**Children’s Funnies – Prosperity & Money**

**When I called my friend at his dorm room, I was somewhat surprised by his answering-machine message: “Hi, this is Dave,,” it began. “If it’s the phone company, I sent the money. If it’s Mom or Dad, please send money. If it’s a friend, you still owe me money. If it’s financial aid, you didn’t loan me enough money. If it’s a female, leave a message . . . and don’t worry, I’ve got plenty of money!” *(Emily Fasnacht, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**In a rural school the math teacher asked this question: “If your father sold 1,500 bushels of grain for $2.00 a bushel, what would he get?” Tommy answered quickly: “A new car.” *(Jeannette Fidell, in Jokes, Jokes, Jokes, p. 106)***

**Father: “Must you always be asking for money? It’s time you learned there are things that are more important than money.” Son: “Yeah? How do you buy them?” *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Out shopping with my nine-year-old son, I stopped at an automated-teller machine to use my new ATM card. Worried about security, I told my son that I was going to get money out of the machine and to make sure no one was watching me. After the ATM spit out ten crisp $20 bills, my wide-eyed son said, “Do it again, Mom! Nobody’s watching!” *(Sarah Gray, in Reader’s Digest)***

**When our granddaughter visited the dentist, he informed her that she had only two baby teeth left. “Well,” she replied philosophically, “there goes my main source of income.” *(Martha Heil, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Coming home from school my 11-year-old asked for $6 to go bowling with his class. “Six dollars?” I said. “To go bowling?” “Yes,” he replied. “That includes shipping and handling us.” *(Patricia Natale, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Billy asks his Dad: “Daddy, could I borrow a quarter and not pay it back?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**After landing his first job, my oldest son wasted no time in applying for a car loan. He answered the bank officer’s questions honestly and quickly, pausing only at one question: “Other source of income?” “Mom,” replied my newly independent son. *(Ruth Wade, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**When your children are young, your finances, furniture, and china all go broke. *(Jacqueline Schiff, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**It is frequently said that children don’t know the value of money. This is only partially true. They don’t know the value of your money. Their money, they know the value of. *(Judy Markey, in You Only Get Married For the First Time Once)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The professor of our Introduction to Marketing class was making a point about client needs. As an example, he held up the book required for the course. “When you buy this expensive book, what are you looking for?” he asked. “Good information,” answered one student. “Clarity,” said another. These responses were followed by silence. Then someone called out, “Resale value.” *(Nick Somaiya, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Billy yells at his little brother: “Not again, PJ! A coin in your mouth!” Billy then says to his mother: “PJ musta heard somebody say, ‘Put your money where your mouth is.’” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**I was explaining to my first-grade class that different combinations of coins can equal the same amount. To illustrate the point, I offered one boy a pencil and told him it cost 25 cents. He handed me a quarter. “That’s right,” I said, “but what’s another way to pay for it?” Chris thought for a moment, and then replied, “MasterCard!” *(Pat Wrobel, in Ladies’ Home Journal)
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Charlie Brown: “Good morning. Would you like to buy some cookies?” Lucy: “You’re not a Girl Scout.” Charlie Brown: “Who said I was a Girl Scout? I’m not a Boy Scout, either, or a Brownie, or a soccer player, or a gymnast or anything!” Lucy: “Where’d you get the cookies?” Charlie Brown: “They were left over from my lunch.” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**Heart: “Hot chocolate! I can’t wait to get to dance class today, Mom. Miss Lacey says she has an extra-special surprise for our winter recital! What do you think it could be?” Mom: “Maybe it’s recital costumes that cost under seventy dollars. That would be a surprise verging on miraculous.” Heart: “Sheesh, Mom! You’re so cheap! It’s not like I never use my costumes after the recitals! Didn’t I just wear that sequined American flag one to church?” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**Mom: “Judah gave you five dollars to tell me I should go out with him again?! Of all the nerve.” Heart” “Wait, Mom! I would’ve anyway. See, I really do like Judah, and I’m just happy to see you finally getting over Dad and going out on a date with someone. Plus, if you show up for a second date, I get ten more bucks.” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**After the child has an argument with his mother, he says as he walks out the front door: “You’ll be sorry in April when you can’t deduct me.” *(A. A. McCourt)***

