

the Golden Circle

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The Unyielding Mountain

The restless wind surged across the earth, tearing through valleys, bending trees and lifting dust into swirling skies. It reveled in its might and took pride in the way the world submitted to its force. But then, there was the mountain.

Let's Make A Deal

Let Me Save
You Taxes

(See Insert)

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No matter how fiercely the wind howled or how violently it struck, the mountain stood firm. It did not bend, break or waver. It simply stood, immovable and vast as though the wind was no more than a fleeting breath.



The wind grew enraged and summoned its full power. It screamed through crags, summoned storms to batter the rock and lashed icy gales against the towering peaks. Yet the mountain endured, calm, steady and unbothered.

Finally, exhausted and defeated, the wind roared, "Why do you not fall? Everything else bows before me."

The mountain rumbled with quiet laughter. "I do not fall because I do not resist," it said. "I do not fight you, nor do I run. I simply am. And so, I endure."

The wind paused, its fury ebbing into thought. Throughout its life, it was determined to assert its strength. Yet here was the mountain, powerful without struggle, strong without force.

Humbled, the wind softened and moved on, but gentler than before. And the mountain remained, unshaken, unyielding and utterly at peace.

True strength lies not in resistance or force but in calm endurance and steadfast presence.

Rick Miller

Your Trusted Financial Advisor for Life

Do you have any silly jokes, hard riddles, strange questions that you would like to share with our CSI family?

Send your suggestions to dtalamantes@csiwealth.org

Southern Fried Cabbage

Ingredients (Yields 6 servings)

- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 3 slices bacon, cut into thirds
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper, or to taste
- 1 head cabbage, cored and sliced
- 1 white onion, chopped
- 1 pinch white sugar



Instructions

1. Gather all ingredients.
2. Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat; add sliced bacon and season with salt and pepper. Cook until bacon is crisp, 5 to 7 minutes.
3. Add cabbage, onion, and sugar; cook and stir continuously until cabbage and onion are tender, about 5 to 10 minutes.
4. Serve and enjoy!

Prep Time: 10 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

April Quiz Question

Q: Which of the following is NOT a fruit?

- A. Rhubarb
- B. Tomatoes
- C. Avocados
- D. Olive

Call in or email your response by **Friday, April 18, 2025**, and if you have the correct answer, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 gift card to your favorite restaurant!

Call: (855) 998-3888

or

Email: info@csiwealth.org

Don't delay – Make your guess today. Good Luck!!

Unique Words

(That Are Tons of Fun To Work Into Random Conversations)

Erinaceous - This is a strange one; it refers to something or someone who resembles a hedgehog. If someone ever says that you are looking quite erinaceous today, you know now to give them a penetrating, evil glare.

Pauciloquent - If you are a person of few words, then this is the term for you. It refers to someone who doesn't say much or who, when giving a speech, gives a very short one. This is a great way for you to tell people you are a person of few words, without having to say that whole long statement. Give this a try next time and see what happens.

Bloviate - This is the opposite of pauciloquent and refers to people who talk for a long period of time or who inflate their story to make themselves sound better. This also refers to someone whose words are empty and have no meaning.

Comeuppance - This is definitely a word you probably heard your grandparents use at some point and it is used in many films set in the 1920s to the 1950s or 60s. This is a fun word and it should be used more than it is. It means that someone will get what they deserve or will "get their just deserts."

The Bridge We Were Meant To Cross



My brother and I were driving home, caught up in conversation, when he accidentally took a wrong turn.

The wrong turn led us toward a bridge with no way

to turn back, forcing my brother to grudgingly pay the \$4 toll. He was clearly frustrated by the mistake.

As we took the next exit, my brother noticed a beat-up black Mustang on the side of the road. A young man stood nearby, trying to make a call. While I was figuring out our next move, my brother pulled over and asked if he needed help. He did—his car had a flat tire and he needed a wrench.

My brother handed him a wrench and helped change the flat. As they worked, we got to know the young man, who was from a rough neighborhood and had already had a bad week—first a minor accident, and now this. He called us “a breath of fresh air” and was so grateful that we had stopped. After we finished, he offered us \$20, but my brother said, “No. We weren’t even supposed to be on that bridge. Now we know it was to help you. Thanks for turning our mistake into an opportunity to serve.”

What I loved most was watching my brother throughout this process. He transformed his frustration into positive energy and saw an opportunity to help—something I completely missed—which comes only from a calm mind and an open heart.



