'

This is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich toward God.

Luke 12:16-21

Although C. K. G. Billings was wealthy and could build many barns, just as the man in the parable did, it didn't appear to satisfy him. He sold his elaborate home and stable just ten years after they were completed. Money and the things it can buy here on earth will never provide complete satisfaction.

Only a relationship with our heavenly Father can provide that. As Ecclesiastes 3:11, says, "He has also set eternity in the hearts of men..."

I think Augustine referred to this when he wrote,

You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.

Chapter 41—Horse Correspondence School

Date Ranges: 1889-1913

Questions and Activities

1. Having lived in Ohio all my life, I find it interesting that two of the most famous horse trainers of the past, Beery and Rarey, were from Ohio. Do you think there's anything special about Ohio that might have contributed to these men's success? Were/are there any well-known trainers from where you live?
2. Why do you think Beery's father at first forbade him from training horses, then later changed his mind?
3. What skills are required to successfully train horses versus the skills required to write books to explain how others could do the same?
4. Why do you think no one had created a horse training correspondence prior to Beery doing so in 1905.
5. What do you think of Beery's idea that he could tell a horse's personality by the shape of his head?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<http://pleasanthillhistorycenter.com/people/jesse>

This site sells some of the Beery course books and equipment

<http://www.jessebeery.com>

Beery's fictional story of Kate and Queen

<https://ia600306.us.archive.org/33/items/storyofkatequeen00beer/storyofkatequeen00beer.pdf>

Colt Training and Horse Breaking

<https://archive.org/details/practicalsystemo00beer>

Memoirs of the Miami Valley, Volume 1, page about Beery and his school

<https://books.google.com/books?id=STwVAAAAYAAJ&q=Professor+Jesse+Beery#v=snip-pet&q=Professor%20Jesse%20Beery>

Faith Lesson

Beery stressed that you had to first determine a horse's nature and personality in order to know how to adapt the training techniques to suit each horse.

The same thing seems to be true for witnessing to unbelievers about our faith. We need to take different approaches with different people. This seems to be what Paul is saying in 1 Corinthians 9. Read verses 16-23 to get the full picture.

I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

1 Corinthians 9:22

The Bible is clear, though, that “becoming all things to all people” doesn't mean we approve of or join in sinful behavior.

Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good character.” Sober up as you ought, and stop sinning; for some of you are ignorant of God. I say this to your shame.

1 Corinthians 15:33,34

It also doesn't mean that we keep quiet about the Gospel. These words are often attributed to Francis of Assisi,

Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.

Those words contradict Scripture, and Francis of Assisi apparently never said them. There is no record of them in any of his writings. If the sentiment is that we should behave in a godly manner, that is true, but we should not hesitate to tell others about the Gospel.

Consequently, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Romans 10:17

Yet when I preach the gospel, I have no reason to boast, because I am obligated to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

1 Corinthians 9:16

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 16:15,16

Why would we withhold the words of life to an unbeliever? It's the best thing we have to offer him/her.

Chapter 42—Polar Ponies

Date Ranges: 1907-1913

Related Information

Until I started researching for my *Horsestory* books, I had no idea ponies were used in Polar expeditions. Other than the stories of horses in war, this was the hardest chapter to research and write about. I avoided the grimmest details while still being able to convey what actually happened to the men and ponies.

Questions and Activities

1. Why was it so important to Ernest Shackleton and Robert Scott to be the first to reach the South Pole?
2. Why were horses/ponies included on these expeditions? Specifically, why were the Manchurian/Yakutian horses chosen?
3. Does knowing the names of all the ponies make it sadder to you, knowing what happened to them? Why or why not?
4. What did the ponies eat? Why the unusual types of food for them?
5. After reading the excerpts from Apsley Cherry-Garrard's book, *The Worst Journey In The World*, what do you think his opinion of the expedition and its use of ponies was?
6. *Men wanted for hazardous journey, small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success.*
—London newspaper advertisement for the Shackleton expedition

According to Wikipedia, sixty-five men were chosen from 8,000 applicants for the Terra Nova Expedition. Why do you think so many men wanted to be part of such a dangerous journey? Would you have applied to go?

7. Who do you think was most responsible for the use of the old and weak ponies on the expedition? Cecil Henry Meares, the dog trainer who purchased them (light-colored ponies) in China; the man in China who took advantage of Meares' ignorance; Lawrence Oates, the horse expert, for not insisting the ponies be replaced; Robert Scott who didn't listen to Oates when he reported the ponies were unsuitable.
8. Why do you think Lawrence Oates didn't use the snowshoes on the ponies? Would they have made a difference?
9. As if the story of the ponies and men wasn't sad enough, the mules of the rescue party faced the same fate. You can read more about them here, with photos. <http://mulography.co.uk/mules-in-antarctica> Why do you think they didn't try to bring the mules back?
10. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

The Worst Journey In The World Antarctic 1910-1913, Apsley Cherry-Garrard, Constable and Company Limited, 1922

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/14363/14363-h/14363-h.htm>

<https://shackletonmuseum.com>

Articles about the snowshoes

<http://www.lrgaf.org/articles/snowshoes.pdf>

<https://www.vintagewinter.com/blogs/blog/1339782-did-the-1912-captain-scott-south-pole-expedition-fail-because-they-didnt-use-thier-horse-snowshoes>

Images

<https://www.freezeframe.ac.uk/category/photos-british-antarctic-expedition-1910-13-ponting-collection>

<https://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/picturelibrary/catalogue>

<https://www.sciencephoto.com/keyword/manchurian-ponies>

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8a/Tethered_ponies.jpg

Yakutian horse

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakutian_horse#/media/File:A_Yakutian_horse_\(9762345674\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakutian_horse#/media/File:A_Yakutian_horse_(9762345674).jpg)

Maps

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2f/Antarctic_expedition_map_%28Amundsen_-_Scott%29-en-crop.png

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/history/explorers/who-was-first-to-south-pole>

https://coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/antarctica%20environment/antarctic_arctic_comparison.php

Videos

This silent movie shows the ponies being led to the ship for the Shackleton departure from New Zealand, loaded into a box that is pulled up onto the ship. (1:50-3:25)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZCDs2rT6Lo>

Ponies pulling sleds, 1:28-1:38

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpcZmuz2LGY>

Print Resources

The Winter Pony by Iain Lawrence. This is a children's book, but I don't recommend it.

<https://www.amazon.com/product-reviews/B007BNXNM6>

I've included it here as a warning. The title and cover make it appear to be an entertaining horse book for kids, however I agree with the following Amazon reviews.

"This book is really tragic. It is simply not appropriate for children and young teens, in my opinion. .. All the main characters die, and the main pony goes through all this pain to be shot in the end. It is overwhelmingly a depressing ending."

"My 12 year old daughter read this and hated it. Parents should be aware that ALL the characters die. The main character, the pony, dies as the people that she trusted shoot her. My daughter could have understood if some characters died, but the book was filled with slaughter of ponies."

Faith Lesson

Ecclesiastes 1:2 in several translations

Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity. KJV

"Futility of futilities," says the Teacher, "futility of futilities! Everything is futile!" BSB

"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless." NIV

The Hebrew word is "hebel", meaning a breath or vapor, something fleeting or transitory. I thought of this passage when I considered the lives of the men, ponies, and mules who lost their lives on the South Pole expeditions.

Was it worth it? Or was it all vanity, futility, meaningless?

Robert Scott's disappointment was recorded in his diary.

The Pole. Yes, but under very different circumstances from those expected. ... Great God! This is an awful place and terrible enough for us to have labored to it without the reward of priority. Well, it is something to have got here.

Without an eternal perspective, everything in life can seem pointless. Since they don't know where we came from, unbelievers don't have a good answer for why we are here, what the purpose of this earthly life is. I think we have a far greater purpose in this life than being the first to the South Pole. I think Solomon would agree that many of the things people strive for today are vanity. Fame, money, and power are all fleeting.

Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes, begins his book bemoaning that everything under the sun is vanity or meaningless. But, at the end, he states:

When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commandments, because this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, along with every hidden thing, whether good or evil.

Ecclesiastes 12:13,14

What do you think makes one's life meaningful?

Chapter 43—The Abernathy Brothers

Date Ranges: 1909-1913

Related Information

It's a good thing this chapter came up after the Polar ponies. I needed a fun story after such a sad one. What amazing adventures these boys had! Although, as a mother, I can't imagine allowing them to do those things at such young ages.

You can download a map of several of the boys' rides on the budandme website.

