



American Inspiration

Greetings special friends,
I hope that your week is going well. Today is a beautiful day in Central Texas. The wild flowers are in full bloom adding a blanket of color to the roadsides. I hope that you are where you can enjoy the beauty of spring.

Here are some thoughts for the day:

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**“Don’t be discouraged by a failure. Failure is, in a sense, the highway to success, inasmuch as every discovery of what is false leads us to seek earnestly after what is true, and every fresh experience points out some form of error which we shall afterwards carefully avoid.”**  
**John Keats (1795-1821) Poet**  
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**“The more deeply you understand other people, the more you will appreciate them, the more reverent you will feel about them. To touch the soul of another human being is to walk on holy ground.”**  
**Stephen R. Covey, leadership consultant**  
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**“Life is the continuous adjustment of external relations.”**  
**Herbert Spencer (1820-1903) philosopher**  
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**“April showers are taxpayers’ tears.”**  
**Arnold Glasow**  
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I had an e-mail from Mary Beth Kepper that was passed along to her from Judy Lee, both retired dance team directors. It was a message from a soldier that said one of the items that the overseas soldiers enjoyed the most was movie DVD’s. They all have some kind of access during their down time to a DVD player and truly enjoy relaxing and passing the time away with a movie. It takes their minds off the problems at hand, if only for a couple of hours. Each of you knows a soldier or family with a soldier overseas. Take time to go through some of your DVD’s that you have watched a few too many times, and pass them onto our

soldiers. They said that they even liked the chick flick movies that will make you cry and laugh as well. This could even be a special project for your team, your school, office or church group.

This has been an exceptionally difficult week for the families of the students at Virginia Tech. So many of us have shared in the fear and trauma that these students went through. Our hearts and our prayers have gone out to them in this trying time. I searched for something that might offer comfort for all of us. I found a passage about heaven that I had never heard. It explains to us how we know what is 'on the other side.' I hope that it will bring comfort to you today as it did for me.

Have a wonderful week ahead, and, as always, please ***keep in touch***.

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Sincerely,

Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO

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What is on the other side?

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."

Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know."

"You don't know?"

You, a believer, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

***Turning to the patient, the doctor said,
"Did you notice my dog?"***

He's never been in this room before.

He didn't know what was inside.

He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear.

I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing...

I know my Master is there and that is enough."

May there be peace within you today.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

I believe that friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.