The Secret Life Of April Showers

April showers do more than bring May flowers; they tell a fascinating story. Each raindrop begins as a tiny water particle clinging to dust in the atmosphere and then growing until it falls to refresh our soil and fuel our life.

Fun fact: The smell of rain, called petrichor, comes from oils released by plants and soil. It’s nature’s way of saying, “Let’s grow!”

This month, take a moment to appreciate the beauty and purpose of every drop.



April Riddles

1. The sharp slim blade, that cuts the wind. What is it?
2. I can be hot, I can be cold, I can run and I can be still, I can be hard and I can be soft. What am I?
3. How do you divide 10 apples into 11 people?
4. What does a cat have that no other animal has?

Answers on Page 7

Out of the Mouths of Babes

True story submitted by Grace Ibanez

One hot summer Saturday, I was 9 months pregnant, resting at home with the air conditioner on, and taking care of my 7-year-old. My daughter turned to me and asked, "Mama, can we go someplace?"

"Like where?" I asked. "The park?" she suggested.

"It's too hot to go to the park," I replied.

"How about miniature golf?" "It's still too hot outside."

"I know!" she said excitedly. "How about the movies? It's cool inside."

I glanced at the clock and sighed. "Vanessa, we missed the matinee."

With a sweet smile, Vanessa shrugged and said, "It's okay, Mama. We can always go to the matinee!"

I couldn't help but laugh.

Client of the Month

Congratulations to our
Client of the Month:

**Glenn & Grace
Onishi**

From
Torrance, CA

As a Client of the Month
you will receive a **\$50 gift
card** to your favorite
restaurant.

The Homeless Man

It was the middle of February and the winter cold was continuing to hang on here in the mountains of my home. To top it off my ten year old winter coat's zipper had broken. I tried putting a new one on it but it was still hard to zip up so I decided that maybe it was finally time to get a new winter coat.

As I was pulling into the store parking lot, though, I saw them. It was a homeless man sitting at the entrance with his dog. He patiently held a sign asking for help while car after car drove by him. In that moment my heart took control and I pulled over to give him some money. Then I drove away, went in the store, and got my new coat. As I was about to drive off I saw that he was still there. I drove down to the entrance again and this time got out to talk with him.

He was younger than I first realized with long hair but bright eyes. He had the sadness and weariness you see in the homeless but there was also a sense of kindness and hope in his spirit. While he looked skinny his dog looked healthy and well cared for. It was clear to me that even though he was homeless, his heart was still at home with God. I gave him some extra money and then pulled out my old coat. I told him about the zipper sticking and said if he couldn't use it maybe he could find someone who could. He smiled like an angel and said he was sure that he could. Then I asked him if there was anything else I could do to help him and he smiled again and said "prayers." I shook his hand and promised him that he would be in my prayers.



I learned a lot from that homeless man. I learned that the hardest life can't break a loving heart. I learned that every act of kindness in this life is priceless. And I realized that we are all traveling to the same destination. It is best then that we make the long, hard journey with a joyful spirit, a hopeful heart, a loving soul, and a smiling face.

U.S. Presidential History: April

- **April 2, 1917** - President Woodrow Wilson asks Congress to declare war against Germany. "*The world must be made safe for democracy,*" proclaimed the President on this day.
- **April 7, 1913** - A large women's suffrage parade took place in Washington, D.C., organized by **Alice Paul** and **Lucy Burns**, to demand the right to vote, drawing a massive crowd and resulting in a chaotic scene where marchers faced harassment and police inaction.
- **April 8, 1935** - President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Emergency Relief Appropriation Act to help struggling Americans during the Great Depression. Through the Act, Congress allowed the President to use \$5 million for public assistance, the largest ever relief programs in the country's history.
- **On April 18, 1906** - the **Great San Francisco Earthquake** struck at 5:12 a.m. with a magnitude estimated between 7.8 and 8.3. The violent shaking lasted approximately 45 to 60 seconds and caused widespread destruction. The earthquake's epicenter was located near the coast of Northern California, but its effects were felt as far as southern Oregon and central Nevada.

March Quiz Winner

Q: What is the most common color of toilet paper in France?

A. Pink

Dan Gonzales
From
Pasadena, CA

Congratulations!
You've won a \$50 gift card to
your favorite restaurant!



Cartoon Stock - Order #651603



Cartoon Stock - Order #651604

I Wish You Enough!



I overheard a father and daughter at an airport in their last moments together. They had announced her plane's departure, and standing near the door; he said to his daughter, "I love you; I wish you enough."

She said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy." They kissed goodbye, and she left.