<https://budandme.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Map.jpg>

During their 1910 trip from Oklahoma to New York, the boys met Teddy Roosevelt, returning from an African safari. The boys rode behind him in a parade that welcomed him home.

Warren Wiersbe tells of two people who returned to the U.S. on the same ship as Roosevelt.

Many reporters were on the dock, waiting to see Roosevelt and interview him and take pictures; but nobody was on hand to welcome home the veteran missionaries who had spent their lives serving Christ in Africa.

That evening, in their modest hotel room, the couple reviewed their arrival in New York City; and the husband was somewhat bitter.

"It isn't fair," he said to his wife. "Mr. Roosevelt comes home from a hunting trip, and the whole country is out to meet him. We get home after years of service, and nobody was there to greet us."

But his wife had the right answer, "Honey, we aren't home yet."

Questions and Activities

1. Can you believe Jack Abernathy caught wolves with his hands? We might conclude it was just a tall tale if it weren't for the photos and eyewitnesses. How do you think he first came up with the idea to do this? It might have turned out very badly for him if it didn't work!
2. On their first trip from Guthrie, Oklahoma to Sante Fe, New Mexico and back (about 1,000 miles), the boys were nine and five. Do you have siblings or know someone currently those ages? Or think of yourself at that age. Can you imagine riding, with no adults, across Oklahoma, the Texas panhandle, and into New Mexico? The area was not very populated, and for the most part, the country was safer then, but it still seems dangerous. What do you think about their father giving them permission for this?
3. The following year, at the ages of ten and six, they rode from Oklahoma to New York City. What happened on this trip?

4. What do you think it was like for two boys that young to drive their own car back to Oklahoma from New York City? No driver's licenses required!
5. What happened in their longest ride, from New York to California? Do you think they should have received some of the prize money?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://budandme.com>

http://www.tillmanokhistory.org/pages/remarkable_abernathys.html

<http://brushauto.net/abernathy-kids>

Digital version of The Ride of the Abernathy Boys by Miles Abernathy, 1911

<https://dn790006.ca.archive.org/0/items/rideabernathybo00abergoog/rideabernathybo00abergoog.pdf>

This photos shows the elephant and donkey the boys rode. The boys are somewhat obscured. They're on horseback to the right, behind the band.

<https://picryl.com/media/republican-elephant-judy-etc>

Photo slideshows

<https://www.youtube.com/user/BudandTemple/videos>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljY09OyGb6s>

The Grand Ride of The Abernathy Boys (2007) I've never seen this movie version, so I don't know how accurate it is.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1322920>

This is an old silent movie made with the real boys and their ponies. The boys ride through the woods and are chased by wolves. They climb up a tree and are rescued by their father. (I'm not sure if these were actual wild wolves or if the wolves were hurt in the movie.).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQIEmnZgyZs>

Print Resources

Bud & Me by Alta Abernathy (Alta was Temple's wife)

<https://www.amazon.com/BUD-TRUE-ADVENTURES-ABERNATHY-BOYS-ebook/dp/B003YUCQH8>

Ride the Wind by Miles Abernathy

<https://www.amazon.com/Ride-Wind-Miles-Abernathy/dp/1590481267>

Faith Lesson

During their cross country trip, a train slowed alongside the Abernathy boys. The men offered to take Bud, Temple, and their horses the rest of the way across the desert, promising they wouldn't tell anyone.

It would have been understandable, after they had nearly died in the desert, to accept the men's help, but Bud never hesitated. He turned the offer down, since it was against the terms of their contract. Even if the men didn't tell anyone, Bud would know he had cheated.

The temptation to have a little help in their ride reminds me of Rosie Ruiz, who was declared the women's winner in the 1980 Boston Marathon. Ruiz's glory was short lived. Four days later, it was confirmed that she jumped onto the race course just a half mile before the finish line. Some obvious clues were that Ruiz wasn't panting or covered in sweat like the other finishers. She would thereafter be known as the woman who faked a win in the Boston Marathon.

Although cheating may not involve words, it is lying or dishonesty just the same. If The Abernathy boys had accepted the train ride, they would be presenting themselves as if they had followed the rules of their competition when they had not.

Some people minimize the importance of honesty, classifying lies according to their severity. They may not have a problem with small "white lies" while drawing the line at big "whoppers."

The Bible has a lot to say about telling the truth. The idea is introduced early on when Satan lied to Eve to deceive her into eating the forbidden fruit. He caused Eve to doubt the truth of God's word—a strategy he still uses today.

Did God really say, "You must not eat from any tree in the garden?"

Genesis 3:1

Satan is known as the Father of lies. (Jesus speaking to the Pharisees)

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44

The Bible states that God cannot lie.

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness, in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began.

Titus 1:1,2

Proverbs 22:1 states that "A good name is more desirable than great riches; favor is better than silver and gold."

An important way to obtain a good name, or a good reputation, is to always tell the truth so others feel confident in trusting us.

Compare the honesty of Bud to the dishonesty of the stableman who stole the Navajo saddle blanket Temple had purchased for Geronimo.

Chapter 44—Stable Wrecker

Date Ranges: 1909-1913

Questions and Activities

1. How do you think Taft felt when the story circulated about him being stuck in the White House bathtub?
2. It's generally recommended that a horse carry no more than 20% of the horse's weight. For example, a 1000-pound horse weighs could carry someone that weighs up to 200 pounds. This rule is flexible based on the condition and build of both the horse and rider. The rider's balance and riding ability are also a critical factor. If Taft weighed 350 pounds was it advisable that he ride Sterrett, a 1250-pound horse? What weight horse would Taft require?
3. Do you think they should have saved some of the White House stable rather than tearing it all down?
4. Can you picture cows grazing on the White House lawn? :)
5. Do you think many former presidents would agree to serve on the Supreme Court as Taft did? Why or why not? What does that say about Taft's character?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

William Howard Taft : the life and times : a biography in two volumes, by Henry Pringle, 1939
<https://archive.org/details/williamhowardtaf0001prin>

Taft and Roosevelt: The Intimate Letters of Archie Butt, Military Aide by Archibald W. Butt, 1930
https://archive.org/details/taftroosevelt0000unse_m8p4/page/n7/mode/2up

Taft on horseback with his children, 1909
<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/photo-5-22>

Destruction of the W.H. stables and a photo of Pauline the cow
<https://ghostsofdc.org/2012/07/09/white-house-stables>

Taft's horse, Sterrett
<https://d1y822qh55g6.cloudfront.net/default/William-Howard-Taft-Horse-Sterrett.jpg>

Taft on a different horse
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6a/Strong_Horse.JPG

Faith Lesson

Do you think President Taft was bothered by people's comments about his large size?

Empathy is the ability to sense, and feel to an extent, another person's thoughts or feelings. To tease or ridicule another person indicates a lack of empathy. Although the word empathy isn't used in the Bible, the concept of having empathy is certainly there.

If we are empathetic, we won't cause unnecessary pain to someone else.

The Living Bible paraphrase of 1 Peter 3:8-9 gets this idea across.

And now this word to all of you: You should be like one big happy family, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds. Don't repay evil for evil. Don't snap back at those who say unkind things about you. Instead, pray for God's help for them, for we are to be kind to others, and God will bless us for it.

Of course, the verse we've come to know as the golden rule, Matthew 7:12, also requires a sense of empathy.

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets. NLT

Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. NKJV

So then, in everything treat others the same way you want them to treat you, for this is [the essence of] the Law and the [writings of the] Prophets. Amplified Bible

Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the teaching of the laws of Moses in a nutshell. Living Bible

Would you want someone to tease you about being so big that you got stuck in a bathtub? I assume most people would not, so according to the wisdom of the Bible, we should not do that to others.

Chapter 45—Two-Gun Nan

Date Ranges: 1906-1911

Questions and Activities

1. Do you think it was right for Nan Aspinwall to lead people to believe she grew up on a Montana ranch?
2. Nan was the first woman to ride horseback alone across the United States. Do you think this was wise? What kind of precautions for safety did she make?
3. Describe Nan's horse.
4. What problems did Nan encounter on her journey?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://equineink.com/2019/05/21/cow-girl-up-two-gun-nan-aspinwall-and-her-amazing-cross-county-trip>

<http://www.thelongridersguild.com/female-historical%20LRs.htm>

<https://history.nebraska.gov/nan-j-aspinwall-western-entertainer>

<https://diaryofanottb.com/the-cowgirl-who-crossed-america-by-thoroughbred-the-story-of-nan-aspinwall-gable-and-lady-ellen>

Print Resources

In Genuine Cowgirl Fashion - The Life and Ride of "Two-Gun" Nan Aspinwall by Mary Higginbotham

<https://www.amazon.com/Genuine-Cowgirl-Fashion-Two-Gun-Aspinwall/dp/1590482581>

Faith Lesson

There were several people during the 1900s who took long journeys on horseback. I always wonder how they were able to find their way. I have to confess, I've gotten lost on day trips, riding horses on marked trails in state parks. I'm not sure I ever could have found my way across the U.S. In fact, I've been known to get lost in my car as well.

