

Steve's Puzzles & Stuff-118

“Becoming a Christian is rather like getting married...”



The scriptures speak of Christ as the church's bridegroom. And in becoming Christians, as the bride of Christ, we leave our previous security behind and let Him take over. It's a step of FAITH!

So, let me tell you what faith ISN'T.

Faith is NOT a kind of mystical power, such that, if you believe in something hard enough, you'll make it happen.

I once met a couple at a Christian holiday centre on a day when it was pouring with rain, and said, *"Looks like it's going to be another miserable wet day, doesn't it?"*



The lady said to me, *"Don't say that!"*

"Why not?" I asked.

She said, *"You should say 'it'll be a beautiful day, today!'"*



I said, *"But it WON'T!"*

She said, *"But you should SAY it will."*

"Why?" I asked

She replied, *"Because that's faith!"*

That's not faith. It's not even wishful thinking. It's stupid—and unbiblical.

But a lot of people think that if you believe in something hard enough, you'll make it happen... and that's nonsense. It's magic wand faith that completely fails to take account of what God intends to happen.



(Continued on page 2)

“I think to myself ‘What a wonderful world’”

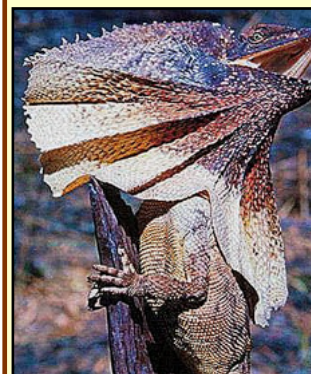
The **Rainbow**
Sea Horse

Is it a plant or
is it an
animal? It's a
Leafy
Seadragon!



**Vampire
Squid** ↓

This frill-necked lizard
runs on its back legs
when frightened. It's
known as the 'bicycle
lizard' in Australia



Long-eared Jerboa—a
variety of mouse
at risk of extinction

**What's the strangest
creature you've seen?**



Faith

(Continued from page 1)

It's a selfish kind of faith, because it doesn't take account of the needs of others who may be desperate for rain.

The second thing faith ISN'T... is that it's not a substitute for facts.

The kind of faith that says, as long as you have facts, rely on them... but once you get to the end of facts THEN use faith, because faith is the ability to believe in what you don't know! *Which is just plain daft!*

The writer to the Hebrews reminds us: (Heb. 11:1-2)

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see..."

Which is quite different.

Faith is NOT a substitute for facts – because facts are necessary for faith.

You see, faith has to be IN something—or someone. It can't exist on its own.

It's like love. You can't just have love on its own!

If you meet a girl dancing down the street, and you ask her why she's dancing... and she replies, *"I'm in love!"*

You may well ask, *"Who's the lucky person?"*

If she replied, *"No one! I'm just in love,"* you'd think, *"That's crazy! You can't just be 'in love' unless you have someone or something to love!"* –

whether it's a person or a gerbill!

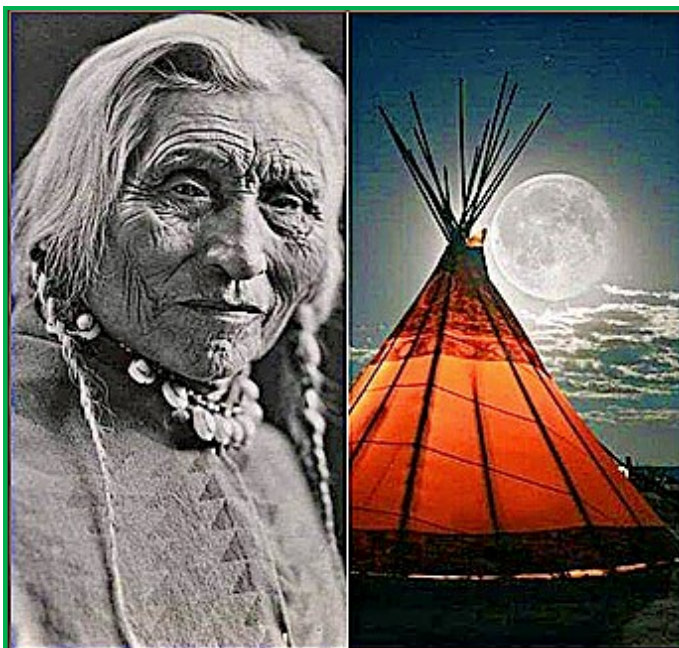


(Continued on page 4)

SUDOKU

The rules of Sudoku are simple. Place a digit from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

		4			7			
1			8	2				3
3	8			4				
8	3	5						6
	7							9
	6					5	4	3
				7			2	6
	2			8	5			9
			6			8		



When NASA was preparing for the Apollo moon landings of the late 60s and early 70s, they did some astronaut training alongside a Navajo Indian reservation.

