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An AGR humbling experience exposed

It seems only my mom and my wife noticed there wasn't a newsletter from ActofGraceRadio.net last month. It was my own little market test to just see if anyone cared, commented, showed the least concern, or even thanked me for not filling up another spot in their inbox. And the answer, it turns out, was a resounding—none of the above. Regardless, I'm persuaded to not be deterred by this and will judiciously muddle on as if this was actually something you anxiously anticipated with bated breath. (If not, then you'd best scroll on down to the bottom of this text and get yourself unsubscribed.)

So I say to anyone still hanging in here with me that feedback, although not essential, would actually be a resourceful element for this outreach. For one thing I hope I'm not wasting my time or yours in compiling one of these each month. (For instance, based on relative ADI —attention deficit issues—maybe a quarterly newsletter is better. C'mon now, don't anyone suggest bi-annually...please.)

Now a full four years into this ministry thing, I'm once again trying to evaluate its overall effectiveness. The verdict seemingly remains in a static state of limbo, so your opinion does matter, as a matter of fact.

Flooded studio issues finally getting resolved

It's a good thing something like this doesn't happen too often. Obviously I'm not particularly swift about getting repairs made. June 1 actually began the official start of hurricane season here on the Gulf Coast...and we didn't even get a lick of damage from IKE last year. (So you'll have to go to prior newsletters for more info regarding the cause of the studio damage.)

Beyond just pulling the "gotta spend the money" trigger, there have been all those other little issues to vacillate between. Like maybe upgrading this or that (maybe this and that) and getting away from what I'd really like and back to only what I really-really need. Apart from the whole process being incredibly time consuming, it's certainly been nerve-racking as well. It now appears that in the next couple of weeks we are finally going to git-er-done! The end results will be a new door that leads to the patio and a not so run-of-the-mill carpet remnant (professionally installed...I might add). The best thing is, they should both still be under warranty when the next "BIG ONE" makes Houston its primary target.



*-Brother, have you now found Jesus?
-Nope. Are you sure this is where He fell in?*

Etc., etcetera, &ct.

Our new church home, that one of the Southern Baptist persuasion, has come to grips with the hard realization that they've slipped into becoming a church in decline. They aren't exactly dead yet, but the pulse has gotten pretty weak of late.

But some really impressive news has resulted from this. The proverbial "powers that be" are now embarking on a concerted effort to turn things around and see if the patient can be resuscitated.

What's so cool is they're going to God first, in prayer, for help and guidance.



The Rare Thailand Parrot Flower

An actual photo of one of God's wondrous creations! This was emailed to me by a ministry partner.

What the Bible sez:

"Jesus looking at him the [rich] man, loved him and said, '...Go and sell everything you have, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me.'

He was very sad to hear Jesus say this, and he left sorrowfully, because he was rich."

Mark 10:21,22 (NCV)

This NCV version was used because it's shorter than some others. (Sometimes it's nothing more than a space issue.) Nevertheless, these are truly some rather difficult words for anybody to hear from Jesus. I'm sure glad he was talking to that rich man and not to me.

Oh, but in both Matthew's and Luke's gospel accounts this encounter is also referenced...hmmm. For me, this easily ranks in the top three of all the hard sayings from our Lord.

Now, were I to compare what I have to someone else I could rationally make the case, "Obviously I haven't placed my trust in worldly riches." But I'm not so sure that would be totally honest.

Indeed the Bible instructs we are not to be a burden to others and responsibly care for our own needs, our family, and even the church. But I know as I gaze upon many of the items I've been blessed with...some might be hard to part with. Surely though, our focus is intended to be upon the Rewarder and not on the rewards themselves.