When I think of my trail experiences, I'm reminded of this passage. The passage refers to those who have returned their trust to God after erroneously looking to Egypt for deliverance.

*O people in Zion who dwell in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. He will surely be gracious when you cry for help; when He hears, He will answer you. The Lord will give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, but your Teacher will no longer hide Himself—with your own eyes you will see Him. **And whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear this command behind you: “This is the way. Walk in it.”***

Isaiah 30:19-21

Rather than walking in front of his flock, a shepherd “led” them from behind. This may be what is meant by hearing a voice behind you. Whether that voice is audible or more likely an impression, somehow God will indicate to us the correct way to go, if we wait to hear from Him. And when we are certain we are following God’s way, we will walk with confidence.

Chapter 46—The Girl from Wyoming

Date Ranges: 1910-1912

Questions and Activities

1. Nan Aspinwall left San Francisco on September 1, 1910, heading east for her cross country ride. Nine days later, Alberta Claire headed west from Wyoming to Washington state, then down to San Francisco. Do you think the two women were aware of each other's rides? Would it have been better if they'd joined up and ridden together? Why do you think they might not have wanted to do that?
2. What was Claire's home state, Wyoming, known for at the time?
3. Do you think Claire's ride had any impact on the opinions of people across the country regarding the right of women to vote?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.sanfranciscostory.com/the-girl-from-wyoming>

<http://www.thelongridersguild.com/library/claire/claire.htm>

Faith Lesson

Alberta Claire and others like her were passionate about gaining the right to vote for women. Many modern feminists believe the Bible demeans women. It's true that the Bible sometimes specifies different roles for men and women, but Christianity elevated women compared to the traditional cultures of Bible times.

Look up the following passages to see the various roles women assumed in Old Testament times.

- Served at the door of the Tabernacle (Ex. 38:8)
- Could take a Nazirite vow (Num. 6:2)
- Heard the Word of God (Neh. 8:2-3)
- Played music (Ex. 15:20-21)
- Prophesied (Ex. 15:21, Joel 2:28,29)

Jesus often used women to illustrate characteristics worth imitating.

- The widow and the two coins (Mark 12:41-44)
- The persistent widow and the judge (Luke 18:2-8)
- The woman searching for the lost coin (Luke 15:8-10)
- Mary sat at Jesus' feet to learn from Him (Luke 10:38-42)
- Women were at the cross and were first at the tomb (Matthew 27:55,56; Luke 24:1)

We can't expect the cultural norms of today to apply to Biblical times. Men and women have always had equal value before God.

*You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, **male nor female**, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.*

Galatians 3:26-29

Chapter 47—Suffrage Riders

Date Ranges: 1913-1920

Related Information

I was excited when I read that Claiborne Caitlin had been loaned a trick mare named Trixie. The timing would have worked for the mare to be the one trick-trained by Captain Sigsbee (who also trained Captain). However, Caitlin's mare was black. Sigsbee's Trixie was gray/white, so my dream came to an abrupt end. I suppose Trixie was a common name for a trick horse mare, but it still seems like an odd coincidence to me.

The Founding Fathers deliberately made amending the Constitution a difficult process. An amendment may be proposed by a two-thirds vote of both Houses of Congress, or, if two-thirds of the States request one, by a convention called for that purpose. The amendment must then be ratified by three-fourths of the State legislatures, or three-fourths of conventions called in each State for ratification.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/our-government/the-constitution>

Questions and Activities

1. How do you think Inez Milholland's beauty impacted the publicity she received?
2. Why was the mob permitted to attack the marching suffragists, resulting in over 100 women being hospitalized?
3. What was different about Caitlin's ride than that of Alberta Claire? Which do you think was more effective?
4. Do you think women should be allowed to vote?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://votesforwomen.cliohistory.org/19objects/the-1913-suffrage-parade>

Inez Milholland photos

<https://www.loc.gov/item/mnwp000008>

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ed/Inez_Milholland_1913.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/16/Suffrage_poster_depicting_Inez_Milholland_Boissevain_dressed_in_white%2C_riding_a_white_horse%2C_as_she_did_for_the_March_3%2C_1913_suffrage_parade_in_Washington%2C_D.C._%289558521588%29.jpg

<https://votesforwomen.cliohistory.org/19objects/claiborne-catlins-saddlebags>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claiborne_Catlin_Elliman

Faith Lesson

The suffragists went to great lengths to work for what they believed in, some even suffering physical harm in doing so. They used the creative approach of riding horseback to spread the word about their cause.

As Christians, are we as devoted to spreading the good news of the Gospel?

No one commanded those women to ride for the suffrage movement. They simply chose to do so. Yet, we are commanded by Christ to preach the Gospel.

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 16:15,16

We're not all official preachers, but we all have people around us who need to hear the Gospel. Can you think of a creative way to spread the good news?

Chapter 48—The Overland Westerners

Date Ranges: 1912-1915

Related Information

In 1912, the New Mexico and Arizona territories became the 47th and 48th states. Alaska and Hawaii didn't become states until 1959—not that the Overlanders could have ridden to Hawaii!

Questions and Activities

1. How was George Beck's idea for a long-distance ride different from those who had gone before? (like the Abernathys, Nan Aspinwall, and Alberta Claire)
2. Why do you think Beck's Overland Westerners didn't receive as much publicity and fanfare as those previous riders?
3. Why do you think Pinto was so unhappy as a pack horse?
4. Trace the Westerners' route on a map. Would you have followed the same one? Or can you come up with a route you think would be better?
5. How do you think Pinto spent the years after returning from the Overland Westerners' trip? What about the dog Nip?
6. Do you think George Beck's disappointment that no one would write their story contributed to his relatively early death at age sixty-seven?
7. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://nationalcowboymuseum.org/explore/overland-westerners>

<http://www.thelongridersguild.com/overland.htm>

<http://www.thelongridersguild.com/stories/Chasing%20Fame%20from%20the%20Saddle%20-%202016.pdf>

Print Resources

PINTO!: Based Upon the True Story of the Longest Horseback Ride in History by M.J. Evans

<https://www.amazon.com/PINTO-Based-Longest-Horseback-History/dp/1733020411>

Faith Lesson

Initially, the Overland Westerners placed Pinto in a role that he neither liked or was apparently suited for—physically or mentally. When the men realized this, Pinto was promoted from pack animal to riding horse. Then, he began to shine, and his abilities were used to full advantage. He was the only horse to complete the entire three-year journey.

Although both were essential for the success of the trip, the role of saddle horse was more glamorous than that of a pack animal. It's unlikely that Pinto had any thought of this hierarchy in mind, but his discontent with being a pack animal reminded me of this parable.

When Jesus noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, He told them a parable:

“When you are invited to a wedding banquet, do not sit in the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited. Then the host who invited both of you will come and tell you, ‘Give this man your seat.’ And in humiliation, you will have to take the last place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the last place, so that your host will come and tell you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in front of everyone at the table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 14:7-11

“go and sit in the last place” - Pinto in the role of pack animal

“Friend, move up to a better place.” - Pinto as a riding horse

Each of us as Christians have unique talents and abilities. If we try to serve in a role that doesn't match the abilities God has given us, we won't be as effective as we could be. But sometimes, as with Pinto, we need to start at the bottom and gradually work up to bigger roles.

Chapter 49—The Great War

Date Ranges: 1914-1918

Related Information

I don't mean to make light of the fact that many young men were killed in the war, only that the focus of the *Horsestory* series is horses. The animals were unwilling participants in these events and had no conception of what was going on. That seems to make it tragic for them in a unique way.

The war (fought from July 28, 1914 to November 11, 1918) was originally called The Great War rather than World War I, since no one at the time anticipated a second world war. Problems between several European factions had been brewing for years and various alliances between countries were formed, in which they pledged to defend each other.

