

Aunt Peg's Blessings...

Sometimes we wonder if we are making any impact at all for God's Kingdom. But the scriptures say 'For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them' (Ep 2:10 NKJV). He did the preparations before He even laid the foundation of the earth. Often it's the simple everyday things we do that can impact people's lives for years to come, and yet we have no clue that God is even using what we are doing. My Great Aunt's impact on my household is one example of this...

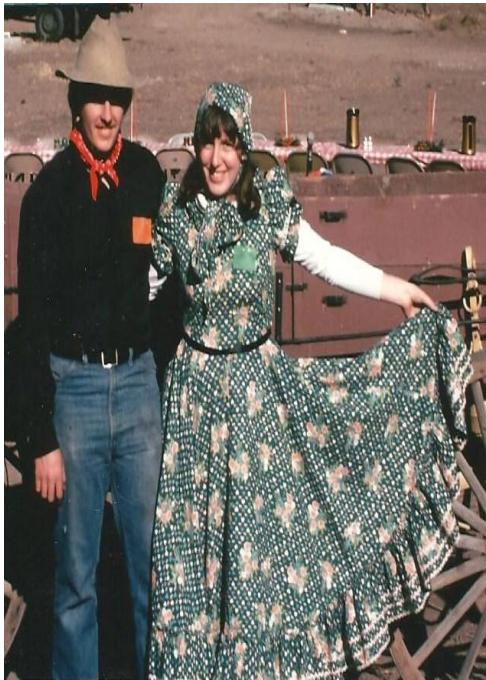
I was born in the USA, but when I was 10 my family moved to Australia. I came back 10½ years later with 2 suitcases & a guitar, just after my Great Grandmother had passed away. About 16 months later I became a wife. Soon afterwards my Great Aunt Peg gave me some stuff that had belonged to my Great Grandparents (her in-laws). Aunt Peg, who was a rock solid Believer, had no idea how the LORD would use those items in my life. She had already sold or given away most of their other belongings, but for some reason, the LORD had these particular items set aside for us. At the time I was grateful for anything I could get my hands on for setting up house. Among the stuff she gave us were my Great Grandparent's recliners, an huge old homemade trunk that contained a couple of newspapers from when President Kennedy was assassinated, & one of my Great Grandmother's square dancing dresses. (The rest of the trunk was empty!) Among the other items was a box of old plastic bead necklaces.



We used the recliners for years, until they wore out, & then we replaced them with others. Then those wore out. Then we replaced them! And probably since then those too have been replaced. (We've been married for almost 35 years & have moved 7 times, so I've lost count.) Currently we have 2 down stairs, side by side... one is for my husband & the other is for the dog! (It's a Montana thing!!) My Great Aunt started something... The rule of thumb is that our house has to have at least one recliner for a certain hard-working husband. (& so far, none of the recliners have been brand new. They've just had to be functional... very fictional, including a comfortable back rest for the cat to cozy up on!) Those first 2 recliners were also a refuge & a source of comfort to our little niece, traumatized by the insecurity of her parent's separation & eventual divorce. She rocked in those recliners endlessly, every chance she got, which was often, because we shared the same roof with her dad the first 2 years we were married. (& at the time, we didn't know that she was allergic to cats! Back in those days we didn't know hardly anything, 'cause we were in our early 20s.)

And as for the box of plastic bead necklaces, they must have been a little dilapidated because I took them apart, & then with my niece & nephew, we restrung them into a pretty garland for the Christmas tree, adding the white plastic bells from one of my bridal shower cakes. Over the years, not only have I used them on our Christmas Tree, but also in one of my props for the ministry.

http://www.w-rocs.org/homeschool_material/messiah_in_hebrew_alphabet_part1.pdf



And then there's the Green Square Dance Dress: When I was young, I wore it for special occasions. My niece also wore it sometimes for a costume. More recently, when I needed a skirt for Messianic Jewish Dancing, I used the skirt part of the dress, along with its ruffle, for the pattern. The result was an awesome denim blue skirt that swishes & swirls with the music & the movements of the dance. I've worn it to dance in at 2 different Passovers so far. It also makes a very modest outfit when presenting a Creation Science message to a very conservative bunch of Montana women.

But I think the thing that amazes me most is how God has used those 2 newspapers. I remember vividly when Kennedy was shot. I was about 7 at the time, & confined to the couch as I was sick, & that was all there was on TV to watch. About 50 years later those same newspapers serve as an illustration for explaining that the names of people in Genesis 10 are 'headline events' of what was going on way back during those days right after the Flood. See http://www.w-rocs.org/Brain%20Pickers/Brain_Pickers_Genesis_10_part_1.pdf Only God could have put that one together & my Great Aunt had no clue about how the Holy Spirit was guiding her when she left them in the bottom of that trunk.

My Great Aunt Peg is with the LORD now, & someday He will give me the opportunity to tell these stories to her. The point is, you have no idea how God is using you to advance His Kingdom, but just keep trusting Him anyway!