**Living It**

**And the scribes and Pharisees asked Jesus,**

**“Why do your disciples not walk**

**according to the tradition of the elders,**

**but eat bread with their hands unwashed?”**

**He said to them,**

**“The prophet Isaiah well prophesied about you,**

**O hypocrites, as it is written, this people honor me with their lips,**

 **but their heart is far away from me.”**

***(St. Mark 7:5-6)***

**Little children, let us love, not in word or speech,**

**but in truth and action.**

***(1 John 3:18)***

**But be doers of the word, and not hearers only.**

***(James 1:22)***

**The best sermons are lived, not preached. (*Country Extra magazine)***

**Dick Cavett once asked Father Theodore Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame, if he thought practicing birth control was a mortal sin. “I hope not,” replied Hesburgh. “I’ve been practicing it for years.” *(“Dick Cavett Show,” PBS)***

**A classic film scene became almost too real for a famous star. Jean Seberg was playing St. Joan in the climactic stake scene when her clothes caught fire and she nearly got grilled. *(Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 9)***

**What could be more French than croissants? Actually, croissants were first baked in Austria, not France. They are crescent-shaped like the symbol of the Turks, laying siege to Vienna in 1683. The embattled Viennese nibbled on croissants to devoir the enemy symbolically. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s a Weird World)***

**Yale University School of Medicine is going to put students at the bedside of patients earlier in their training in order to produce “doctors that are more humane and sensitive.” This step will help the student who spends his first two years in the book-filled and laboratory world of the classroom and “sometimes loses the wonderful idealism that made him want to become a doctor in the first place." *(John Conwell, in Quote magazine)***

**Bela Lugosi only made $3,500 from the movie Dracula, but acquired a role for life. He was buried in his vampire costume. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 18)***

**He’s only 25, but Jamie Aaron Kelley of Boone, Iowa, has impersonated Elvis Presley for 22 years and memorized more than 700 Elvis songs. *(American Profile magazine)***

**I always thought you couldn’t talk about rednecks unless you are one, and I are one. *(Jeff Foxworthy)***

**Judy Garland decided to appear in Valley of the Dolls even though she knew her character – a hopeless drug addict – was based on herself. Garland died of a drug overdose before the film went into production. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 18)***

**An English noblewoman was for years in mental torment as to whether there was a God. Because of her uncertainty in the matter she could find no peace of mind. On one occasion, leaving her home and many babbling guests, she went alone into the forest. There she cried aloud, “Dear God, if there be a God, reveal thyself to me.” And at once she seemed to hear a voice, saying, “Act as if I were, and thou shalt know that I AM.” This changed her whole life, and she found great peace. *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover the Power Within You, p. 21)***

**Has any man ever attained to inner harmony by pondering the experience of others? Not since the world began! He must pass through the fire. *(Norman Douglas)***

**First man: “It’s not always easy being married to a strong-willed woman. Would you say I’m a hen-pecked husband?” Second man: “I don’t know. What do you think?” First man: “I don’t know, but I wake up every morning crowing.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Hewlett-Packard, which is awaiting the outcome of government investigations into its spying on board members and journalists, is co-sponsoring an annual award for “privacy innovation.” *(Associated Press, as it appeared in The Week magazine, October 6, 2006)***

**In my high-school years, I had always considered history a boring subject. But at the conclusion of one college American-history class, the professor – a stately dignified older man – announced that we would reenact the Battle of Bunker Hill. The next day found us all out on the campus, running up and down hills behind our distinguished leader, picking up acorns and pelting them at one another, and shouting, “The British are coming! The British are coming! Fight for freedom!” I’ve loved history ever since. *(Sylvia Veal, in Reader’s Digest)***

**We’re serious about hockey here in Buffalo, N.Y. One day I was sitting on my porch, studying for an exam, when I saw the neighborhood kids setting up nets, putting on equipment and picking teams for an after-school game of street hockey. These are pretty typical goings-on here in Buffalo. But, then, one of the boys pulled out a tape player, hit the play button, and all the kids took off their helmets and sang along to the American and Canadian national anthems. *(Kitty Hull, in Reader’s Digest)***