After Archduke Franz Ferdinand, of Austria-Hungary, and his wife, Sophie, were shot (June 28, 1914), Austria-Hungary declared war against Serbia on July 28. The assassin, nineteen-year-old Gavrilo Princip, was a young Bosnian who was part of a movement desiring Bosnian/Serbian independence from Austria. Princip died three years later in prison.

Germany declared war on Russia and France, then England declared war on Germany. The Central Powers fought against the Allies, with most of the fighting occurring in Western Europe. The major countries fighting on each side:

- Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Ottoman Empire, Bulgaria
- Allies: Serbia, Russia, France, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Australia, Italy (from 1915), Portugal, Japan, Greece, Romania, China

President Woodrow Wilson hoped to keep the United States out of the war. U.S. policy for years had been to stay out of European affairs. But on May 7, 1915, a British ship, the *Lusitania*, carrying American weapons to Britain, was sunk by a German submarine. Over 1,000 people died, including 128 Americans. When Germany continued using submarines to sink merchant ships, the United States decided they couldn't remain neutral any longer. On April 6, 1917, the U.S. declared war on Germany. In June, the first U.S. troops were deployed to France. Over four million U.S. soldiers served in the war, with 116,000 losing their lives.

On November 11, 1918, an armistice was signed, ending the fighting.

It's estimated that ten million military personnel died in World War I. The "Spanish Flu" killed about forty million people from 1918 to 1920. (I've seen estimates ranging from 20 million to 100 million.) Some believe that rather than influenza, this epidemic was bacterial pneumonia which originated with soldiers in military camps. Another factor may have been the use of aspirin, patented by the German pharmaceutical company Bayer in 1900. High doses of aspirin may have been toxic, contributing to a buildup of fluid in the lungs.

“People were killed by common bacteria found in the upper respiratory tract. The 20 to 40 million deaths worldwide from the great 1918 Influenza Pandemic were NOT due to ‘flu’ at all or even a virus, but to pneumonia caused by massive bacterial infection.”

August 19, 2008, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

Questions and Activities

1. What made the use of horses in World War I particularly tragic?
2. Do you think the governments should have had the right to “impress” horses and equipment from farmers and businesses? Why or why not?
3. Do you think Anton Dilger was responsible for the deaths of some American horses headed for the war?
4. Why were women used at some of the Remount centers? Were they successful at their work?
5. What different roles did horses and mules serve in the war?
6. How were horses cared for during the war?
7. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Historical Preservation Group
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064423312529>

Blue Cross handbook, National Army Museum, London
<https://collection.nam.ac.uk/detail.php?acc=1994-06-217-8>

<https://susannaforrest.blog/2012/03/31/women-horses-and-world-war-one>

The real war horses, Audio from England
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01zw1lg>

Pictures

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/80/On_Their_Way_to_the_Battlefields_of_the_World_War_LOC_6331256331.jpg

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paris_-_horses_taken_for_war_\(LOC\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paris_-_horses_taken_for_war_(LOC).jpg)

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/New_Zealand_horses_and_troops_at_a_watering_point_in_Louvencourt%2C_France%2C_during_World_War_1_%2821038144884%29.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/93/The_Straw_Ride-_Russley_Park_Remount_Dep%27t%2C_Wiltshire_Art.IWMART3160.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c4/The_American_Soldier%2C_1908.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5f/Gasmask_for_man_and_horse.jpeg

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse, First World War, uniform, men, trench Fortepan 11812.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse,_First_World_War,_uniform,_men,_trench_Fortepan_11812.jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:A World War I veterinarian treating a horse%27s teeth, Louvencourt, France \(21625740102\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:A_World_War_I_veterinarian_treating_a_horse%27s_teeth,_Louvencourt,_France_(21625740102).jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse and stretcher transport, World War I Wellcome L0023336.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse_and_stretcher_transport,_World_War_I_Wellcome_L0023336.jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse ambulance at Ypres, World War I Wellcome L0023337.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Horse_ambulance_at_Ypres,_World_War_I_Wellcome_L0023337.jpg)

Artillery

British QF 13 pounder field gun of the Royal Horse Artillery, towed by 6 horses. New York Tribune caption : “Going into action and hitting only the highest spots, British artillery speeding along in pursuit of the fleeing foe on the Western front.”

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/53/QF13pounderBouncingNYTribune20October1918.jpg>

Print Resources

The Fourth Horseman: One Man's Secret Campaign to Fight the Great War in America, by Robert Koenig

<https://www.amazon.com/Fourth-Horseman-Secret-Campaign-America/dp/1586483722>

Faith Lesson

I have to confess I’ve never understood war. The senselessness of many (most?) wars makes me sad. In the novel *Black Beauty*, author Anna Sewell expresses a view of war from an old war horse’s perspective (Captain).

I [Black Beauty] said, “I have heard people talk about war as if it was a very fine thing.”

“Ah!” said he [Captain], “I should think they never saw it. No doubt it is very fine when there is no enemy, when it is just exercise and parade and sham fight. Yes, it is very fine then; but when thousands of good brave men and horses are killed or crippled for life, it has a very different look.”

“Do you know what they fought about?” said I.

“No,” he said, “that is more than a horse can understand, but the enemy must have been awfully wicked people, if it was right to go all that way over the sea on purpose to kill them.”

In the Old Testament, the Israelites were sometimes commanded to destroy entire villages or cities. To many, that seems ruthless. We have to keep in mind that God is all-knowing. He knew what the people in those areas would become. For the survival of the nation of Israel, through whom the Messiah would come, it was important that their enemies be eliminated.

Exodus 20:13 gives us the sixth commandment.

Thou shalt not kill [rasah]. KJV

You shall not murder. NKJV

You shall not commit murder (unjustified, deliberate homicide). Amplified Bible

It seems the proper translation for “rasah” is murder, since God did order the killing of people in the past. Murder is the unjustified killing of someone. In an ideal world, there would be no killing or war. But because of sin, war exists.

There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery lie in their wake, and the way of peace they have not known.

Romans 3:10-12,15

Not until the new heaven and new earth are revealed will there be no more war.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the former things have passed away.

Revelation 20:4

Chapter 50—Warrior And His General

Date Ranges: 1900-1918

Questions and Activities

1. Why was Seely's horse, Maharajah, not permitted in battle? What did Seely do to get past that?
2. Why do you think Seely volunteered for military duty in 1914 at the age of forty-six?
3. Seely had three exceptional horses—Maharajah, Cinderella, and Warrior. Do you think that was just “luck” or do you think there was something about Seely that brought out the best in his horses?
4. How can you explain the near misses when Warrior should have been killed but wasn't, either because he escaped or another horse was used in his place?
5. Warrior was one of the fortunate few horses who were returned home after the war. Do you think something could have been done to see that more horses were sent home?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.warriorwarhorse.com>

<https://www.warriorwarhorse.com/warrior-photo-gallery.asp>

General Seely painting

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J. E. B. Seely, 1st Baron Mottistone#/media/File:Brigadier-general the Rt Hon J E B Seely, Cb, Dso, Mp, 1918 Art.IWMART2982.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._E._B._Seely,_1st_Baron_Mottistone#/media/File:Brigadier-general_the_Rt_Hon_J_E_B_Seely,_Cb,_Dso,_Mp,_1918_Art.IWMART2982.jpg)

Online version of the book *Warrior, the Amazing Story of a Real Warhorse*

<https://archive.org/details/warrioramazingst0000unse>

UK Movie, *Warrior the Real War Horse*

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4728344>

Print Resources

Warrior, the Amazing Story of a Real Warhorse by General Jack Seely

<https://www.amazon.com/Warrior-Amazing-Story-Real-Horse/dp/1908216107>

Faith Lesson

At the Battle of Cambrai, Warrior was so close behind a tank at one point, he could have touched it with his nose. Later, when the tank crossed a bridge, it collapsed. For whatever reason, Warrior had fallen further behind the tank when the collapse occurred, and he was uninjured. That was only one of Warrior's experiences where a short distance, a small amount of time, or some other incident kept the horse from injury or death.

Often for us, seemingly insignificant events have life-changing results in our lives. Non-believers attribute things like this to chance or coincidence. As Christians, we believe nothing is beyond the control of an all-powerful God. However, in a sinful world, that doesn't mean bad things don't happen to believers as well as unbelievers.

The entirety of Psalm 139 is a wonderful reminder of how our every thought is known to God. But verse 16 in particular assures us that our days are in God's hands.

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all my days were written in Your book and ordained for me before one of them came to be.