One day, a Navajo elder and his grandson were herding animals nearby and came across the space crew. The old man, who only spoke Navajo, asked a question, which the grandson translated: *"What are the guys in the big white suits doing?"* A member of the crew explained that they were practising for their trip to the moon.

Then, recognizing a promotional opportunity for the spin-doctors, added, *"We will be leaving behind a special record with greetings in many languages and such. Would the old man be interested in giving us a greeting to include?"*

Upon translation, the old man got really excited and was thrilled at the idea of sending a message to the moon with the astronauts. The NASA folks produced a tape recorder and the old man recorded his message at which the grandson fought back the urge to laugh... but he refused to translate.

After Apollo 11 had successfully landed on the moon and brought its astronauts home, a new group were training in the desert when one of the NASA officials recognized the Navajo elder and his grandson and went to tell them that the old man's message was indeed on the moon which was met with raucous laughter.

Finally, the NASA rep caught on that not everything was as simple as he had originally thought and asked for a translation.

With a chuckle the youngster replied: **"Beware of white man; they come to steal your land!"**

HIDDEN OBJECTS TO FIND AND COLOUR



TELESCOPE



KITE WITH TAIL



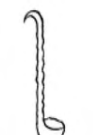
ENVELOPE



LEMON SLICE



BOW TIE



LADLE



FEATHER



BOOK



BANANA



LEAF



FRIED EGG



MUFFIN



NAIL



SLICE OF PIE



BOWL



CROWN

Faith

(Continued from page 2)

Faith is an attitude towards something or someone ... and it's who or what you put your faith in that will determine whether or not it is of any value.

Let me illustrate this.

Some years ago, I took a group of people to Tarn Hows in the Lake District during the Christmas holidays.

It was a really cold winter, and the lake was frozen over. It had been covered in ice for over a week. We got there and found people making slides, skating and even riding bikes and horses on it!



I had been told by the group organisers to check the ice before I allowed anybody on it. These days we would call it carrying out a risk assessment.



So off I went, and jumped up and down on the ice with increasing vigour... not knowing that the BBC was just broadcasting a warning that Tarn Hows was no longer safe for skaters..

Now just supposing I had put a lot of faith in THIN ICE... and with absolute confidence stepped out onto the tarn.

What would have happened?

With absolute confidence, I would have sunk – by faith!

There would have been nothing wrong with my faith – but there would have been an awful lot wrong with the object in which I placed it.

On the other hand, supposing I had put just the tiniest bit of faith in THICK ICE... and very nervously, with a lifebelt around my waist... and a rope tied to the nearest tree... having made sure I'd written my Will... I had stepped onto that ice... I would have walked safely on top of it.

Not because I had lots of faith... but because I placed my faith in something that was *strong*.

The important thing about faith is NOT how much you have – it's what you put it in.

When the disciples asked Jesus, *"Increase our faith"*, He effectively replied, *"No! What matters is NOT how much faith you have but whether you've got any at all."*

Luke 17:5, *"the Lord said, 'If you have faith as a mustard seed' – the tiniest known seed at the time – 'you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the*

roots and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." Mustard seed faith is enough!

We exercise faith all the time – most of the time do it without thinking.

Right now you're exercising faith in the seat you are sitting on. I'll bet you didn't get down on your knees to examine it first.



"Mustard seed faith" is enough to make miracles happen.

I remember the first time I flew in an aeroplane. I was travelling back to Blackpool from Jersey where I had been helping with and speaking at a CMS youth camp.

I remember going to the airport – half-excited because I'd always wanted to fly... but also half-scared because I knew that aircraft sometimes came down when they weren't supposed to do, and people got hurt.

Just imagine yourself in that aircraft, as it flew over the Welsh mountains.



- Some of you are **seasoned fliers**, and might well have sat there reading a book... You've flown lots of times. You have faith in the pilot and the aircraft – so we'll describe you as having **melon-sized faith**.

- Others of you, like me, don't fly so often ... so you are still a mixture of excitement and nerves – you have **potato-sized faith**.



- And finally, there are those who need **anaesthetic just to get you on the plane**... and you sit there, your eyes tight shut, gripping the arm rests with white-knuckles. You have **mustard-seed sized faith**. Terrified, but you made it!



Now the interesting thing is this. Although some of you have melon-sized faith, and some of you have potato-sized faith... and some of you have mustard-seed sized faith... **you would all arrive in Blackpool at the same time as I did!**

Those of you with melon-sized faith won't get there first, followed 10 minutes later by those with potato-sized faith... and half an hour after that by those with mustard-seed sized faith.

