

GROWING OLDER

Lord, Thou knowest I am growing older. Keep me from becoming overly talkative and possessed with the idea that I must express myself on every subject.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Keep me from the recital of endless detail. Give me wing to get to the point. Seal my lips when I am inclined to tell of my aches and pains. They are increasing with the years and my love to speak of them grows sweeter as time goes by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be wrong. Make me thoughtful but not nosey; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom and experience it does seem a pity though not to use it all.

But thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. (More leaven for 2007 - - cab)

January - A busy time for me . Most of the family decided to read me through this year. They kept me busy for the first two or three weeks. They have forgotten me now.

February - Clean up time. I was dusted yesterday and put in my place. My owner did use me for a minute last week. He had been in some kind of religious argument and was looking up some references.

March - I had a busy day the first of the month. My owner was appointed leader of something or other and had to use me. I got to go to church for the first time this year - - Easter Sunday.

April - Grandpa visited us. He kept me on his lap for an hour reading 1 Corinthians 13. He seems to think more of me than he did.

May - I have a few stains on my pages. I had some early spring flowers pressed in me.

June - I look like a scrapbook. They have stuffed me full of clippings from the newspaper. One of the girls got married.

July - They put me in a suitcase today. I guess we are off for a vacation. I wish I could stay at home, as I will have to stay in this thing for a month.

August - I am still in the suitcase.

September - I am back home again and in my old place. I have a lot of company. Two "People" magazines and four "CD Games" are on top of me. My ! I wish I was used as much as they are.

October - They used me a little today. One of them is very sick. Right now I am all shined up and in the center of the table. I think the preacher is coming.

November - I am back in my old place. I was looked through for some old papers today. One of the children picked me up and said, "Is this a scrapbook?"

December - They are getting ready for Christmas so I will be covered under wrapping paper and packages now.

(The little parodistic "tongue-in-cheek" diary above has been around for a long

**time and has undergone much editing. I present it again in the hope it will motivate us all to be determined to do more Bible reading in the new year of 2007. Get one of the "Bible Reading Charts". Attend the Friday Noon Discussion Class, if possible.
CAB)**