**A few days before Mother’s Day, my husband announced he had to work that Sunday and wouldn’t be able to fix me dinner as he usually does. “I have an idea,” my teen-age daughter piped up. “I’ll take you out to eat.” “But the restaurants will be so crowded with all the other mothers,” I protested. “Don’t worry, Mom,” she replied. “Most of them probably won’t be eating at McDonald’s.” *(Nancy Dearborn)***

**Do what you love. The money will follow. Every time I try that, the money can’t keep up! *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**My grandson Andrew was thrilled with the money he found under his pillow after he lost his first tooth. “Now I know what the tooth fairy looks like!” he announced. “Oh?” said his mother, thinking he must have seen her slipping the money under his pillow. Andrew held up his shiny one-dollar coin with the profile of Susan B. Anthony on it. “See! There she is!” *(Margaret Stringer, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Morris, a city boy, moved to the country and bought a donkey from an old farmer for $100. The farmer agreed to deliver the mule the next day. But the next day, the farmer drove up and said, “I have bad news. The donkey is dead.” Morris asked for his money back but the farmer said he’d already spent it. “OK. Just unload the donkey anyway, I’m going to raffle him off.” “You can’t raffle off a dead donkey!” replied the farmer. “Sure I can,” Morris said. “Watch me. I just won’t tell anybody he’s dead.” A month later the farmer saw Morris and asked, “What happened with that dead donkey?” “I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at $2 apiece and made a profit of $998.” “Didn’t anyone complain?” “Just the guy who won. So I gave him his $2 back.” *(Denver Rocky Mountain News)***

**One child says to the others in the family: “If the economy doesn’t get better I think Daddy might have to let a couple of us go.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Betsy: “If you have $2, and you ask your father for $4, how much will you have?” Billy: “Two dollars.” Betsy: “You don’t know your math.” Billy: “You don’t know my father.” *(Lisa McNease, in Reader’s Digest)***

**During finals at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., test papers were being distributed to the class. After conferring with a nervous assistant, the professor spoke. “There’s a problem,” he said. “One of you has the answer key instead of the test.” Reaching into his billfold, he continued, “If you identify yourself, this five-dollar bill is yours.” A young man raised his hand, and the professor walked toward him. “Wait a minute,” shouted another student, “I’ll give you fifty.” *(Dick Dobmeyer)***

**Receiving her first paycheck, my teen-age daughter complained to me that the amount was much less than it should be. I looked at it, then carefully explained how Social Security, federal and other taxes were subtracted from her gross pay. “But Mom,” she wailed, “I didn’t give them permission to take those things out of my check!” *(Becky Clark, in Reader’s Digest)***

**My fourth-grade class was studying the development of the auto industry. I had emphasized the role played by Henry Ford, whose assembly lines decreased production costs. At the end of our unit, I gave a test including the question: “What did Henry Ford invent that made buying a car more affordable?” One of my brightest students wrote: “Zero-percent financing.” *(Kim Caston Davis, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A man was watching his young nephew play a war game at the beach with some other little kids in their sand forts. “Stevie,” the uncle called, “if you take those other kids’ fort in the next 15 minutes, I’ll give you a dollar.” About three minutes later, the boy ran up to his uncle with the news that the kids in the other fort had surrendered. “Here’s your dollar,” said the uncle. “But how did you manage it so quickly.” “I offered the enemy a quarter,” Stevie answered, “and they surrendered.” *(Funny, Funny World)***

**One night, I went out to eat at a Chinese restaurant with my wife and our five-year-old daughter and four-year-old son. After we finished our meal, the waitress brought our check and four fortune cookies. I leaned over to help my daughter open hers. “No, Daddy, let me do it,” she said. “I might be an instant winner!” *(Steven P. Alexander)***