**As a newcomer to the rural Olympic Peninsula of Washington State, I hired a man to take down a 125-foot-high fir tree that threatened my house. We agreed on a modest price, and I asked him about his insurance. Like most of the local workers, he had none. “What if the tree falls on my house?” I asked. “If you want that kind of insurance, call Seattle,” he said. “But I’m willing to leave my truck right where it is.” The truck was halfway between the tree and my house.” *(David F. Reynolds, in Reader’s Digest)***

**O Lord Jesus Christ, save us from the error of wishing to admire You instead of being willing to follow You and to resemble You. (Soren Kierkegaard)**

**Live your life, don't just spend it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**James Madison was the only President to exercise actively his role as commander-in-chief of U.S. military forces. On August 25, 1814, when British troops were attacking Washington, D.C., during the War of 1812, Madison took command of Commodore Joshua Barney’s battery in Bladensburg, Maryland, in an attempt to protect the capital, which lay a few miles to the south. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 256)***

**Wolfgang Mozart, one of the world’s foremost composers, died while creating a requiem mass for the dead. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 323)***

**The first children to get the polio vaccine were those of Jonas Salk. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**So that its cars will better handle U.S. roads, the British auto maker BL Ltd. (formerly known as British Leyland) has reproduced in its car-testing track near Coventry some of New York City’s potholes. Plaster casts were made of the wheel-crackers and used in the design of the test truck. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 286)***

**During the Civil War, a number of Confederate prisoners were held at a Western military post under not too difficult conditions. Most of them appeared to appreciate the situation, but one fellow wasn't reconciled, and took every opportunity to express his views. He rubbed it in continually about the Battle of Chickamanga, which had resulted so disastrously for the Federal forces. Finally it got under the skin of the Union men, and they complained to General Grant, who had the prisoner brought before him. “Look here," Grant said, “you are being very insulting to the men here with constant references to the Battle of Chickamanga. Now you've either got to take the oath of allegiance to the United States, or you'll be sent to a Northern prison. Make up your mind." The prisoner took some time to come to a decision. Finally he said, “I reckon, General, I'll take the oath." The oath was duly administered. Then the subdued soldier asked if he might speak. “Yes," said Grant, “what is it?" “I was just thinking, General, those Rebels certainly did give us hell at Chickamanga, didn't they?" *(Bits & Pieces)***

**I’m not interested in what any prophet said. I’m interested in what you, as a follower of that prophet, actually do. *(James McBride, novelist)***

**A real-estate developer should have to live in his own subdivision for the first year of its existence. *(Sydney J. Harris, Field Newspaper Syndicate)***

**Most fine artists who draw human beings are actors of a sort. With their own bodies, they mimic the stances of the figures they sketch. It is said Norman Rockwell did it, always himself striking the gesture and the pose. Dante wrote: “Who paints a figure, if he cannot be it, he cannot draw it.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing. (Albert Schweitzer, in The National Law Review)**

**My brother-in-law was looking for a job and stopped by a furniture store that was interviewing for a sales position. When he arrived, he found several applicants ahead of him. Instead of just sitting there, he started selling furniture. By the time it was his turn, he had sold $2,600 worth of**

**merchandise. He was hired on the spot. *(James E. Kaler, in Reader's Digest)***

**A theater in Manteca, California, erupted in flames shortly after the end of its feature presentation. The film? The Towering Inferno. *(Denver P. Tarle, in A Treasury of Trivia, p. 312)***

**Live your beliefs and you can turn the world around. (*Henry David Thoreau****)*

**The most valuable gift you can give another is a good example. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**When he died, George Washington provided in his will for the emancipation of his slaves on the death of Martha, his wife. Washington was the only member of the Virginia dynasty to free all his slaves. *(Richard Shenkman & Kurt Reiger)***

**Only the wearer knows where the shoe pinches. *(Proverb)***

**You can preach a better sermon with your life than with your lips. *(Bits & Pieces) 423989***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***