

Behind the **Scenes**

May 2024

Better Life Goats From the Desk of Charlie Oliver

The voice on the line was urgent, telling me about a bunch of farm animals in desperate need of a new home. Many were already rehomed, but chickens and goats remained. Skipping the standard "Can you help us out?", our friend went straight to "How many can you take?" I ran a quick inventory as she explained the need, and concluded that we could handle a few more hens, and goats would help address an invasive blackberry issue that was forming down near our raspberry patch. I told the good Samaritan that I'd have to check with my wife first but was pretty sure we could help out. Several days later, our single hen had five new not-so-friendly coopmates, and we had a couple of goats for the first time since our boys were little.

I wasn't sure what to expect when we first met the new goats. Our previous experience had not gone well. Those goats were playfully aggressive with the kids, sometimes butting them, and more than a few tears were shed over the few months we had them. We were also in the middle of a county-enforced wetland rehabilitation project and lived in constant fear that the goats would get loose and eat some of the thousands of trees and shrubs we had planted. Well, our introduction to Benny and Dryl, humorously named by our son and collectively known as Benadryl, was completely different. Benny and Dryl LOVE people. So much, in fact, that it felt like we had adopted a couple of Labrador puppies. They wanted nothing more than to be with us, which was great! At first. You see, goats do indeed have a knack for getting where they want to go, which

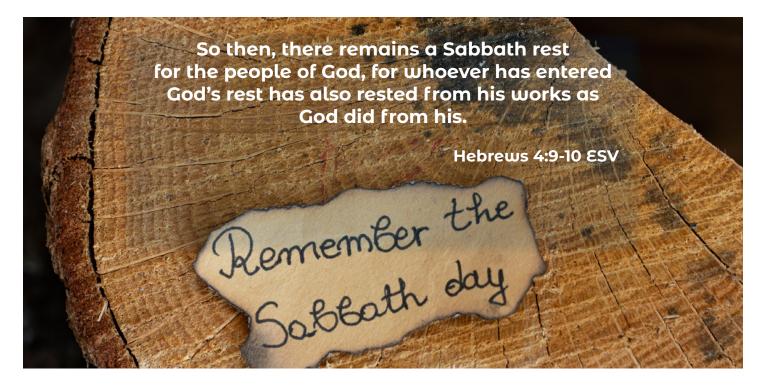


is often where you want them NOT to go.

"Love is patient, love is kind."

What a beautiful sentence in a favorite reading from the writings of Paul in 1st Corinthians 13. In my mind, I cross-reference these passages with the parable Jesus told of the lost sheep, where the Shepherd leaves the ninety-nine to find the one that has gone astray (Luke 15:1-7).

> Friends, this is our Father in Continued on page 3



Inspirational Musings by Jeanette Stark

I recently watched a series on Netflix titled "Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones." Good stuff! If you're able, I strongly recommend you watch it. Dan Buettner, collaborating with National Geographic, scoured the globe looking for places where people live much longer than average the concept of "Blue Zones" was born.

Following Buettner's bestselling book, "The Blue Zones: 9 Lessons of Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest," this documentary series travels around the world to investigate the diets and lifestyles of those living the longest lives. Dan said, "The series is the culmination of 20 years of identifying and studying the world's longest-lived people...and the core secret they have to offer us is not at all what you think."

Travel to the tiny Aegean Island of Ikaria, Greece, to discover the secrets of residents who live eight years longer than Americans, have half the rate of heart disease, and almost no dementia.

Visit Sardinia, Italy, in the Mediterranean and find it home to the greatest concentration of male centenarians in the world. You will also discover healthy lifestyles that have not changed much since the time of Christ.

Visit Okinawa, Japan, and meet residents, including the world's longest-lived women.

Grab a bike and pedal along a path on this Pacific Coast peninsula, and you will find colorful houses, exotic fruits, and residents twice as likely as Americans to reach a healthy age of 90. That would be Nicoya, Costa Rica.

A little closer to home perhaps? All you need to do is "pull off the San Bernardino freeway east of Los Angeles and you will encounter a community of Adventists teaching us new lessons about the power of faith, friendship, and fruit." bluezones.com

Blue Zones. Only 5 zones in the entire world where people live the longest lives, consistently reaching age 100. Sadly, in contrast, the average life expectancy in the U.S. is currently 77 years, according to the CDC.

