

Independent Assemblies

August 2008 Newsletter



Whereas our Lord Jesus has said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," we, the members and churches of the Independent Assemblies, do associate ourselves together, and pledge ourselves to fulfill this command by giving ourselves to the service of our Lord through the operation of the Spirit, and submitting to His direction, we shall minister the "Good News" of Christ through every avenue made available unto us by God. And our lives shall be spent in this purpose and Holy calling that our Lord may be glorified on that Day that He shall gather His people unto Himself. We are not a denomination, nor do we have any desire to become one. We are simply a Fellowship of Ministers and Churches brought together by God's Love and our common beliefs.

Mickey Keith, President P.O. Box 1546, Ada, OK 74821 -
580/310-0222 Phone & Fax - Email: mickey.keith@gmail.com

Dr. Ted Estes, Vice President P.O. Box 2248, Claremore, OK 74017
918/341-8344 Fax: 918/341-8352
Email: pastorted@lifechangerchurch.com

Ken Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer - P.O. Drawer 1120, Lexington, OK
73051 - 405/527-6030 405/527-9755 - Fax 405/527-9387 or
405/527-1074 - Email: kda@valornet.com

Robert O. Johnson, Director of World Missions - 910 North 9th,
Blackwell, OK 74631 - 580/363-2734 - Fax: 580/363-1042
Call (Toll free) 1-877-898-3171 - Email: roj@clarionmissions.org

Jerry Edmon, Board Member - P.O. Box 862, Elgin, TX 78621 -
512/281-5316 - Fax: 512/281-5956 Email: jedmon@aol.com

IA Website:

www.independentassemblies.org

Webmaster: Michael Keith -
webmaster@independentassemblies.org

Please send all Credentials Applications, Church & Ministry Applications to the President's Office. Send all Renewal Fees, Offerings, Missions Funds, etc., Newsletter Articles and Address Corrections to the Secretary/Treasurer's Office.

Annual Credentials Fees: Exhorter- \$50.00, License- \$65.00, Ordination- \$75.00

Reinstatement Fee: \$10.00

Annual Church Fees: Fellowship Churches- \$50.00, Member Churches - \$100.00

Annual Ministry Fees: (Not-for-Profit)\$100.00

2008 Interstate Meetings & Events

August 11- FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH - Whitefield, OK
918/967-2554 - Pastor, Rev. Bill Fitzer

September 8 - CAPITOL HILL FULL GOSPEL - Moore, OK
405/793-7727 - Pastor, Rev. Jim Robertson

September 11 & 12 - IA Golf Scramble - Purcell, OK
Call Ken 405/527-6030

September 14 - World Harvest Sunday

October 13-15

FALL MISSIONS CONFERENCE—THE TABERNACLE -
Blackwell, OK - 580/363-2734 or 363-4210
Pastor, Dr. Robert Johnson

November 3- CYRIL FULL GOSPEL CHURCH, Cyril, OK -
580/383-6675
Pastor, Rev. Donnie Miller

November 10-12 - AVANT HOUSE OF PRAYER - Avant, OK -,
918/263-2955
Pastor, Rev. M.E. Anthony, Jr.

December 8 - MENDING HEARTS CHURCH
Newalla OK - 405-386-4351
Pastor, Rev. David Tompkins

Ordination services are held at the April, and September Meetings and the Annual Ministers Conference.

Southeast Okla. District

Rev. Billy Hunter, District Rep.
Antlers, OK, 580/298-2740
email: cffantlers@yahoo.com

Southwest Okla. District

Rev. Donnie Miller, District Rep.
Cyril, OK 580/464-2224 or 512-3657
email: revd@tds.net

Northeast Okla. District

Rev. Mac Blackwell, District Rep.
Locust Grove, Ok - 918/479-6057
email: mblackwell@sstelco.com

North Central Texas District

Rev. Daniel Sue, Regional Rep.
Kemp TX, 903/498-4704
Cell 214/205-8647
email: sued7@ednet10.net

Aug 18 - New Life Ministries, 101 S. Main St.,
Red Oak, TX - 972-617-1135
Pastor Mark Lowrey

Sept. 23 - Unassigned

Oct 20 - Abundant Harvest, 1008 Mill Run
Road, Athens, TX
903-675-1223 or 903-681-0262
Pastor Marc Jones

Nov 17 - Yearly Pastors Planning Meeting

South Central Texas District

Regional Rep. - Rev. JERRY EDMON
512/281-5316 - Fax 512/281-5956
email- Jedmon1234@aol.com