**Dogbert: “From now on, I’m going to charge anybody who gives me their opinion. People are idiots. If I have to listen to their opinions, I deserve compensation.” Dilbert: “You’re forgetting that “from the mouth of babes . . . comes . . . something good.” Dogbert: “That’ll cost you a buck.” *(Scott Adams, in The Dilbert Zone comic strip)***

**A fat lady got on a scale and the hand went all the way around. The little girl watching gasped and said, “Don’t tell me you get all that for a penny.” *(C. Kennedy)***

**College student: “Hey, Dad! I’ve got some great news for you!” Father: “What, son?” College student: “Remember that $500 you promised me if I made the Dean’s list?” Father: “I certainly do.” College student: “Well, you get to keep it.” *(Denver Rocky Mountain News)***

**As the father takes money from the ATM machine, Jeffy says: “Why do you hafta go to work, Daddy, if you can get money here?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**When I heard the sound of the ice-cream wagon’s bell and saw my front door wide open, I suspected that my 2 1/2 year-old son had run outside. As I caught up with him, I saw that he was clutching something in his hand. It was my credit card.” *(Doreen Guarino, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Driving together in the car, my ten-year-old son and I were listening to an inspirational cassette tape. The sermon began, “If you knew that you could not fail, what would you do with your life today?” “Easy,” said my son. “I’d enter the lottery.” *(Linda H. Sleeper, in Reader’s Digest)***

**As Dennis fills up the bottles with water from the tap he says to Joey who is operating the lemonade stand: “Hey, Joey. Forget the lemonade. This is where the big money is.” *(Hank Ketcham, in Dennis The Menace comic strip)***

**Billy: “How will I know I’m a millionaire? I can only count to 12.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**When my daughter was home during college break, she came in for an eye exam at the optometrist’s office that I manage. I gave her some paperwork to fill out, and had to laugh when I read what she had written under method of payment: “My mom.” *(Shirley Kudrna, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Dolly asks: “A penny saved is a penny earned, but what can I buy with it?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**My husband and I had just finished tucking our four young ones into bed one evening when we heard sobbing coming from three-year-old Eric’s room. Rushing to his side, we found him crying hysterically. He had accidentally swallowed a penny and was sure he was going to die. No amount of talking could change his mind. Desperate to calm him, my husband palmed a penny that he happened to have in his pocket and pretended to pull it from Eric’s ear. Ericwas delighted. In a flash, he snatched it from my husband’s hand, swallowed it and demanded cheerfully, “Do it again, Dad!” *(Marcia Wood, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Billy asks Dolly: “How can it be a lucky penny if somebody lost it?” *(Bil Keane in The Family Circus comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**My nine-year-old niece bought me perfume. “This is one of my favorites,” I told her. “How did you know what to buy?” “The man in the shop helped,” she replied. “He did very well. Did he ask what I looked like, or what colors I like to wear, or how old I am?” “No,” she answered. “He asked me how much money I had.” *(Winifred Terret)***

**One day some classmates and I at Kennesaw State College in Marietta, Ga., were lamenting the cost of long-distance phone service and debating the relative advantages of AT&T, MCI and Sprint. “I’ve found CTC to be the cheapest plan around,” offered one of my firends. “CTC?” I asked. “Who are they?” “You know,” he responded. “Call Them Collect.” *(Re Thorn, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Joey was only five years old but very sharp. The neighbors would play a game with him, offering him a nickel and a dime in their open palms and asking which he would rather have. Joey always chose the larger coin. “What’s the matter with you?” an older boy asked him one day. “Don’t you know that a dime is twice a good as a nickel?” “Sure,” answered Joey, “but business is business. Why should I spoil a paying proposition?” *(Henry D. Spalding, Jewish Laffs)***

