

Because God Has A Sense of Humor

How it looks when you try to hide from
God



A devotion for the "big kids" too

Patterns (by Elizabeth Nelson)

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

~ Romans 12:2

Years ago, I signed up to help "pattern" a baby girl who was born with Down's Syndrome. I was to move her legs and arms in specific motions in order to enhance her muscular strength and coordination. If someone else were to come in and pattern her limbs incorrectly, imagine the confusion in her mind and muscles.

The world has a pattern too. The problem is, it's very attractive and promises to make us happy. When we follow the destructive pattern of the world, we suffer. But God is waiting with open arms for us to ask for His help.

We once hired a young man to hang wallpaper for us. Barry wore a headset constantly while he worked. When I asked him about it, he said that God had rescued him from an addiction to drugs, but that his mind had been affected. So hour after hour, day after day, Barry listened to and memorized Scripture and Christian music. In the process, God renewed and restored his mind. I will never forget his diligence in seeking God. And I will never forget that clear testimony to God's life-transforming power.

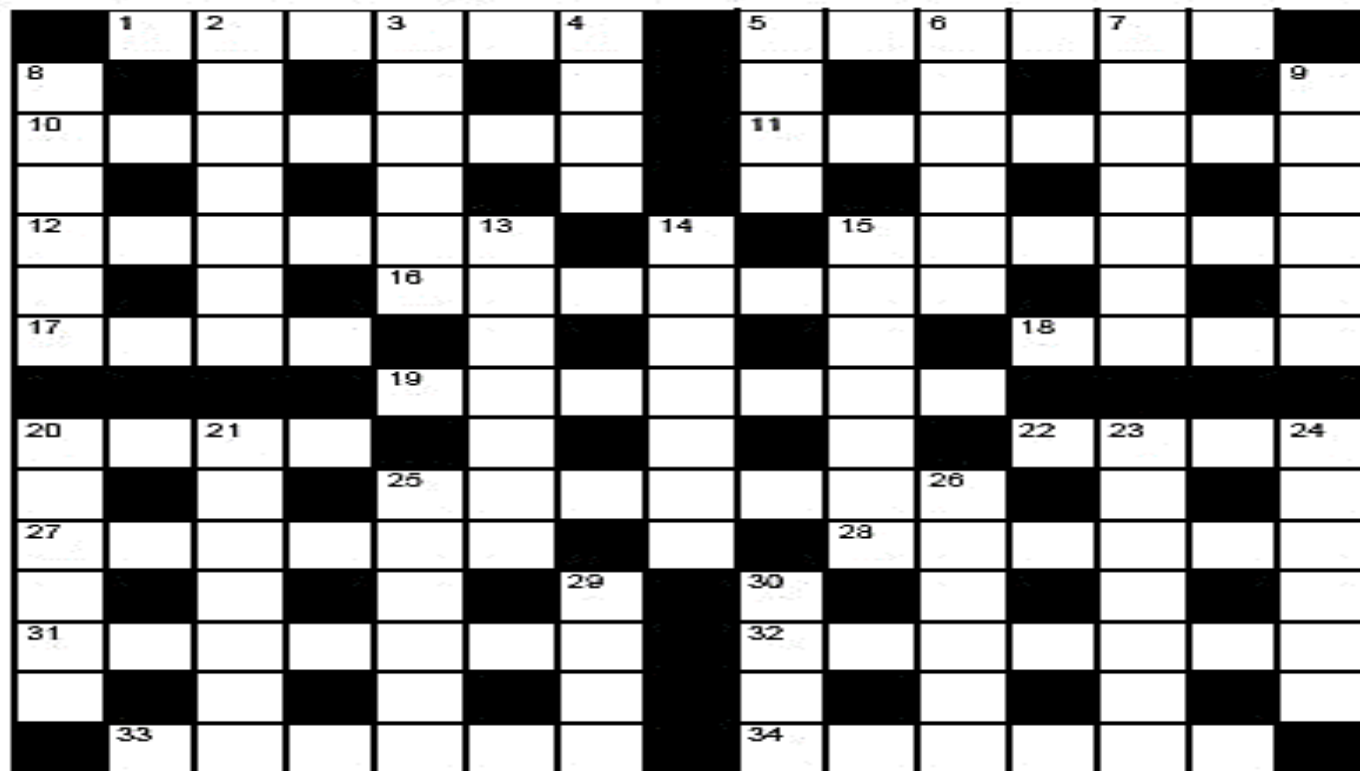
Oh gracious God, open my eyes to see the patterns of the world that are harmful to me. Renew my mind and my spirit that I may serve You with every spiritual gift You've given me. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I pray. Amen.

Across

- 1 A nation referred to in the O.T. and the N.T. (6)
- 5 Teacher; leader (6)
- 10 Letter (7)
- 11 Blood was painted on these (7)
- 12 "Out of the _____ came something sweet" (6)
- 15 Where was Jacob? (6)
- 16 Made unholy (7)
- 17 Ezekiel lay on this for three years (4)
- 18 Very old (4)
- 19 Sure (7)
- 20 Ethiopia (4)
- 22 Remaining (4)
- 25 Naaman's maid, for example (7)
- 27 Seraiah's father (6)
- 28 Land (6)
- 31 Hold inside (7)
- 32 The teaching place of the Ethiopian eunuch (7)
- 33 Jews are renowned for celebrating these (6)
- 34 A child of Caleb & Maachah (6)

Down

- 2 The lame man was too slow to reach this type of water (7)
- 3 To wait on, or be present (6)



by *Philologus*

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- 4 Untruths (4)
- 5 The Promised Land was said to be flowing with this (4)
- 6 We have all done this (6)
- 7 Late in the day (7)
- 8 Animals (6)
- 9 A Philistine city (6)
- 13 Sisera, for example (7)
- 14 A nation in the O.T. neighbouring Israel (7)
- 15 Anyone who comes to God must do this (7)
- 20 Together with 'time' this happens to all (6)
- 21 Did Nadab and Abihu have a match for this? (7)
- 23 Self scrutiny before communion (7)
- 24 Half the time of Jesus' fasting (6)
- 25 Lebanese trees (6)
- 26 Provided by God when we are tempted (6)
- 29 Far extremes of the earth (4)
- 30 Luke Part II ? (4)