He walked over toward the window where I was seated. Standing there, I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say goodbye to someone knowing it would be forever?" "Yes, I have," I replied.

Saying that brought back memories of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me. So I knew what this man was experiencing.

"Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever goodbye?" I asked.

"I am old, and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead, and the reality is, her next trip back will be for my funeral," he said.

"When you were saying goodbye I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"

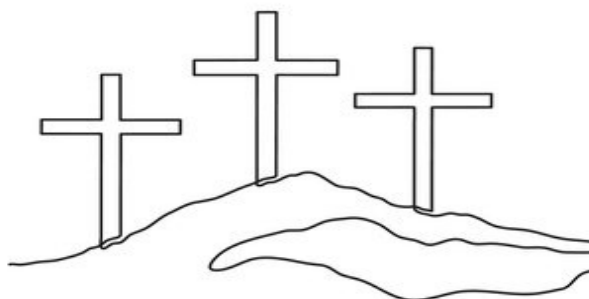
He began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail; he smiled even more.

"When we said 'I wish you enough,' we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them," he continued and then turning toward me he shared the following as if he were reciting it from memory.

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish enough "Hello's" to get you through the final "Goodbye."

He then began to sob and walked away.

HE IS
Risen
HAPPY EASTER



APRIL – HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CLIENTS & FRIENDS



Gloria E. (1), Bob N. (1), Noemi R. (2), Sandra G. (2), Bob H. (3), Bob R. (3), Irina L. (3), Rosetta G. (3), Mark S. (3), Don C. (4), Noi M. (4), Travis N. (4), Edward C. (4), Hector G. (4), Linda S. (4), Kerri I. (5), Chris L. (5), Karen K. (5), Salli M. (5), Steve B. (5), Karen T. (6), Laura C. (6), Brian L. (6), John N. (6), Robert S. (6), Becky D. (6), Irene W-S. (6), Stacy M. (7), Katherine DeV. (8), Raymond Y. (7), Diana D. (8), Dolores F. (8), Darrell T. (8), Jairo M. (9), Judy. H. (9), Angela E. (9), James T. (9), Karen E. (9), Kelli F. (10), Stella B. (10), Alina T. (10), Pilar M. (11), David C. (11), Irma C. (11), Ted S. (11), Liz. W. (12), Tim F. (12), Tom F. (12), Gregory Cox. (12), Danny P. (12), Doug C. (12), Loretta T. (13), Bertile T. (12), Debra P. (14), Lulu Y. (16), Elizabeth T. (15), Chatur P. (15), Maged A. (15), Albert L. (15), Clifford F. (15), Marc C. (16), Dr. Sunanda C. (16), Teri Z. (16), Joy G. (17), Marlene R. (17), Reuven D. (17), Helen H. (17), Mary W. (17), Pablo H. (18), Denis S. (18), Rose Mary McG. (18), Arlette W. (19), Mark L. (19), Sonia M. (19), Peter M. (19), Victor N. (20), Michael S. (20), William L. (20), Robert A. (20), Thelma C. (20), Beth C. (20), Susan G. (20), Janet Van G. (21), Andrew L. (21), Beth R. (21), Terry S. (21), Alfredo N. (22), Ana G. (22), Diana S. (22), Paul G. (23), Frank C. (24), Glenn O. (24), Kathleen T. (24), Laura McL. (24), Virginia L. (24), Janine A. (24), John S. (25), Reggie M. (25), Connie W. (25), Evelyn K. (26), Maria C. (26), Claudia O. (27), Shirley F. (27), Mary H. (27), Lisa S. (27), Kanak P. (28), Mary K-M. (28), Ruth W. (29), Enrique O. (29), Doug D. (29), Ann K. (29), Faustino L. (30), Catherine D. (30)

RIDDLE ANSWERS: 1) A blade of grass 2) Water 3) Make Applesauce 4) Kittens

the Golden Circle



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CSI

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Go Green:

Recycle This Newsletter!

After you've enjoyed my newsletter, please recycle it by passing it along to a family member, friend, neighbor or coworker.

Beautiful Bride

He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, "Pick me up."

He looked around and couldn't see anyone.

He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice say again, "Pick me up."

He looked in the water and there, floating on the top, was a frog.

The man said, "Are you talking to me?"

The frog said, "Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up, then kiss me, and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. I'll make sure that all your friends are envious and jealous because I will be your bride!"

The man looked at the frog for a short time, reached over, picked it up carefully, and placed it in his front pocket.



The frog said, "What, are you nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride."

He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said, "Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog."

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