Midwest Regional District

Regional Rep. - Rev. MARK MAYNARD
618/931-4106
email: For-markm@juno.com

Arkansas District

Rev. Charles Kendrick, District Rep.
Alexander, AR. 501/303-0831

Special Dates for 2008

Sept. 1 - Labor Day

Sept. 7 - National Grandparents Day

Sept. 11 - Patriots Day

Sept. 22 - 1st Day of Autumn

**YOU MAY NOW READ THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
ONLINE ON OUR WEBSITE** Our bylaws and policies and
forms are also available for you to read and print.
www.independentassemblies.org

September 2008 Interstate Meeting

Pastors ***Jim and Carol Robertson*** and ***Capitol Hill Full Gospel Church***, Moore, OK invites you to attend the I. A. State Meeting Sept. 8.

The afternoon service will begin at 2:30 P.M. The speakers in the afternoon service will be ***Ken Anderson*** and ***Dr. Ted Estes***. A complimentary meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. *NOTE: All the ladies will meet with Sister Carol during the evening meal-*

In the 7:00 p.m. service ***Pastor Mike McCord*** will be speaking. Mike and Cary McCord are pastors of Ray of Hope Church, outside Comanche, OK. The McCords have three sons and live in the country within a few miles of where all the family was raised. In 1985, Pastor McCord was selected as one of the 'Outstanding Young Men in America'. Pastor McCord is a graduate of Cameron University and has served twice as the Chaplain of the Oklahoma Senate. Pastor Mike and Cary began pastoring Ray of Hope Church in 1985, with its seventy members. Today, hundreds and hundreds of people call Ray of Hope home. This country church, five miles from town impacts many people in Stephens County. Pastor McCord has ministered all over the US to thousands of people in churches, conferences, seminars and revivals. Many ministries and outreaches have been extended through Ray of Hope Church such as; Kids of the Kingdom, Faith Roots, Divorce Care, Crisis Care, Focus Ministry, Toys for Tots, Kids R.O.C.K., Overcomer's Outreach, Elevate Pre-teen and Breakthrough Youth. Ray of Hope broadcasts on the radio each week across southwest Oklahoma. In 2002, Ray of Hope Ministries moved into their new 4 million dollar facilities. The new complex has over 50,000 square feet and the sanctuary will seat almost 1,000. www.rohchurch.org
This is also an Ordination Service. The church address is 2928 Woodlawn Drive, P.O. Box 7617, Moore, OK 73153 Office 405/793-7727 Fax 405/793-9481 – If you need help with directions, please call the office.

Deliverance Temple International and ***Family Worship Center*** invites you to their upcoming Annual Conference 2008, which will be held Sunday, Sept. 21 through Wednesday the 24th. in Elgin, Texas. They are expecting this year to be a directional and confirming time for each person who attends. Each year they have a season of fasting and prayer for the direction and purpose that the Lord has for each conference. Come experience the baptism of His presence.

They are providing lodging for full time pastors, full time evangelists and full time missionaries. The men golfers will

gather Monday morning at 8:00 am. for 18 holes of golf, fun and fellowship. The ladies will meet at 10 am Monday for "Women of Destiny Brunch" Guest speaker will be **Renee' Clark** from Triumph Church. You must let them know by Aug. 15 if you are planning to attend. You can reach their office at (512) 281-5146 for more information. P.O. Box 862 Elgin, Texas 78621. Online registration available at www.FWCElgin.com

Our Annual Conference was a huge success

From the President—

This year's Minister's Conference in Oklahoma City was a refreshing time of fellowship for all who attended. Our total registration was 245, and people came from 12 U.S. states, Canada and Mexico to hear Rev. Bob Rodgers, from Louisville, Kentucky. Pastor Bob ministered on prayer, fasting and the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of ministers. The illustrations of answered prayer in his life and church were truly amazing, and all were blessed as this man of God shared from the Word.

Our workshops drew a very high attendance this year with 178 people participating. CD copies of each session are available by contacting Living Faith Church in Moore, Oklahoma, where Jimmy Milligan is pastor. A great big thank you is due Pastor Jimmy and his team for recording, staging, video, lighting and a host other details that made this conference great!

Our Tuesday night crowd numbered just over 300, and the praise and prayer times of the evening meetings were exceptional, with a strong presence of the Lord in all aspects of the conference.