Caitlin McAfee, a wellness dietitian at Houston Methodist, said, "...it's not just about longer lives, it's about healthier ones, too. People living in Blue Zones are also much less likely to suffer from chronic illnesses."

Sociologists have also studied the happiest people on earth, and one of those groups is Seventh-day Adventists. Here is what the study found: Seventh-day Adventists are among the happiest people on earth and live approximately 11 years longer than the average American.



Continued from previous page

I watched a video about a year ago where the pastor asked the audience to pay particular attention to that number: eleven years.

Experts say the average lifespan is 77 years or 28,105 days. The pastor wondered, if a person always kept the Sabbath during that same amount of time, how many Sabbaths would they observe? Since there is a Sabbath every 7 days, you would divide 28,105 days by 7 days to get 4,015 Sabbaths.

The pastor then turned it up a notch, and instead of days, how many years' worth of Sabbaths would they keep? To find the answer, you take the 4,015 Sabbaths divided by 365 days. Are you ready for this?

That comes out to exactly 11 years! This pastor was excited! So am I! Do you see what happened? These people observed 11 years' worth of Sabbaths over their lifetime, and God added on average 11 years to their lifespan! Incredible! It appears as though God is saying, 'Every time you give me a day, I'll give you one back.'

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

Genesis 2:3 NKJV

Continued from page 1

Goats -

Heaven. This is how He looks at all His children. At you. At me. With love, care, and mercy. And it's how He asks us to look at and treat others, choosing to allow Him to act through us, despite our nature to do the opposite.

I'll be honest, it isn't easy for me to always be loving and patient with Benny and Dryl, who are driven to get into the raspberry patch, to the fruit trees, or over to the neighbors for a visit. But just as Jesus has backup plans ready to put into action with me when I go astray, I've learned how to help the goats stay safe and secure, where I want them to be. The latest strategy was devised last week when it dawned on me that the goats would really enjoy helping clean up the overgrowth of blackberries in the engineering yard behind Better Life! The area is securely fenced, and they are enjoying frequent visits from people who want to see the Better Life goats! Be sure to check out our social media feeds for the post Jeanette made about Benny and Dryl, along with a video and pictures! Drop by and let us introduce you to them!

God is so good to us. He cares for us, protects us, and comes and finds us when we go astray. But in His kindness, He allows us the opportunity to choose. My friend, choose Him today. Lean into Him. Allow Him to grow your faith, your hope, your love. And reflect that love, His love, into those around you. God bless us all as we mingle with others, desiring their good, and inviting them to meet our Jesus.



@Better Life Television





Tips to help you make changes to your diet

1. Pray

Ask God to help you make the changes

2. Start Small

Gradually change foods a few at a time

3. Plan Ahead

Prepare meals and snacks in advance

4. Listen to Your Body

Tune in to hunger cues and feelings

5. Be Present

Focus on savoring each bite and being present during meals

Dear Better Life,

The broadcast on March 12, 2024 was a blessing. It was on the return of Jesus and the 1000 years and what will take place. It is wonderful to hear the truth from the Bible. We are getting closer to the day of the return of the Lord.

Thank you for all the programs on Better Life.

-AW

Better Life Television,

Thank you for all you do? I enjoy and learn from you. I enjoy Kenneth Cox, Stories of Faith and many other programs.

-JR

Peanut Butter Cookies

Makes about 24 cookies

DIRECTIONS

 2 cups roasted peanuts, salted or unsalted

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup whole wheat pastry flour
- 1/2-1 teaspoon your preferred salt (to taste)
- 1/2 cup honey, warmed
- 11/2 teaspoon vanilla