Chapter 51—Simpson And Murphy

Date Ranges: 1915

Questions and Activities

1. Can you imagine having to go to work at the age of twelve to help support your family as Jack Simpson Kirkpatrick did?
2. Why do you think Jack deserted his ship while serving in the British navy?
3. When the operation at Anzac Cove quickly proved a disaster, why do you think the military didn't immediately abandon it?
4. Do you think Jack should have received the Victoria Cross medal?
5. What do you think happened to Murphy when the campaign at Gallipoli was abandoned?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Simpson and His Donkey by Mark Greenwood

<https://archive.org/details/simpsonhisdonkey0000gree>

Simpson and the donkey

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Simpson_Kirkpatrick#/media/File:Simpson_and_the_donkey.jpg

Richard Henderson who took over after Simpson

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Alexander_Henderson

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Simpson_Kirkpatrick#/media/File:Simpson_and_Donkey_at_AWM_001.jpg

Landing at Gallipoli, painting, April 1915

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallipoli_Campaign#/media/File:Landing_at_Gallipoli_\(13901951593\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallipoli_Campaign#/media/File:Landing_at_Gallipoli_(13901951593).jpg)

A typical ANZAC position on the side of a hill, May 1915

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_attack_on_Anzac_Cove#/media/File:Steeles_Post_at_Anzac_3_May_1915.jpg

Military letters inquiring about Murphy after the evacuation.

<https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/blog/cold-case-what-has-become-murphy-donkey>

Print Resources

The Man With The Donkey - John Simpson Kirkpatrick, The Good Samaritan Of Gallipoli by Benson Irving

<https://www.amazon.com/MAN-DONKEY-KIRKPATRICK-SAMARITAN-GALLIPOLI/dp/B0000CMO0M>

The Donkey of Gallipoli: A True Story of Courage in World War I by Mark Greenwood

<https://www.amazon.com/Donkey-Gallipoli-Story-Courage-World/dp/0763639133>

Faith Lesson

Jesus said there was no greater demonstration of love than to lay down one's life for his friends.

As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Remain in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

*This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.***

John 15:9-13

Christ showed His love for us by laying down His life when He was crucified on the cross. The Bible is clear that no one **took** Christ's life, He voluntarily gave it up for us.

The reason the Father loves Me is that I lay down My life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord.

John 10:17,18

While Jack Simpson Kirkpatrick didn't give his life for all of mankind as Christ did, he certainly demonstrated a selfless kind of love by his actions at Gallipoli. With the help of Murphy, his donkey, he saved the lives of more than 300 men.

Chapter 52—Notable WWI Animals

Date Ranges: 1914-1918

Related Information

Children have loved the Winnie the Pooh stories over the years, but the books caused a rift between the real Christopher Robin and his father, A.A. Milne. Christopher resented his father, whom he believed, “had got where he was by climbing on my infant shoulders, that he had filched from me my good name and had left me with nothing but the empty fame of being his son.”

Christopher was estranged from his parents for most of his adult life and didn't see his mother for her last fifteen years. The 2017 movie, *Goodbye Christopher Robin*, (rated PG) focuses on the relationship between A.A. Milne and Christopher.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1653665>

Questions and Activities

1. The interconnectedness of the events that led to A.A. Milne writing the Winnie the Pooh books is amazing. If Harry Colebourne hadn't purchased the bear cub, do you think the Pooh series would have ever been written?
2. As a mom, the idea of children riding on the real Winnie's back at the zoo makes me nervous. Do you think “wild” animals can ever be truly trustworthy?
3. What did you find most amazing about Cher Ami's story?
4. Since Lizzie did such a good job in England, why do you think elephants weren't used more prior to the war?
5. I can understand why a dog wasn't allowed on a military ship on the way to the war, but after Stubby's heroic deeds during the war, why do you think he technically wasn't allowed on the ship to return to America?
6. How did the wartime roles of the two dogs, Stubby and Rags, differ?
7. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Harry Colebourne and Winnie bear

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winnipeg_\(bear\)#/media/File:Harry_Colebourne_and_Winnie.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winnipeg_(bear)#/media/File:Harry_Colebourne_and_Winnie.jpg)

Video narrated by Harry Colebourne's great granddaughter, Lindsay Mattick

https://youtu.be/vfLe1W4X6tQ?si=0m7Tl3_P_EnEFrZr

Preview: *A Bear Named Winnie*

https://youtu.be/fq4B6Owfl_M?si=uHjmlsq4oyj4diDj

Behind the Scenes for the above movie, focuses on training of the bears

<https://youtu.be/W-kaiCd4EU8?si=RBmeuIRhXPoG9-Pt>

Sgt. Stuffy Official website

<https://stubbysquad.com>

Brief documentary on Stubby

<https://youtu.be/YfZLcqc4RO0?si=7VBJuLFocTKV1Sdn>

Trailer for Sgt. Stubby animated movie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2reKx-k5X0>

Print Resources

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear by Lindsay Mattick (picture book)

<https://www.amazon.com/Finding-Winnie-Story-Worlds-Famous/dp/0316324906>

Winnie's Great War by Lindsay Mattick (256 pages)

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/0316447099>

Cher Ami: Based on the World War I Legend of the Fearless Pigeon by Melisande Potter

<https://www.amazon.com/Cher-Ami-Legend-Fearless-Pigeon/dp/0316335347>

Cher Ami Comes Through: Heroic Carrier Pigeon of World War I by Nel Yomtov

<https://www.amazon.com/Cher-Ami-Comes-Through-Carrier/dp/1666394033>

Fly, Cher Ami, Fly!: The Pigeon Who Saved the Lost Battalion by Robert Burleigh

<https://www.amazon.com/Fly-Cher-Ami-Pigeon-Battalion/dp/081097097X>

Cher Ami: WWI Homing Pigeon (Famous Firsts: Animals Making History) by Joeming Dunn

<https://www.amazon.com/Cher-Ami-Animals-History-Graphic/dp/1616416394>

Lots of books on Sgt. Stubby

<https://www.amazon.com/s?k=Sergeant+Stubby&i=stripbook>

Rags: Hero Dog of WWI: A True Story by Margot Theis Raven

<https://www.amazon.com/Rags-Hero-Dog-True-Story/dp/1585362581>

Rags: The Story Of A Dog Who Went To War by Jack Rohan (out of print?)
<https://www.amazon.com/Rags-Story-Dog-Who-Went/dp/1258097060>

From Stray Dog to World War I Hero: The Paris Terrier Who Joined the First Division by Grant Hayter-Menzies
<https://www.amazon.com/Stray-Dog-World-War-Hero/dp/1612347215>

Faith Lesson

When people think of war, the focus is usually on battles and fighting, but an important factor in war is communication. Cher Ami and Rags both served in that area.

Have you ever considered how important it is that God communicates with us? Theologians divide God's communication into two types. General revelation is how God reveals Himself to us in nature, a visual approach. It's very clear that an intelligent and powerful being is behind creation.

For what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship, so that men are without excuse.

Romans 1:19,20

General revelation should cause us to search for more knowledge of our Creator—to learn who He is, what He is like, and what He wants from us. We can never learn those things from general revelation. That's where specific revelation comes in.

God reveals Himself to us more clearly through Scripture, through His inspired words. Words and language provide more information than sight can. I've long been intrigued with the verse that opens the Gospel of John.

In the beginning was the Word [logos], and the Word [logos] was with God, and the Word [logos] was God.

John 1:1

Logos - word, saying, speech

Greeks used logos to refer to the power that created order from the chaos of the world.

John chose to apply that word "logos" to Jesus, the perfect revelation of God, in human form.

Jesus communicates to us who God is. Jesus is no longer physically with us, but we have His words preserved in Scripture along with the words of the other inspired writers.

Jesus is the Word. I have to confess I don't think I have yet comprehend the depth of all that means.

Chapter 53—Wartime Horse Rescues

Date Ranges: 1914-1930

Questions and Activities

1. The horse, Roger, served on both sides of World War I. Do you think it mattered to Roger which side he fought for?
2. Do you think the war horses should have received special care after the war? If so, what do you think could have been done for them? How could their care have been paid for?
3. Why do you think the plight of the old war horses captured Dorothy Brooke's attention?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://horsetrust.org.uk/our-story-1918>

<https://www.thebrooke.org/about-us/our-history>

<https://www.thebrooke.org/about-brooke/history-brooke/dorothy-brookes-letter-morning-post>

Print Resources

Dorothy Brooke and the Fight to Save Cairo's Lost War Horses by Grant Hayter-Menzies

<https://www.amazon.com/Dorothy-Brooke-Fight-Cairos-Horses/dp/161234769X>

Faith Lesson

This part of Dorothy Brooke's letter caught my attention.