Amber Keith and the worship team from Life Community Church in Ada led us in powerful worship each night and Pastor Thomas Buckley from Yukon led us with great anointing during the day sessions. Special thanks also to Capitol Hill Full Gospel, Moore and Calvary Temple, Edmond for hosting the afterglow times!

This will go down as one of the greatest events in the history of our fellowship! Special thanks to the Executive Board, and all who volunteered in so many wonderful ways.

Please mark September 14th on your calendar as World Harvest Sunday for the Independent Assemblies Fellowship! All churches and ministers are asked to respond with a special offering for our missions' works around the world! Let's believe God to help us go beyond what was done last year...Set your sights high...reach out in faith, and see what God will do!

In Him, **Pastor Mickey Keith**, President, Independent Assemblies

Notice: If you attended the annual conference this year in Okla. City and did not leave your questionnaire response form with Dr. Ted Estes, please take a moment and fill yours out and send it to him. (*Address is on back of newsletter*) We are genuinely interested in your overall viewpoints of our conference this year. Every year we try to improve this 3 day event to the best of our ability and your response form will be a tremendous help.

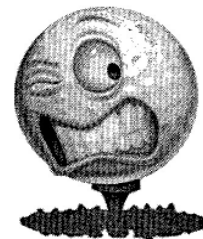


We want to thank all of our volunteers this year who worked behind the scenes again this year. Without you, our annual conferences simply would not be a success.

Mac & Sondia Blackwell sends this note of thanks to everyone who helped at the 2008 I. A. Ministers' Conference. Over 20 people helped with registration, offerings, workshops, lunch lines, banquet lines, book tables, presbytery, etc. I could not have done my job without all of your help. I would also like to thank Dr. Ted Estes, our conference coordinator, and Ken & Patsy Anderson. When I had questions, they had answers! You are all greatly appreciated. May God richly bless you

2008 2-man Golf Scramble

The Golf Scramble was rescheduled for September 11 & 12, 2008. We are now taking registrations. Contact Ken Anderson for complete information. Please let him know if you are planning to come so we can complete our plans for this exciting event. If you are a golfer interested in email updates, send him your email address at kda@valornet.com



World Harvest Sunday 2008 is set for Sept. 14th.

For over forty years, the Independent Assemblies has brought churches and ministers together for the common purpose of supporting world missions. Together, we have sent tens of thousands of dollars into foreign fields under the mandate of the Great Commission.

The Great Commission that Christ left to his church has never been altered nor rescinded, but it remains as an awesome reminder of the church's purpose and reason for

existence. In celebration of World Harvest Sunday, we are asking every I.A. church to receive a special offering for our missions projects. All individual members and ministries are also asked to participate in this offering, as we help fulfill the Great Commission. Please send your offerings to the office of the Secretary/Treasurer (see back of newsletter) by the first week of October or bring it to the Missions Conference in Blackwell, OK, October 13. You may designate your offering to one of our missionaries, if you please. We will be able to bless our missionary affiliates and assign these funds to various missions projects this year. Let's all do the very best we possibly can for the Kingdom of God this year on World Harvest Sunday!

Southwest Regional Conference -

Wednesday, Oct. 1st beginning at 10 a.m.– Lord's Living Water Lighthouse, Lordsburg, NM. Theme: "Missions and the Local Church" Speakers: Dr. Robert O. Johnson, Dr. Lee Martin. Host Pastor: Dick Davis 575/590-0143, email-dickdavis@hughes.net

North Central Texas District – The next meeting will be Monday, Aug. 18th, 7 p.m. at New Life Ministries, 101 S. Main, Red Oak, TX, Pastor Mark Lowrey, call 972/617-1135 for more information, or Dr. Daniel Sue, 903/498-4704, Email, sued7@ednet10.net

Poisonous Enticements

**A Problem of Perspective
By Shea Oakley**

"The sweet poison of a false infinite" (C. S. Lewis).

The "false infinities" Lewis speaks of are all the things, other than God, which human beings look to for ultimate fulfillment. They might be money, sex, power, or any number of additional modern-day idols fallen men and women lust after. Throughout our history there have been such square pegs that we have tried to fit into a round hole, more specifically the "God-shaped hole" Blaise Pascal spoke of. But perhaps never have there been so many pegs as now, at least in the Western world. Why do we keep falling for false infinities? Why do even Christians fall into this fruitless searching after the wind?