We all arrive together for the simple reason that – however much faith we have – we have all put it in the right place. It wasn't your faith that took you from Jersey to Blackpool – it was the aircraft,

And in the same way, it isn't your faith that saves you – it is **Jesus Christ** in whom you place that faith.

So, if you are struggling with your faith, remember 1 John 4:4 this week and keep saying to yourself:

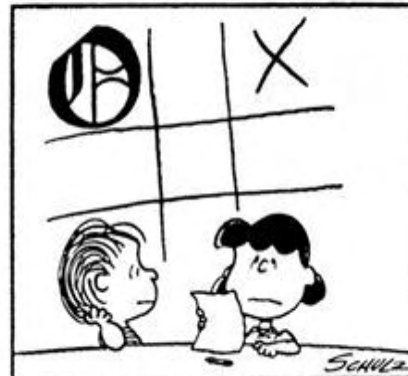
"Greater is he that is in ME than he that is in the world."

Spot 10 Differences



Quiz Time

1. St. Mary's, St. Martins and Tresco are all islands in which group?
2. What does the 'V' stand for in DVD?
3. What is a "muggle" according to the Harry Potter books?
4. The comic strip "Batman" is set in which fictional city?
5. Name the top 10 hit singles with "Green" in their title from the following artists: (i) Tom Jones (1966), (ii) Booker T and the MGs (1979), (iii) Shakin' Stevens (1981), (iv) Will Young (2002) and (v) Ultrabeat (2003)
6. What are a male and female badger called?
7. In which year did National Service in the UK end?
8. Name the five brothers that made up The Jackson Five.
9. What is produced in a "ginnery"?
10. Which US state has the lowest population?
11. Which wedding anniversary is associated with the following gifts, (i) China, (ii) Crystal, (iii) Leather, (iv) Pearl, and (v) Coral
12. Which two Scottish football league teams names when combined form the name of an English football league side?
13. On which island would you find the Statue of Liberty?
14. Name the 15 UK Prime Ministers that served Queen Elizabeth II.
15. Which 3 languages did Jesus speak?
16. Which year in the Chinese calendar are we currently in?
17. Who in the Bible had a kinsman called Herodian?
18. Which detective had an elder brother named Mycroft?
19. The "Claret Jug" is the trophy awarded in which sporting competition?
20. How many of the TWELVE astronauts who have walked on the moon were Boy Scouts?



This cartoon reminded me of when I was in my teens and taught myself to write Old English script using a calligraphy pen with a nib that is wide in one direction and thin in the other.

Happy memories! Wonder if I could still do it? **On the other hand, my PC has two Old English fonts built in!** Easier, maybe, but not as much fun!



Code Word Puzzle

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	12	22	17	24	10	21			11		2	17	25
2		17			9		24	19	15	18	17		24
3	25	24	11	11	15	17	16		19		1		5
4		9			25		24		26	7	15	19	18
5	12	5	24	9	25	24	20	18			11		10
6		18			11		18		5		18		24
7	13	9	18	3	18	9		4	14	18	18	9	8
8	9		9		12		24		9			18	
9	26		17			25	9	17	18	12	26	16	18
10	23	26	19	21	24		25		24			26	
11	18		15		12		26	17	5	11	15	23	18
12	9		5	24	21	18	6		18			18	
13	1	18	18		12			17	6	5	15	19	8

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	J				N							
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Enter the letter in each circled cell in the order given below to reveal a themed answer:

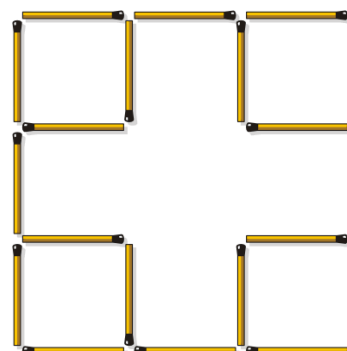
9J	11G	3C	11E	3M	2I	7H	12L

Brain Teasers

1. What invention allows you to look right through a wall?
2. Mississippi has four S's and four I's. Can you spell that without using S or I?
3. What four-letter word can be written forwards, backwards or upside down, and can still be read from left to right?
4. I have 13 hearts, but no lungs or stomach. What am I?
5. What are the next three letters in this sequence: O, T, T, F, F, S, S— what comes next?

Matchsticks

Move TWO matchsticks to get SEVEN squares



God, thank you for loving me when I have doubts. Sometimes I am not even aware that you are there.

Sometimes I doubt that you exist; and if you do exist, I doubt that you even know anything about me. I admit that I feel alone or afraid during times of doubt. Please help me, God, to celebrate and embrace my doubt as a way of seeing you in fresh and amazing ways.