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Add the peanuts and flour to a food processor or strong blender. Blend until the flour and peanuts are the same texture.
- 3. Add the salt (to taste) and blend to combine. If the peanuts are salted, add less salt; if not, add more.
- 4. Warm the honey in the microvave until it has a liquid consistency like water (about 30 - 60 seconds).
- 5. Add the peanut mixture to a bowl with the vanilla and warmed honey. Mix together.
- 6. Pinch off pieces of dough and roll them into walnut-sized balls. The dough should be soft but not too sticky to roll into balls. The dough consistency should be like pie crust dough. If the dough is too dry, mix in a bit of water (about 1 tablespoon). If the dough is too wet, mix in a little more flour until it is a soft consistency.
- 7. Place the dough balls on a baking sheet and press them flat with your hands.
- 8. Next, press them down flatter with a fork in a crisscross pattern. Dip the fork in water as needed to keep it from sticking to the dough.
- 9. Bake for about 10 minutes or just until the cookie edges start to brown. Let them cool before removing them from the pan.

From the kitchen of Karen Breyer

Donations Made to Better Life by

In Memoriam

Madison Jewell Baird Floyd & Celeste Sweat, grandparents Ken & Joyce Casper Kenneth Dubay Marjorie Cate Amu & Kevin Fletcher. daughter Marta Davis Ron Davis, husband **Richard & Carol Rogers** Charles Dubay Kenneth Dubay, father Ron Dubay Kenneth Dubay, father Scharlotte Dubay Kenneth Dubau. husband Edith Fletcher Amy & Kevin Fletcher, son Wanda Florea Kimber Florea, daughter Steven Florea Kimber Florea, sister Marcella Harrom Charleen Gerlic, daughter Pstr. Milton Hayes Alva & Patty Hyland Anita Heisler Bob Heisler, husband Jim Hitchcock Lois Bookout, wife Frank Hurd Rosalie Hurd, wife Jack Karp Jacqueline Karp, wife Rita Bjelland Lathim Floyd & Celeste Sweat, parents Jim McHan Donald Erb Olen Nations Mary Nations, wife Don Oltman Jeanne Oltman, wife Bill Peterson Joan Peterson, wife Bill & Tula Richardson Sheila Henry

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Phone: (541) 474-3089

Note: It may take up to 2 months for names to appear in the newsletter.