Perhaps part of the answer to this question lies in the glossy enticements of contemporary society. We are the world's first mass consumer culture. In our broadcast and print media and on the Internet Westerners are bombarded with commercials designed to incite insatiable lusts of one kind or another. By age 18 every child in America has seen tens of thousands of TV images of everything from expensive cars to perfectly flawless models that beckon us to some kind of earthly transcendence (an oxymoron, by the way.) the new Sports Illustrated Edition, we are encouraged to believe that if we just owned this car or possessed that woman our lives would somehow be made complete. This is, of course, a deception, but it is a very attractive one.



For most of the centuries we have been on the planet, just a small minority of individuals has had access to the earthly trappings of riches and power. In the Bible, for instance, only kings and a handful of wealthy landowners had instant access to riches and other worldly pleasures. Historically, the vast majority of people had to make do with the basic necessities of life, and some with less than that. Today, in the so-called "First World," it is different. Millions of us can afford to pay others to do our bidding, giving us a sense of personal power beyond the means of the generations that have gone before us. We can acquire a cornucopia of consumer goods that would seem absolutely fantastic to the ancient world. Since the unfortunate "Sexual Revolution" we can also freely indulge our physical appetites, whether in the form of pornography or real flesh, without fear of the censure of our society. Our vast middle class lives in a style achievable by only a few potentates in biblical times. False infinities abound and many of us can obtain them.

Sadly, believers are not immune to the enticements of our age. The presence of myriad addictions in our churches is mute testimony to that fact. Far too many of us live a sort of "double-life," with one foot in Zion and the other in Las Vegas. We claim to seek the sacred but our lives are full of the profane. We, too, have bought into "the sweet poison."

It is not that material things are bad in and of themselves. Power and sexuality are not intrinsically evil either. It is when these become ends in themselves that we are in danger. All turn out to be toxic when they are sought above or apart from relationship with God. Scripture tells us that in seeking the Kingdom of Heaven such things will be, to

different degrees, added on to us. As Lewis also wrote, if we shoot for heaven we will get the earth thrown in, but if we shoot for earth alone we will get neither.

The only One with infinite value is our Lord. No one and nothing else is infinite. Therefore anyone or anything other than God can be truly poisonous to our souls when given value which only He deserves. Like so many things in life it is a problem of perspective. May God help us to see all in the light of Who He is.

August 2006 PulpitHelps

Shea Oakley has written for a number of Christian Web magazines and is currently working on a book about church discipline and the restoration of Christian leaders who have fallen. He makes his home in West Milford, NJ.

Warnings

The mighty Niagara river plummets some 180 feet at the American and Horseshoe Falls. Before the falls, there are violent, turbulent rapids. Farther upstream, however, where the river's current flows more gently, boats are able to navigate. Just before the Welland River empties into the Niagara, a pedestrian walkway spans the river. Posted on this bridge's pylons is a warning sign for all boaters: DO YOU HAVE AN ANCHOR? DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE IT? There is a point on the Niagara River that is the point of no return. There is a point in the lives of our children where they, too, will be caught up in an irresistible current.

-- *"To Illustrate", Leadership, Summer, 1992, vol. XIII NO.3, 47.*

Guidance from Wesley

**John Wesley (1703-1791) offered the following
"Rules of Conduct" for Christians:**

**Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.**

Think About This

This appeared on the Editorial Page of the Richmond Times-Dispatch July 7, 2008. Editor Times-Dispatch

Each year I get to celebrate Independence Day twice. On June 30, I celebrate my independence day and on July 4, I celebrate America's. This year is special because it marks the 40th anniversary of my independence.

On June 30, 1968, I escaped Communist Cuba and a few months later I was in the United States to stay. That I happened to arrive in Richmond on Thanksgiving Day is just part of the story, but I digress. I've thought a lot about the anniversary this year. The election-year rhetoric has made me think a lot about Cuba and what transpired there. In the late 1950's, most Cubans thought Cuba needed a change, and they were right. So when a young leader came along, every Cuban was at least receptive.

When the young leader spoke eloquently and passionately and denounced the old system, the press fell in love with him. They never questioned who his friends were or what he really believed in. When he said he would help the farmers and the poor and bring free medical care and education to all, everyone followed. When he said he would bring justice and equality to all, everyone said 'Praise the Lord'. And when the young leader said, 'I will be for change and I'll bring you change, everyone yelled, 'Viva Fidel!'

