

Christian Light Publications

OPPORTUNITY

ECCLESIASTES II:I-6

1. *Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.*

So take of yourself, scatter it about pervasively—everywhere you can. You won't lose by it—you never lose by giving of yourself. You always gain. In the end it will repay you.

2. *Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.*

Think of the unjust steward in Luke 16—how he used his master's goods to make friends so that he would have someone to receive him when he lost his job. In other words, help everybody you can, so that when you are in need (and you *will* be sometime) you'll have those who care about you because you cared about them.

3. *If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be.*

4. *He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.*

Scatter even when the conditions don't seem likely to produce good. Maybe that person is "cloudy"—

gloomy and discouraged, angry, or just plain out of sorts. Scatter to him anyway. Maybe your own circumstances are such that you're having a difficult time even feeling cheerful; scatter anyway.

5. *As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.*

Your job is to scatter. You don't know how the seed actually germinates, sprouts, etc. But you know that it does. You don't know how God can and may use what you give of yourself. But do it because you love Him—even though it be a tiny thing—and He can and will use it for His glory.

6. *In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.*

Your job is to scatter—now. You don't know which seed will fall on fertile ground—or if any will. But if you don't scatter it, who will? But our God scatters His blessings freely on both the just and the unjust. Be like Him. Freely you have received; freely . . . scatter! ■

– Keith Crider

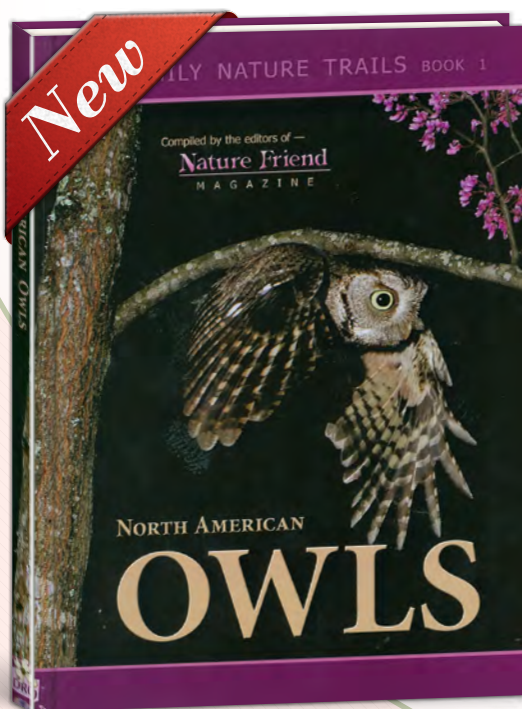




Regina Now in Spanish! *Christmas Carol Kauffman*

The 1500s were stirring times in Europe. Luther nailed his ninety-five theses to a church door in Germany, exploding a powder keg of unrest that seethed for decades. Against this background, Regina Strahm found herself caught between two religious factions in Switzerland. Her parents repeatedly warned her against the Anabaptist heresy, but why then did Zwingli's official religion fail to satisfy? And why were the Anabaptists willing to die for their faith? Regina discovered why, and found a joy she had never before known.

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North American Owls

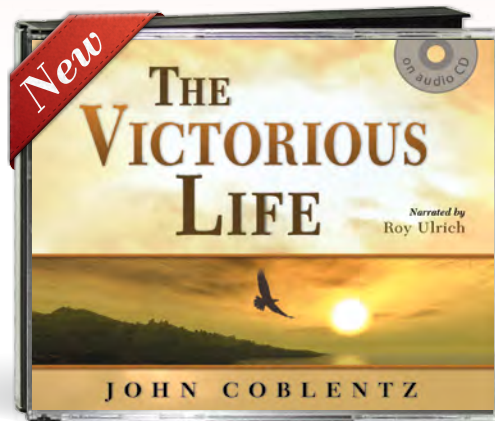
Compiled by
the editors of
Nature Friend
Magazine

"... The owl watching me from the tree began to bob his head this way and that. The mouse on the stump had clearly caught his attention. When the owl leaned forward and silently left his perch, I knew this would be the night. Within moments, the owl passed over the infrared sensors and the camera fired. The system had worked, but was the photo sharp?"

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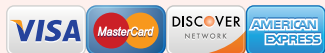
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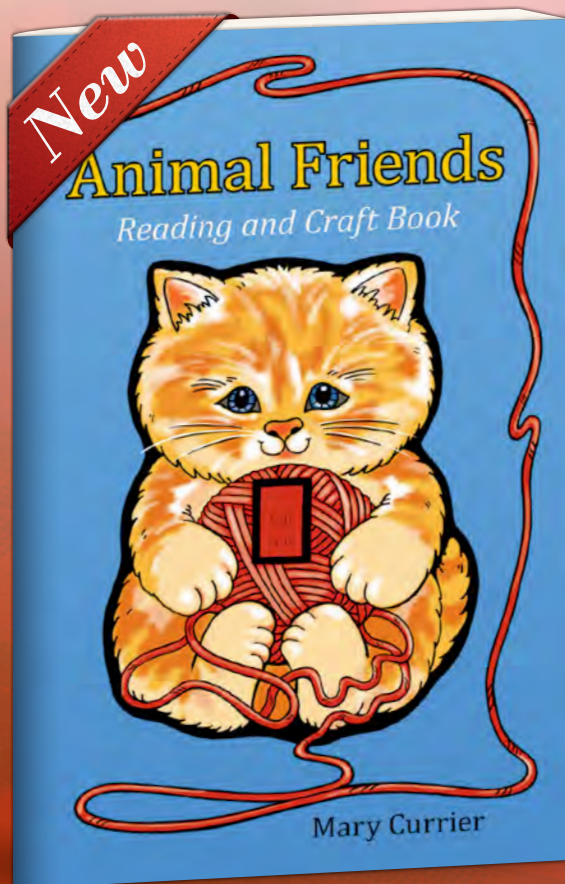
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