**A letter written in a childish scrawl came to the post office addressed to “God”. A postal employee, not knowing exactly what to do with the letter, opened it and read: “Dear God, my name is Jimmy. I am six years old. My father is dead and my mother is having a hard time raising me and my sister. Would you please send us $500?” The postal employee was touched. He showed the letter to his fellow workers and all decided to kick in a few dollars each and send it to the family. They were able to raise $300. A couple of weeks later they received a second letter. The boy thanked God, but ended with this request: “Next time would you please deliver the money directly to our home? If you send it through the post office they deduct $200.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**“Do you want a boy or a girl?” a friend asked our five-year-old, Ryan, during my wife’s seventh month of pregnancy. By then Ryan had heard the proverbial answer many times. “We don’t care if it is a boy or girl,” he replied, “just as long as it’s wealthy.” *(Charlie Gill, in Reader’s Digest)***

**As Dad walks toward the lemonade stand, Billy says to him: “You can quit your job, Daddy. We made 75 cents.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**As the boy makes a presentation to his class at school he says: “Today for show-and-tell I brought in some stuff me and my brother Royboy melted. As you can see, melting stuff changes it and makes it so you can’t recognize it, and this my friends, is cool! Items displayed will soon be available for purchase on eBay.” *(Rick Stromoski, in Soup to Nutz comic strip)***

**My cousin was host of a small-town restaurant. One Sunday morning a family with six children came in, and the parents allowed their young daughter to request a table. “How many people in your party?” my cousin asked. “Eight!” she proudly answered. “Smoking or nonsmoking?” The girl thought for a moment and then gave a typical large-family answer: “Whatever is the cheapest!” *(Charles M. Reid)***

**A banker, who always advised his son to think big, came home one day to find the boy in the yard with the family dog and a sign. “Dog for Sale. $38,000.” The father smiled and went into the house. The next day, the sign--and the dog--had vanished. The banker asked his son, “You didn’t get $38,000 for the dog, did you.” “No,” the boy replied, “but I traded him for two $19,000 cats.” *(Herm Albright)***

**When my six-year-old son put a tooth under his pillow, I emptied all the coins out of my pocket in exchange for it. “Look what the tooth fairy left!” he exclaimed the next morning. “Fifty cents plus three cents tax.” *(Bruce Underwood, in Reader’s Digest)***

**After returning from trick-or-treating the little girl thinks to herself: “A penny. A tic tac. A life-saver. A stick of gum. Boy, trick-or-treating during a recession is a real drag.” *(Steve Breen, in Grand Avenue comic strip)***

**One night while I was watching a television news program with my eight-year-old son, the newscaster reporting on the stock market said, “The value of the dollar is up.” The boy turned to me and asked what that meant. The best explanation I could come up with was that you could now buy more with a dollar than you used to. My son looked thoughtful for a few moments and then asked, “Do the stores know about this?” *(Carolyn Murphy, in Reader’s Digest)***

**As a security officer for a defense contractor, I have to make sure all visitors sign in. One day I was in the lobby and noticed an employee’s college-age daughter writing in the visitors’ log. When I checked the log at the end of the day, I noticed her signature. Next to “Purpose of visit” she had written, “To get money from Dad.” *(Joseph Hoffler)***

**Teacher: “OK, everyone, I made a little voting booth for the big election today. As I call your name, go into the booth, mark your selection, put the paper in the ballot box, then go sit down.” Student: “Mr. D. can I pass out pencils for my classmates to use in the voting booth?” Teacher: “I don’t believe this. You taped a dollar bill around each pencil?” Student: “I would’ve used fives but the donuts I bought everyone this morning wiped me out.” *(Steve Breen, Grand Avenue comic strip)***

**While I waited for my obstetrics appointment, an excited patient bolted into the room. “Honey,” the woman cried to her husband, who was setting with their little girl. “We’re having twins!” “Good, Mommy,” their daughter said. “Buy one, get one free!” *(Cynthia A. Smith, in Reader’s Digest)***

**While visiting the Butchart Gardens near Victoria, British Columbia, I stopped to rest at a wishing well. Several children came up and dropped coins into the well, whispering aloud their wishes. “I wish I had a puppy,” said one. “I wish I had a race car,” said another. At last one boy about ten years of age came up and looked thoughtfully into the well. Then grudgingly, he tossed in his coin and muttered, “I wish I had a magnet.” *(Sharon Lewsadder, in Reader’s Digest)***

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