But nobody asked about the change, so by the time the executioner's guns went silent the people's guns had been taken away. By the time everyone was equal, they were equally poor, hungry, and oppressed. By the time everyone received their free education it was worth nothing. By the time the press noticed, it was too late, because they were now working for him. By the time the change was finally implemented Cuba had been knocked down a couple of notches to Third-World status. By the time the change was over, more than a million people had taken to boats, rafts, and inner tubes. You can call those who made it ashore anywhere else in the world most fortunate Cubans. And now I'm back to the beginning of my story.

Luckily, we would never fall in America for a young leader who promised change without asking, what change? How will you carry it out? What will it cost America? Would we? Manuel Alvarez, Jr.

This article was submitted by Glenda Hall.

We Welcome These New Members

Wendy Spoon - Glenpool, OK
Wiley E. Carroll, Jr. - Tuttle, OK
Corey S. Bivens - Westpoint, TN

Rickey B. Walden - Pryor, OK
Haskell W. Thompson - Madill, OK
Ricky York - Conway, AR
Charlene F. Northcutt - Ennis, TX
Sarchie A. Blankenship - Ennis, TX
Wiley E. Carroll, Jr. - Tuttle, OK

New Church Your Needs Help – C.V. Lewis has been a member with the IA for 7 years . He lives in Greenwood , Arkansas. He is pioneering new church in Greenwood (Freedom Full Gospel). Do you have anything that you can invest in the planting of this new church? They would appreciate any furnishings (pews/chairs, pulpit , sound system , altars, computer, etc...) that anyone could donate, Please call 479-221-8740 or cv.lewis@yahoo.com



Bill and Mary Fitzer wants to thank the IA members for their love and support these past few months. As you may know, Bill was in the hospital for 40 days starting with a total knee replacement and then open heart surgery. We appreciate every one that called and prayed , such as Mickey Keith, Jim & Carol Robertson, Arnold Ray and Coleen Evans, and many others for their love, prayers and support. We would like to give a very special thanks to John Sokolis and Ted Estes who seemed to call everyday and encouraged us with the Word of God and reminded us of His promises of life, health, and strength. Thanks to all our precious brothers and sisters in this fellowship for the hours of prayers that you prayed. We made it and are alive and on the road to a glorious recovery. Thank you so much to the IA Board for the love offering you sent to help with expenses. We love you and are so glad to be a part of this wonderful fellowship. We also want to give a special "thank you" to my wonderful sister and brother-in-law, Rick & Kathy Goodman, who never left our side for 40 days and 40 nights. We love you!

Thank you, Bill & Mary Fitzer

The Anointed Coat Hanger

A woman was at work when she received a phone call that her small daughter was very sick with a fever. She left her work and stopped by the pharmacy to get some medication. She got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys in the car. She didn't know what to do, so she called home and told the baby sitter what had happened.

The baby sitter told her that the fever was getting worse. She said, 'You might find a coat hanger and use that to

open the door.' The woman looked around and found an old rusty coat hanger that had been left on the ground, possibly by someone else who at some time had locked their keys in their car. She looked at the hanger and said, "I don't know how to use this."

She bowed her head and asked God to send her help.

Within five minutes a beat up old motorcycle pulled up, with a dirty, greasy, bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag on his head.

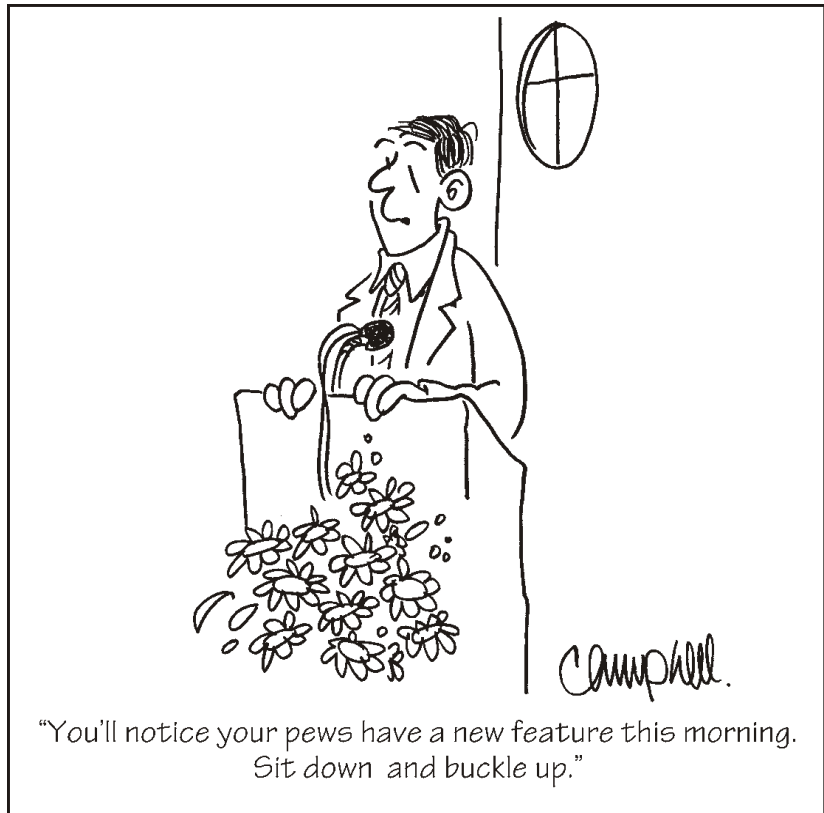
The woman thought, "This is what you sent to help me?"