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	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Midnight	It's Coming	Coming Out	Country Wisdom	Bible Answers	Gospel Outreach		Praise!	midnight
12:30 AM)	Women in the Word	The Incredible Journey		Maranatha Mission Stories		Your Favorite by Request	12:30 AM
1:00 AM	Secret Life of the Desert	3ABN Homecoming	SanctuarySalvation&Our Savior	Made for Health	Housecalls	Doug Batchelor	Daniel All Access	1:00 AM
1:30 AM	A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing		Authentic	Mission Revival				1:30 AM
2:00 AM	David Klinedinst	Boots 'n Bibles	Stories of Faith	Women in the Word	Better Life Today	Catching the Light	Revelation Now	2:00 AM
2:30 AM			Nature Music	Receiving the Word	Adventist World Radio	Secret Life of the Desert		2:30 AM
3:00 AM	Spotless	Unlocking Bible Prophecy	The Whole Message	White Horse Media	Worship Hour Special Series	Evolution Impossible	Revelation Insights	3:00 AM
3:30 AM				Nature Music		UltimatePrescription		3:30 AM
4:00 AM	The Seventh Day	Stories of Faith	Better Life on Tour	GP Worship Hour	NEWSTART Now!	Maranatha Mission Stories	Amazing Facts Presents	4:00 AM
4:30 AM	The Carter Report	When We Talk			Authentic	Contending for the Faith	Gospel Outreach	4:30 AM
5:00 AM	Ready Set Xplore/Critters	Impact Canvasback	Fountainview Music	Amazing Facts Presents	Animal Encounters	Nature Music	Nature Music	5:00 AM
5:30 AM	Bible Treasures/Fit Club	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	IIW Sabbath School	5:30 AM
6:00 AM	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today Live (repeat)	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	6:00 AM
6:30 AM								6:30 AM
7:00 AM	Your Favorites by Request	Bible Answers		Shelly Quinn Presents	ASI Conventions	Optimize for Life	Bible Answers	7:00 AM
7:30 AM	It's In The Bible			It's In the Bible		Cook:30		7:30 AM
8:00 AM	GP Worship Hour	Authentic	Secret Life of the Desert	The Seventh Day	Nature Music	Enjoy Healthy Eating	Catching the Light	8:00 AM
8:30 AM		Variety	Variety	Variety	Variety	Variety	Stories of Faith	8:30 AM
9:00 AM	Simple Truths Sabbath School	The Carter Report	Worship Hour Special Series	Fountainview Music	God's Last Message to the World	Made for Health	Pioneer Media	9:00 AM
9:30 AM		Adventist World Radio		Help! I'm a Parent		Unshackled Purpose/Recipes fr		9:30 AM
10:00 AM	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Secrets Unsealed	Simple Truths Sabbath School	10:00 AM
10:30 AM								10:30 AM
11:00 AM	Boots 'n Bibles	Off the Grid	Maranatha Mission Stories	Lineage	Jesus for Asia Now	Behold the Lamb Presents	GP Worship Hour	11:00 AM
11:30 AM		Abundant Living	Cook:30	Better Life Today	Amazing Facts Presents			11:30 AM
Noon	Exercise Variety	Exercise Variety	Body & Spirit	Action for Life	Body & Spirit	Raw Questions Relevant Answers	Women in the Word	Noon
12:30 PM	Better Life Today	Down to Earth	Mission Revival/Journeys	Receiving the Word	Journey 'n Journals	Exercise Variety	Fountainview Music	12:30 PM
1:00 PM	3ABN Today Live (repeat)	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	3ABN Today	Unlocking Bible Prophecy	1:00 PM
1:30 PM								1:30 PM
2:00 PM		Variety Hour	Variety Hour	Variety Hour	Variety Hour	Variety Hour	Variety Hour	2:00 PM
2:30 PM								2:30 PM
3:00 PM	Catching The Light	The Whole Message	Unshackled Purpose/Intimate	The Whole Message	White Horse Media	The Whole Message	Kids Time Praise	3:00 PM
3:30 PM	Journey 'n Journals		Multitulde of Counselors				Jesus 101	3:30 PM
4:00 PM	Receiving the Word	Bible Buzz/Sing Along	Kids Time	Bible Gems/Creation Crafts	Kids Time	Kitchen Fun	Secret Life of the Desert	4:00 PM
4:30 PM	Women in the Word	Creation Case	Kids Time Praise	Kids Time Praise	Kids Time Praise	Grandma's House	It Is Written	4:30 PM
5:00 PM	3ABN Sabbath School	Nature Music	Secrets Unsealed	Made for Health	Bible Answers	Islam & Christianty	Secrets Unsealed Presents	5:00 PM
5:30 PM		Catching the Light		A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing				5:30 PM
6:00 PM	Worship Hour Special Series	Unlocking Bible Prophecy	Country Wisdom	Prophecy Unsealed	3ABN Today LIVE	Simple Truths Sabbath School	Boots 'n Bibles	6:00 PM
6:30 PM			Gospel Outreach					6:30 PM
7:00 PM	Authentic	Summer Camp Meeting	Behold the Lamb Presents	Doug Batchelor		Stories of Faith	White Horse Media	7:00 PM
7:30 PM	Good News for Muslims					Better Life Today	Nature Music	7:30 PM
8:00 PM	Strategies for Strongholds	Stories of Faith	Better Life Today	Catching the Light	Women in the Word	Boots 'n Bibles	Mark Finley Presents	8:00 PM
8:30 PM	Lineage	The Seventh Day	Adventist World Radio	It Is Written	Gospel Outreach			8:30 PM
9:00 PM	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Ken Cox Ministries	Authentic	3ABN Today	9:00 PM
9:30 PM						Women in the Word		9:30 PM
10:00 PM	Better Life on Tour	Nature Music	Featured Ministries	NEWSTART Now!	Table Talk	GP Worship Hour	Discover Prophecy	10:00 PM
10:30 PM		Native New Day	Maranatha Mission Stories	Your Favorites by Request				10:30 PM
TT:00 PTT	Celebrating Life in Recovery	Mark Finley Presents	Prophecy Unsealed	Jesus 101	3ABN Today LIVE (Repeat)	3ABN Family Worship	Jesus for Asia Now	TI:00 PM
11:30 PM				Unshackeled Purpose/Raw Questions			Fountainview Music	11:30 PM

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