*If those who truly love horses—who realise what it can mean to be **very old, very hungry and thirsty, and very tired**, in a country where hard, ceaseless work has to be done in great heat—will send contributions...*

She was referring to the old war horses, but old people don't always get the best attention either. In today's world, youth is practically worshiped. While in the past, young people wanted to become adults, now it seems many adults want to remain young.

Modern “wisdom” tells us the ideas of seniors are old-fashioned and out of date. But according to the Bible, we should respect the wisdom attained in a lifetime of following God.

You are to rise in the presence of the elderly, honor the aged, and fear your God. I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:32

Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is attained along the path of righteousness.

Proverbs 16:31

Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Proverbs 23:22

The Bible tells us to care for our elders as they once cared for us.

if a widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to show godliness to their own family and repay their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God.

1 Timothy 5:4

God has a purpose for us throughout our life. With older age, often comes fewer work-related responsibilities, which frees seniors up to tell others about God.

O God, You have taught me from my youth, and to this day I proclaim Your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, until I proclaim Your power to the next generation, Your might to all who are to come.

Psalms 71:17,18

The old war horses deserved to live out their final days being well-cared for, even more so do our elderly family members and friends.

Chapter 54—Army Remount

Date Ranges: 1908-1948

Related Information

In 1924, the Remount stallion, Gunrock, was adopted as the official UC Davis mascot. In the 1970s, Gunrock was replaced by “Ollie the Mustang.” The name is back to Gunrock, however he is now presented as a blue Mustang character

<https://magazine.ucdavis.edu/mission-makeover>

Questions and Activities

1. Were any of the main remount centers close to where you live? Which was closest?
2. What brought about the end of the Remount centers?
3. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/brookeusa-training-for-war/4548-brooke-usa-the-remount-service.html>

<https://centennial.ucdavis.edu/timeline/history/namesakes/gunrock.html>

Kellogs and Cal Poly Pomona

<https://www.cpp.edu/aboutcpp/heritage/index.shtml>

<https://www.cpp.edu/wkkelloggarabianhorsecenter/about/kellogg-legacy.shtml>

<https://www.cpp.edu/aboutcpp/heritage/kellogg-connection.shtml>

<https://www.cpp.edu/aboutcpp/heritage/kellogg-house-pomona.shtml>

Crabbet Arabian Stud, source of many of the Kellogg Arabians

<https://www.crabbet-heritage.com/crabbet-arabian-stud>

https://www.wikiwand.com/en/United_States_Army_Remount_Service#Media/File:Fort_Robinson_barn.jpg

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Remount_Service#/media/File:The_American_Soldier,_1908.jpg

Soldiers in horse head-shape, Auxiliary Remount Depot No. 326 at Camp Cody in New Mexico, 1919
<https://lucybetterridgedyson.com/2019/05/21/hold-your-horses-and-check-your-sources>

Faith Lesson

Although William and Dr. John Harvey Kellogg are known for their breakfast cereals, no one remembers Dr. James Caleb Jackson. Dr. Jackson developed the first cold cereal in the U.S. in 1863 from graham flour. He called it “granula” for granules. Granula never became popular, but it caught the attention of John Harvey Kellogg who made a variation based on Jackson’s idea. Dr. Jackson sued Kellogg, who renamed his cereal “granola.” The Kellogg brothers invented an even more popular flaked cereal, corn flakes, in 1894.

Was it legal for Kellogg to take Jackson’s idea and run with it? I’m not sure about that, but Kellogg’s success reminded me of a verse I sometimes find difficult to follow.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:15

I don’t have any problem weeping with those who weep. What I find challenging sometimes is to **rejoice with those who rejoice.**

For example, do you think Jackson rejoiced for Kellogg when his competitor became wildly successful with a cereal that had initially been Jackson’s idea?

The Bible often asks us to behave in ways that are contradictory to our nature. We can’t do it on our own, but with God’s help, we can keep striving to be obedient to His word.

Chapter 55—Exterminator

Date Ranges: 1915 –1945

Questions and Activities

1. This website explains the ideal conformation or structure for a horse.
<https://extension.umn.edu/horse-care-and-management/conformation-horse>

Willis Kilmer considered Exterminator to be an ugly horse, even calling him a billy goat. Study the conformation information on the website and analyze photos of Exterminator. Can you detect any flaws in his conformation? (Personally I think he is far from ugly. But then, I've only seen a couple horses in my lifetime that I'd considered even somewhat ugly.)

2. What was unusual about J. Cal Milam as a racehorse owner?
3. What circumstances arose that allowed Exterminator to enter the Kentucky Derby in 1918?
4. Why do you think Exterminator was able to race for years longer than many other Thoroughbreds?
5. The race never happened, but if Exterminator had raced against Man o' War, who was two years younger, which horse do you think would have won?
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exterminator_\(horse\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exterminator_(horse))

<https://www.racingmuseum.org/hall-of-fame/horse/exterminator-ky>

<https://www.americasbesttracing.net/the-sport/2023-exterminator-the-legend-old-bones>

<https://www.horseracingnation.com/horse/Exterminator>

Print Resources

Old Bones the Wonder Horse Kentucky Derby Champion by Mildred Mastin Pace

<https://www.amazon.com/Bones-Wonder-Horse-Kentucky-Champion-ebook/dp/B005CM1M1W>

A few years ago, I was returning a stack of books to the library. My copy of *Old Bones* had inadvertently been included in the pile. Fortunately, the library attendant immediately scanned the books in. When she realized *Old Bones* wasn't a library copy, she tracked me down in another room and asked whether it was mine. It must have seemed odd to the woman that a grandmotherly type was so exuberant in exclaiming, "Oh thanks! That's one of my favorites!" But, I did love this book. :)

Here Comes Exterminator! The Longshot Horse, the Great War, and the Making of an American Hero
By Eliza McGraw

<https://www.amazon.com/Here-Comes-Exterminator-Longshot-American/dp/1250065690>

Faith Lesson

I appreciate how the groom, Mike Terry, stuck with Exterminator throughout the horse's life. It reminds me that no matter how many people in our lives may come and go, God will always be there.

When Joshua was about to take over for Moses as the Israelites prepared to cross the Jordan River, Moses told them.

Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid or terrified of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

That thought is repeated in verse 8.

The LORD Himself goes before you; He will be with you. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid or discouraged.

And again in Hebrews 13:5.

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, for God has said: "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you."

It's easy in this life to rely on people, but they will often disappoint us. The only One who will never fail us is God.

Chapter 56—Grand Canyon Mules

Date Ranges: 1857-current

Questions and Activities

1. In 1857, Lt. Joseph Ives believed his party would be the last non-Natives to visit the Grand Canyon area. He was obviously terribly wrong. Have you ever believed something that later proved to be wrong? —Not to date myself, but I once believed Microsoft Windows would never become popular. :)
2. Have you ever taken the mule ride down the Grand Canyon? Would you like to? What do you think would be the scariest part of the ride?
3. Of the mules named in the text, what name do you think best suits a mule? Or can you come up with one you like better?
4. The mule rides are surprisingly safe. Most of the fatalities at the Grand Canyon are due to falls. Why do you think people are so careless in such a dangerous area?
5. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.grandcanyonlodges.com/connect/the-history-of-mules-at-the-grand-canyon>

South Rim Rides, including Phantom Ranch

<https://www.xanterra.com/stories/the-ultimate-window-seat-on-a-timeless-world>

North Rim Rides

<https://www.canyonrides.com>

Ron Clayton talk on ride safety

<https://youtu.be/CDW2crWyqbo>

<https://www.horseandman.com/interviews/ron-clayton-and-the-mules-of-the-grand-canyon-rare-interview>

Photos

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/50/Hance and His Burros.%289675670822%29.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/50/Hance_and_His_Burros.%289675670822%29.jpg)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a3/Black Bridge Grand Canyon.JPG](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a3/Black_Bridge_Grand_Canyon.JPG)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/98/El Tovar Hotel in early 1900s.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/98/El_Tovar_Hotel_in_early_1900s.jpg)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d3/El Tovar Grand Canyon Village 09 2017 5284.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d3/El_Tovar_Grand_Canyon_Village_09_2017_5284.jpg)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9f/El Tovar Grand Canyon Village 09 2017 5320.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9f/El_Tovar_Grand_Canyon_Village_09_2017_5320.jpg)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bright Angel Lodge#/media/File:Bright Angel Lodge Grand Canyon Village 09 2017 5336.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bright_Angel_Lodge#/media/File:Bright_Angel_Lodge_Grand_Canyon_Village_09_2017_5336.jpg)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/68/Grand Canyon Phantom Ranch - Shower House 0236 %285951743618%29.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/68/Grand_Canyon_Phantom_Ranch_-_Shower_House_0236_%285951743618%29.jpg)

Kolb studio

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/highsm.54356>

Print Resources

Over The Edge: Death In The Grand Canyon by Michael P. Ghiglieri and Thomas M. Myers

<https://www.amazon.com/Over-Edge-Canyon-Expanded-Anniversary/dp/0984785809>

Faith Lesson

Lt. Joseph Ives was convinced the Grand Canyon area would never be visited by non-Natives. Despite how sincerely he believed that, he was wrong. The strength of our beliefs doesn't make them right or wrong.