But, she was desperate, so she was also very thankful.

The man got off of his cycle and asked if he could help. She said, 'Yes, my daughter is very sick. I stopped to get her some medication and I locked my keys in my car. I must get home to her. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car? He said, 'Sure.' He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute

the car was opened. She hugged the man and through her tears she said, 'Thank You So Much! You are a very nice man.'

The man replied, 'Lady, I am not a nice man. I just got out of prison today. I was in prison for car theft and have only been out for about an hour.' The woman hugged the man again and with sobbing tears cried out loud, "Oh, Thank you God! You even sent me a Professional!"
Is - GOD GOOD - or what!



"A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like A Medicine"

PROVERBS 17:22

As a new school Principal, Mr. Mitchell was checking over his school on the first day. Passing the stockroom, he was startled to see the door wide open and teachers bustling in and out, carrying off books and supplies in preparation for the arrival of students the next day. — The school where he had been a Principal the previous year had used a check-out system only slightly less elaborate than that at Fort Knox.

Cautiously, he asked the school's long time Custodian, "Do you think it's wise to keep the stock room unlocked and to let the teachers take things without requisitions?"

The Custodian looked at him gravely. "We trust them with the children, don't we?"

Preparing for a family vacation, Kathy and Matt explained to their young children that they would be sitting in the car for a very long time. The kids were told they would not be arriving at their destination until after dark, and were warned not to keep saying, "Are we there yet?" – After a few minutes of peaceful driving, four year old Rachel perked up, "Is it dark yet?"

Several weeks after a young man had been hired, he was called into the personnel director's office. — "What is the meaning of this?" the director asked. "When you applied for this job, you told us you had five years experience. Now we discovered this is the first job you've ever held." — "Well," the young man replied, "in your advertisement you said you wanted somebody with imagination."

A young mother paying a visit to a doctor friend and his wife made no attempt to restrain her five-year-old son, who was ransacking an adjoining room. — But finally, an extra loud clatter of bottles did prompt her to say, "I hope, doctor, you don't mind Johnny being in there." — "No," said the doctor calmly, "He'll be quiet when he gets to the poisons."

A sloth named Herman is walking through the forest one day. A gang of snails approach him and beat him up. He is left at the bottom of a tree with several cuts and bruises. — Several hours later he gathers up enough strength to go to a local police station. Herman walks into the Sergeant's office. "What happened to you? the officer asks. — "A gang of snails beat me up," Herman replied. — "Can you describe what they looked like?" "I don't know," the sloth says. "It all happened so fast."

A newly widowed man stood at the cemetery next to his wife's casket. When the graveside service had no more than terminated, there was a tremendous burst of thunder accompanied by a distant lightning bolt and more rumbling thunder.

The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there."

Two cannibals meet one day. The first cannibal says, "You know, I just can't seem to get a tender missionary. I've baked 'em, I've roasted 'em, I've stewed 'em, I've barbequed 'em, I've even tried every sort of marinade. I just cannot seem to get them tender." — The second cannibal asks, "What kind of missionary do you use?" — The other replied, "You know, the ones that hang out at that place at the bend of the river. They have those brown cloaks with a rope around the waist and their sort of bald on top with a funny ring of hair on their heads." — "Ah ha!" he replies. "No wonder.. those are friars!"

My son is the manager of a glass and window company and advertised in the paper for experienced glaziers. Since a good glass man is hard to find, he was pleased when a man who called about the job said he had over 10 years of experience. — "Where have you worked as a glazier?" my son asked.

The man replied, "Dunkin' Donuts."

*That's
All folks !*

