

The Gift of Laughter
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Let's give thanks to God for His gift of laughter; it's a wonderful blessing and a great tool of encouragement!

Laughter brings blessings to our lives, but God can also use our laughter to bring blessings to others, pointing people to His blessings and power. Psalm 126:2 speaks of the laughter and songs of joy that filled the air as God's people returned to their homeland after years in exile. And as the nations around them witnessed the joy of God's people, they proclaimed, "The LORD has done great things for them." God has done great things for us as well, and that's reason enough for us to claim the joy of our Lord and the gift of laughter in our lives!

Laughter comes in all styles and shapes: from the true belly laugh, to mere chuckles, to giggles and cackles, to nervous laughter, to the polite social laugh, to an occasional snort. And, I might add, even a silent smile or quiet groan at a good pun (or even a bad one!).

"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." (Proverbs 17:22)
Laughter is the greatest cure of all. Life is extraordinary in the moments when we are laughing so hard we can barely breathe. These moments of deep laughter are divine in the sense that they cleanse our mood and set our mind on a positive track.

In that spirit, let me bless you with you some "groaners":

- Thieves who steal corn from a garden could be charged with stalking.
- I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- If you take a laptop computer for a run, you could jog your memory.
- In a democracy, it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, it's your Count that votes.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.
- A grenade fell onto a kitchen floor in France, resulting in Linoleum Blown Apart.
- A hard-boiled egg is hard to beat.
- May your mood be cleansed and your mind be set on a positive track, and may God truly bless your day with laughter! "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!" (Psalm 118:24)