The same is true in matters of faith. The world today places a lot of weight on the sincerity of our beliefs, but it's not how sincere we are about things that counts. What matters is whether the object of our faith is true and real.

In Paul's letter to Timothy, he stated this well.

*For this reason, even though I suffer as I do, I am not ashamed; for **I know whom I have believed**, and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day.*

Paul had a strong faith, but it was the object of his faith that made it real and effective. His faith was in Christ.

Chapter 57—Sir Barton

Date Ranges: 1919-1937

Questions and Activities

1. What do you think was the most amazing aspect of Sir Barton's career?
2. Did you know that until 1921 the Belmont race was run in the opposite direction of most other American races?
3. Why do you think Sir Barton was such a disagreeable horse?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://thesirbartonproject.com>

<https://www.bloodhorse.com/horse-racing/articles/226501/backtrack-the-story-of-sir-barton>

Print Resources

Sir Barton and the Making of the Triple Crown by Jennifer S. Kelly

<https://www.amazon.com/Barton-Making-Triple-Horses-History/dp/0813197406>

Faith Lesson

Many horses through the years have raced for trophies, cups, and plates (Britain). I doubt that the horses noticed or cared about these rewards in the least, but they were meaningful to the owners and trainers.

As Christians, we will receive rewards that are much more significant. Toward the end of his life, Paul wrote to Timothy.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but to all who crave His appearing.

2 Timothy 4:7,8

Some might consider it wrong for Christians to work for a reward, thinking that we should be obedient to God regardless. While there may be some truth to that, the Bible definitely promises us rewards.

*Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because **great is your reward in heaven**; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets before you.*

Matthew 5:11,12

*But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them, expecting nothing in return. Then **your reward will be great**, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.*

Luke 6:35

*If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, his workmanship will be evident, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will prove the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, **he will receive a reward**. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss. He himself will be saved, but only as if through the flames.*

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

Just what those rewards will be is unknown, but they will certainly far surpass a Triple Crown trophy!

Chapter 58—Man o' War

Date Ranges: 1917-1947

Questions and Activities

1. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, gambling on horse races was made illegal in some areas. Do you think gambling on racing should be illegal? Would horse racing continue to exist if there was no gambling?
2. Why would August Belmont, Man o' War's first owner, volunteer for the war at the age of sixty-four?
3. Do you think Belmont later regretted selling Man o' War as a yearling? Would Man o' War have had the same success if Belmont had kept him?
4. What might have happened to the horse if trainer Louis Feustel had been impatient and used harsh techniques when training the feisty young Man o' War?
5. How do you think Charles H. Pettingill must have felt, knowing he bungled the start and caused Man o' War to lose his only race?
6. Why do you think Will Harbut and Man o' War formed such a close bond?
7. Some compare Man o' War to Secretariat. Both had the nickname Big Red. Do you have an opinion as to which was the better racehorse?
8. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.racingmuseum.org/hall-of-fame/horse/man-o-war-ky>

<https://lextoday.6amcity.com/history-legacy-will-harbut-manowar>

<https://thevaulthorseracing.wordpress.com/2011/08/23/a-living-flame-will-harbut-and-man-owar>

<http://www.espn.com/sportscentury/features/00016132.html>

Brief documentary of Man o' War

<https://youtu.be/aESLobHGVeM>

Radio broadcast of the funeral

<https://youtu.be/RQX0LH1HsQg>

Photos

Man o' War with jockey Earle Sande up at Saratoga's Miller Stakes on August 7, 1920. The Miller Stakes was the only race in which Earl Sande rode Man o' War. Sande was recruited by Man o' War's owner, Samuel D. Riddle, after Clarence Kummer sustained a shoulder injury on July 12, 1920.

<https://keenelandlibrary.omeka.net/items/show/406>

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/30/Upset_%281917%29.png

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b6/Manowar1920.jpg>

Advertisement for the American sports film *The Race of the Age* (1920), a documentary on the preparations for and running of the famed horse race between Sir Barton and Man O' War in 1920, on pages 20 and 21 of the November 6, 1920 *Exhibitors Herald*.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7b/The_Race_of_the_Age_%281920%29_-_1.jpg

Print Resources

Big Red by C. W Anderson

<https://www.amazon.com/Big-Red-C-W-Anderson/dp/B0007DY2JU>

Man O'War by Walter Farley

<https://www.amazon.com/Man-OWar-Walter-Farley/dp/0394860152>

Man o' War: A Legend Like Lightning by Dorothy Ours

<https://www.amazon.com/Man-War-Legend-Like-Lightning/dp/0312341008>

Faith Lesson

Man o' War was known for standing with his head high, gazing off in the distance, looking for something only he was aware of. Joe Palmer stated it well.

It was that even when he was standing motionless in his stall, with his ears pricked forward and his eyes focused on something slightly above the horizon which mere people never see...

As Christians, we are to have that faraway gaze as well, fixing our eyes on the unseen.

our light and momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory that is far beyond comparison. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17,18

In the eyes of the world, our lives may not have much significance. Worldly people focus on what is seen. They admire sports figures, the wealthy, and the powerful. Their focus is on the here and now rather than on eternity.

This passage in Matthew reinforces that concept. The earthly things are temporal, they will pass away. The things in heaven, which we currently cannot see, will last.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:19,20

Chapter 59—Automobiles vs. Horses

Date Ranges: 1830-1920

Questions and Activities

1. Were you surprised, given the renewed interest in electric vehicles, that some of the earliest automobiles were electric?
2. Henry Ford only attended school through the eighth grade. Can you think of other successful people that did not complete high school or college? What kind of education is necessary to be successful in life?
3. The assembly line increased production of cars and resulted in lower prices, but overall do you think assembly lines were a good idea? What are some negative aspects about that type of construction?
4. What do you think it was about automobiles that frightened horses so badly?
5. What are some advantages of horses over motorized vehicles?
6. As of 2022, there are an estimated one and a half billion cars in the world. Was a crisis averted by the transition from horses to cars? Or was one set of problems exchanged for another?
7. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

* U.S. horse-mule population

<http://www.americanequestrian.com/pdf/US-Equine-Demographics.pdf>

It's estimated there were 7.25 million horses in the U.S. in 2022.

<https://www.accessmagazine.org/spring-2007/horse-power-horsepower>

The Animal as a Machine and a Prime Motor And the Laws of Energetics By Robert Henry Thurston, 1894

https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Animal_as_a_Machine_and_a_Prime_Moto/f9Y-nAAAAMAAJ

Faith Lesson

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, land crawlers, and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that crawls upon the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:24,25

As useful as our automobiles are, they are nowhere near the complexity of a living being. And they lack one very important feature of the horse—the ability to reproduce itself.

The biblical word “kind” is closely, but not exactly, related to species. A better definition of “kind” seems to be any two types of animals that can reproduce together.

Although horses, donkeys, and zebras share the same family and genus (Equidae and Equus), their species differ.

- Horse species: *E. ferus*
- Donkey species: *E. Africanus*
- Zebra species: *E. Quagga* (most common species of zebras)

Despite the differences in species, these animals can reproduce together. A zonkey is a cross between a zebra and a donkey. A zorse results when a zebra is crossed with a horse. The most popular equus hybrid is the mule.

A mules’ sire (father) is a donkey and his dam (mother) is a horse. Less common is the hinny with the reverse parentage.

These crosses result in an uneven number of chromosomes, so the hybrid offspring are almost always infertile.

In Ohio, we have a lot of Amish. The Old Order Amish shun automobiles and still travel by horse and buggy. That introduces its own set of problems. Horses sharing roads with high-speed automobiles too often results in calamity.