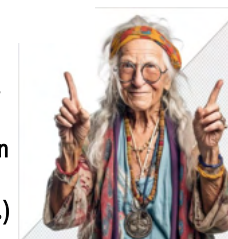
I echo the prayer of the man who told Jesus "I believe, help my unbelief." God, I do believe, but sometimes my faith is weak. Help me to believe you in all that I do. Amen.



Greatest Hits Radio—60s

If you're ancient pop fans like Sue (born in the 50s) and me (born in the 40s) you'll be delighted to discover the new radio channel, "Greatest Hits Radio 60s" which has just joined the Greatest Hits family of stations. Hear and sing along to your old favourites with hardly any adverts! We travelled to Peterborough the other day and remembered each one they played!

(NB Lots of radio stations have been removed from Freeview because few listen there. You now need the Rayo app or a digital radio.)



Puzzle Answers

Quiz

- The Scilly Isles.
- Versatile.
- A "normal" person with no magical powers.
- Gotham City.
- (i) Tom Jones = Green, Green Grass of Home,
(ii) Booker T and the MGs = Green Onions,
(iii) Shakin' Stevens = Green Door,
(iv) Will Young = Evergreen and
(v) Ultrabeat = Pretty Green Eyes.
- Boars and Sows.
- 1960
- Jackie, Tito, Marlon, Jermaine and Michael Jackson.
- Cotton.
- Wyoming, not Alaska as you might have expected.
- (i) China / Porcelain = 20th,
(ii) Crystal = 15th,
(iii) Leather = 3rd
(iv) Pearl = 30th and
(v) Coral = 35th.
- Queen's Park and Rangers combine to form Queens Park Rangers.
- Liberty Island.
- Winston Churchill, Anthony Eden, Harold MacMillan, Alec Douglas-Home, Harold Wilson, Edward Heath, James Callaghan, Margaret Thatcher, John Major, Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, David Cameron, Theresa May, Boris Johnson, Liz Truss.
- Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.
- The dragon.
- Paul (Romans 16:11).
- Sherlock Holmes.
- The Open Golf Championship.
- Eleven (James Irwin, Apollo 15[1971] was the only one not to have been a scout).

Want to try again?

"On board the train, trapped by falls of earth were 1½ passengers, mostly female."

(Exeter paper)

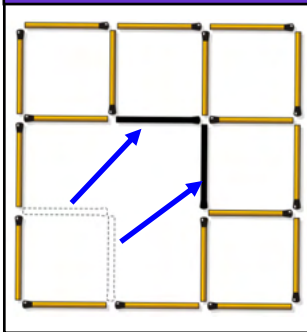
"The Council is pulling the bread and butter out from under our feet."

(Hants paper)

"After consuming about 100 portions of chips, 28 lb of sausages, rolls, ice cream and cake, Mrs Morgan presented the trophies to the boys."

(Local paper)

Matchsticks



Spot 10 Differences



Dingbats

- Bag Pipers (*Bag-pi-purse*).
- Pilates (*Pi-lattes*).
- Pork Pie.
- A finger in every pie.
- Pi(e) Chart.
- Pie and Mash.
- Pie-eyed.
- Piebald pony**



- Pie in the Sky.
- Piping hot (*Pi-pin-hot*).
- Stargazy pie.**



- Peter Piper picked (*nose*) a peck (*hen*) of pickled peppers.

Sudoku

2	9	4	3	5	7	6	8	1
1	5	7	8	2	6	9	3	4
3	8	6	9	4	1	7	5	2
8	3	5	2	9	4	1	6	7
4	7	1	5	6	3	2	9	8
9	6	2	7	1	8	5	4	3
5	1	8	4	7	9	3	2	6
6	2	3	1	8	5	4	7	9
7	4	9	6	3	2	8	1	5

Brain Teasers

- A window.
- T-H-A-T.
- NOON.
- A pack of cards.
- E, N, T. The letters are the first letters of the written numbers: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven. "Eight, nine, ten" are next.

Hidden Objects



Cryptoquote

"Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king."

(2 Kings 9:13)

(I didn't understand it either until I looked further. It seems they piled up their clothes to make a big cushion or make-shift throne for Jehu.)

Code Word

S	Q	U	A	W	K		L		J	U	G
	U		R		A	D	I	E	U		A
G	A	L	L	I	U	M		D	B		T
	R		G		A		O	X	I	D	E
S	T	A	R	G	A	Z	E		L		W
	E		L		E		T		E		A
P	R	E	F	E	R		C	H	E	E	R
R		R		S		A		R			E
O		U		G		R	U	E	S		O
V	O	D	K	A		G		A			O
E		I		S			O		U	T	L
R		T	A	K	E	N		E			E
B	E	E		S				U	N	T	I

Keyword: SOLSTICE

Next magazine in 2 weeks time on the weekend we put the clocks BACK!