

# The Lakeview Lamp

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* - Psalm 119:105

**October 1, 2006**

## *Veggies Tell*

Troy Nicholson

Let me begin by saying that I am not a huge VeggieTales fan, so I am not necessarily trying to defend them. That being said, though, the recent edits to the television debut of the animated veggies tell us much about where our media stands.

It all began when NBC decided to air VeggieTales episodes with Saturday morning cartoons. Their co-creator edited them for length, and then NBC ordered them edited more for references to God and the Bible. NBC made it clear from the beginning that biblical verses routinely recited at the end of the episodes would have to be eliminated. It then said that lines such as "The Bible says we should love our enemies" and "God can give us strength, too...the power to love our enemy and even be kind to them" must also be cut. The show's signature sign off, "God made you special, and He loves you very much," was too much for NBC who changed it to "Thanks for coming over to my house, kids. See you next week."

Why would NBC decide to broadcast VeggieTales but then insist on making such edits? NBC said it was "committed to the positive messages and universal values of VeggieTales. Our goal is to reach as broad an audience as possible with these positive messages while being careful not to advocate any one religious point of view." Basically, it wanted to make money off their popularity but didn't want to offend anyone by saying too much about God. Have you ever hesitated to mention God or confess your allegiance to Him for fear of what others may think?

As other readers noted, while editing references to God, NBC continues to allow all types of immorality unedited (at least only editing as much as the law requires) and is always pushing the envelope to see what else it can get away with airing. Isaiah's words well apply: "*Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness*" (**Isaiah 5:20**).

The co-creator of the veggies said, "It seems like its OK to talk about the Bible or God as a historical story, but not to give it any application to daily life." What about you? Do you just talk about the Bible, or do you truly apply it to your daily life? Do you claim that it is the most important book in your life but hardly ever read it? It's the application that makes the difference. Even the veggies can tell you that!

## *The Portrait of a Soul Winner*

Author unknown, edited

Their **EYES** are ever searching for a receptive heart in which to plant the word of God.

*“Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest” (John 4:35).*

Their **MOUTHS** are speaking the good news to those who need to hear it.

*“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him” (Acts 8:35).*

Their **HANDS** are always turning the pages of God’s holy word, seeking His will for them.

*“From childhood you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 3:15).*

Their **FEET** are on the move to carry out the words of Christ to every person.

*“They were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria...Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word” (Acts 8:1, 4).*

Their **HEARTS** are beating and breaking with the urgency to reach the lost.

*“Woe is me if I do not preach the gospel” (1 Corinthians 9:16).*

Their **HEADS** are bowed in prayer to God asking for courage and wisdom to carry out this great mission.

*“And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your servants may speak Your word with all boldness” (Acts 4:29).*

*“How great are Your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep.” –  
Psalm 92:5*

# **Family News**

**Bonnie Sue Brown** was slightly injured on Friday.

**Virginia Bryant** had surgery three Wednesdays ago. She is doing better.

Remember **Mary Burnett**. **Jean**, the lady who stays with her and helps her, fell and broke three ribs a few weeks ago. She is now doing better.

There is a new report in the back from **Wilson Copeland** (China).

**Dorothy Davis**, Troy's grandmother, is back in Maury Regional Hospital and had a feeding tube inserted Friday. Recent tests indicate that she has had a series of mini-strokes.

**Metty Fain** fell and broke her hip three Fridays ago. That night they performed surgery to repair it. She is now in room B2 at Highland Park in Portland. Her address is: 215 Highland Circle Dr. Portland TN 37148.

**Sandlyn Fultz** received great results from her scans (now every 9-months). **Barry Fultz** is scheduled to go to the Mayo Clinic on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

There is a new report in the back from **Gary Hunt** (NY, NY).

**Sandra Hunt** started her shots on Friday. She thinks the shot has already helped some with her pain. She is scheduled to have two more shots.

**Sara Hurt**, who used to be a member here, is currently receiving rehabilitation. She should be back home soon.

Her address is: 5989 Alff Way Cookeville TN 38506

**Larry Miller**, Candy Jenkins' father, is in Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN. He is in very serious condition with heart problems and ARDS.

There is a new report in the back from **Bob Nichols** (Japan).

**Fran Pickens** is having problems with diabetes and asthma.

**Cotton and Nancy Read** are both having eye problems.

Remember **Laura Reed**. She remains about the same (weak, no energy).

**Ame White** is having breathing problems. She was at the doctor on Friday. This was the start of a long series of doctor visits, check ups and tests.

**Robert Wray** returns to the eye doctor on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Out of town, travelling, or visiting:* **Robert & Candy Jenkins**.

## **Lakeview church of Christ**

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*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).*