But one of the reasons for the Amish sticking with horses is that families and communities remain close together. I visited a young Amish family I purchased my pony, Toby, from. I asked the wife whether she and her husband had lived far away before they were married. She assured me they had. Turns out, he lived about seven miles away! :)

Automobiles made it easy for families to live across the country from each other. I like the Amish approach of staying within a day’s journey by buggy from family.

Chapter 60—Silent Cal's Hobby Horse

Date Ranges: 1923-1929

Related Information

- Coolidge was the only U.S. president born on the 4th of July.
- He was one of the last presidents to write his own speeches.
- When Coolidge left office, Thunderbolt was retired to the Calvin Coolidge Library and Museum in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Questions and Activities

1. Why do you think journalists made so much fun of the electric horse, Thunderbolt?
2. Coolidge's nickname was "Silent Cal." At a dinner party, it's said someone commented to Coolidge, "I made a bet today that I could get more than two words out of you." Coolidge replied, "You lose." Do you think Calvin Coolidge was really as quiet as people claimed?
3. Coolidge was also criticized for being extremely frugal. Do you think that is a bad thing for a president who is spending taxpayer's dollars?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2018/04/03/the-brief-history-of-a-widely-mocked-electric-horse-in-the-white-house>

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/photos/photo-6-17>

Elizabeth Jaffray, White House housekeeper, used horses for work longer than anyone.

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/working-horses-at-the-white-house>

Print Resources

(I never knew Coolidge had a pet raccoon at the White House.)

Rebecca, *White House Raccoon* by Kevin Coolidge (perhaps distantly related to Calvin)

<https://www.amazon.com/Rebecca-White-House-Raccoon-Coolidge/dp/1637959982>

<https://kevincoolidge.org>

Calvin Coolidge (*Encyclopedia of Presidents*) by Zachary Kent

<https://www.amazon.com/Calvin-Coolidge-Encyclopedia-Presidents-Zachary/dp/0516013629>

Faith Lesson

Calvin Coolidge was often ridiculed because of he didn't talk a lot. According to the Bible, that isn't such a bad thing.

When words are many, sin is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

Proverbs 10:19

My beloved brothers, understand this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger...

James 1:19

All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:7,8

Too often, it seems some people speak without thinking. Perhaps Coolidge wanted to make sure he spoke carefully and thoughtfully as the Bible advises.

Chapter 61—Diving Horses

Date Ranges: 1894-1942

Questions and Activities

1. I remember, years ago, when I first learned about the diving horses, I was totally amazed. I can't imagine any horse I've ever had being willing to climb up and jump off a platform like that. Do you think the diving horse shows should have been outlawed? Why or why not?
2. Do you think the diving horses were abused?
3. What do you think it would have been like to be a diver like Sonora?
4. Do you think Sonora should have gone back to diving after she became blind?
5. Do you agree with Sonora's definition of courage, "true courage is what it takes to make yourself do something you're afraid to do."
6. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

Sonora Documentary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILxpv4vl85s>

Sonora on Red Lips, silent film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXXMRaj4Z8I>

Jackie Carvan dive

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mX7IijEBM0U>

Smokey the diving mule, Texas. *This little mule seems very reluctant to jump.* :(

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMgKm-DRj_M

Sonora Carver wasn't a fan of the movie version of her life, but here it is.

Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken, rated G

<https://www.amazon.com/Wild-Hearts-Cant-Be-Broken/dp/B000B8QG36>

Print Resources

A Girl and Five Brave Horses by Sonora Carver

<https://www.amazon.com/Girl-Five-Brave-Horses/dp/1891396722>

Faith Lesson

Sonora claimed she wasn't courageous for diving, because it was something she wanted and loved to do, something she didn't want to give up.

The Bible has a lot to say about courage and fear. I came across an interesting Greek word used for courage, in Mark 6:50. This is when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water out to their boat.

Here it is in several translations.

for they all saw Him and were terrified. But Jesus spoke up at once: "Take courage! [tharseo] It is I. Do not be afraid." BSB

for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; [tharseo] it is I. Do not be afraid." ESV

For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: [tharseo] it is I; be not afraid. KJV

Tharseo - to be of good courage, be of good cheer or comfort

In the past, I never would have thought "be of good cheer" and "take courage" would have the same or similar meaning. It makes sense, though, that it would be impossible to "be of good cheer" when you are afraid.

The same Greek word is used in John 16:33 and is translated similarly in different Bible versions.

I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take courage; [tharseo] I have overcome the world!" BSB

I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace. In the world you have tribulation and distress and suffering, but be courageous [be confident, be undaunted, be filled with joy]; I have overcome the world." [My conquest is accomplished, My victory abiding.] Amplified Bible

In this verse, the ESV uses "take heart" and the KJV "be of good cheer."

Losing our "cheer" is the same as being "discouraged" or "disheartened." When we regain the "cheer" we are "encouraged." The prefixes used this way strongly tie the meaning of cheer with courage.

Maybe "tharseo" and these verses will give you a different perspective on courage!

Chapter 62—Lady Wonder

Date Ranges: 1924-1957

Questions and Activities

1. Claudia Fonda claimed her horse had psychic abilities. Do you think Lady Wonder did? How can you explain some of the predictions she made?
2. Although Lady Wonder's successful predictions were written about, how many predictions do you think she might have gotten wrong?
3. I can discount the horse's more mundane predictions, however her help in locating the missing children is a bit mysterious. Do you think there's an explanation for that?
4. What surprised or impacted you the most in this chapter?

Online Resources

https://richmond.com/lady-wonder-1952/article_5173938f-40d5-50d8-9d81-75a4a02a848c.html

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/81063/story-lady-wonder-psychic-horse>

<https://strangeco.blogspot.com/2016/05/lady-wonder-horse.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Wonder

Photos

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lady_Wonder_Horse.png

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lady_Wonder_with_Mrs_Fonda.png

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3c/Lady_Wonder_horse.png

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lady_Wonder_sign.png

Faith Lesson

The Bible clearly condemns those who practice the occult or any kind of witchcraft.

A man or a woman who is a medium or spiritist must surely be put to death. They shall be stoned; their blood is upon them.’ ”

Leviticus 20:27

Although knowledge may be obtained through those practices, it is almost certainly a result of some sort of demonic activity.

Now the Spirit expressly states that in later times some will abandon the faith to follow deceitful spirits and the teachings of demons...

1 Timothy 4:1

Whether it's someone claiming such knowledge for themselves or that it comes through their horse, it's best to steer clear of such practices.

*Many who had believed now came forward, confessing and disclosing their deeds. And **a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books and burned them** in front of everyone. When the value of the books was calculated, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.*

Acts 19:18,19

Personally, I don't believe Lady Wonder had psychic abilities, but I don't have a good explanation for the results she had in her predictions and advice.



Through their bond with humans, horses shaped our past in ways no machine ever could. Their contribution has been all but forgotten—until Horsestory!

In **Volume I**, follow horses from the time they arrive with early explorers to the Americas to post Civil War.

24
Pit Ponies at Work

A pit pony driver's day began early. He would rise before sunrise, eat a quick breakfast, then set off for the mine in order to have his pony ready when the miners arrived. Former driver, Tony Barks, recalled one of his ponies.

I used to have a pony called Tod. He was a great pony to drive. I used to give him a nice brush down before we left the stable before I fitted his collar and mads. Then the next job

was his nose bag for snap (lunch) time. He would get a mint or spangle [a boiled candy] just before we set off on our way. I used to whistle on my way up to his stall and he knew it was me. It was a sad time when I had to give him up when I went coal face training.

After grooming his pony, the driver would harness him, in some places called "gearing up." The mining harness was similar to a regular horse har-



72

12
Pack Horse Librarians

Rural homes in the rugged Appalachian mountains of eastern Kentucky have always been rather isolated, but were particularly so during the Great Depression.

The difficult terrain and lack of roads meant these homes were only accessible on foot or by horseback. At that time, half of Kentucky's counties had no public libraries, and approximately thirty percent of its residents couldn't read.

An early, traveling library had been created in 1913 by May Stafford. Stafford's program was funded by millionaire coal miner, John Mayo, but when its wealthy patron died the following year, the program was discontinued.

Stafford's idea was later resurrected as the Pack Horse Library, receiving funds from the federal government as part of the Works Progress Administration. The WPA was established under president Franklin D. Roosevelt.



73

The series continues with **Volume III**, picking up in the 1920s to modern times.

sonrisestable.com/horsestory