

Dear friends,

Well, here is #32 in our ongoing series of activity pages – 9 pages of trivia quizzes, inspirational quotations, song lyrics to finish, and this introductory letter from Claire and me that we send with all affection, goodwill, and hope that we will soon be able to exchange these “Anti-Boredom” packets for LIVE presentations of “When Swing Was King.” I know you miss those shows, but believe me, you probably don’t miss them as much as we miss bringing them to you!

We are actually out of town right now but I created #32 and #33 before we left Omaha so we could send them over to the activity directors in the two weeks we will be gone. And, of course, we post them on the Vital Signs Ministries website so that whoever around the country wants them can get them too. And by the way, where we are is Branson, Missouri. We are here for our annual working vacation where we combine a healthy mix of work (writing projects, study, and planning) with rest, relaxation, and a bit of recreation. Now, concerning the fun part of our trip, unlike most who travel frequently to Branson, Claire and I are not into the professional entertainment that Branson has long been famous for. No, the real attractions for us are the Ozark hills; the changing colors of autumn; the friendly, conservative, family-oriented culture of these parts; connections with a few of my cousins; and the fact that several years ago we purchased at a crazy low price a time-share condo that allows us a clean, comfortable, and very pleasant getaway. We have even established connections with a couple of churches down here – Friendly Baptist Church in Branson and Williams Memorial Chapel, the church that is located on the campus of College of the Ozarks.

So coming up for us (besides the “working” part of our working vacation) are hikes around Table Rock Lake and Dogwood Canyon; a couple of day trips to see the Laura Ingalls Wilder home in Mansfield, Missouri and the Pea Ridge Battlefield over in Arkansas; a picnic or two; lunches with friends and cousins; strolling along Branson Landing; feeding ducks on Lake Taneycomo ; and relaxing with a few good books.

And about that entertainment Branson is famous for? Well, even if you don’t pay high dollars for show tickets, you’re still going to experience it. For instance, we stopped into a place yesterday for brunch and along with the excellent food was...you guessed it...a country music singer giving us a live performance!

Eggs, grits, fried bologna, and old Statler Brothers songs on the menu?
Yep, you’re in Branson, brother!

Denny & Claire

Multiple Choice Questions

1) Fill in the missing word from this 1966 hit from the *Monkees*, "The Last Train to _____."

- A) America
- B) Clarksville
- C) My Home
- D) The Red River Valley

2) Who is this?

- A) Freddy the Pig
- B) Piglet
- C) Porky Pig
- D) Oliver Oink



3) One of the new telephone features introduced in 1963 was...

- A) Touch-tone buttons
- B) Lighted dial
- C) Speed dialing
- D) Pocket-sized cell phones

4) True or False – Nearly 85% of all Valentines are purchased by women. _____

5) Where in the world is Fenway Park?

- A) San Francisco, California
- B) Toronto, Canada
- C) London, England
- D) Boston, Massachusetts

6) We better know Kathy, Diane, Peggy and Janet as...

- A) The McGuire Sisters
- B) The King Sisters
- C) The Lennon Sisters
- D) The de Castro Sisters

7) The Daytona 500 is a major sports event which features...

- A) Thoroughbred horses
- B) Race cars
- C) Long distance runners
- D) Speedboats

8) The 1954 Supreme Court decision (*Brown v. Board of Education*) prohibited...

- A) Racial segregation in schools
- B) Firearms in schools
- C) Corporal punishment
- D) Homeschooling

9) True or False -- Rock and roll pioneer Jerry Lee Lewis, evangelist Jimmy Swaggart, and country star Mickey Gillis are all cousins to each other. _____

10) And speaking of Jerry Lee Lewis, which one of the songs below was a huge hit for him?

- A) "Moody River"
- B) "Born Free"
- C) "Only the Lonely"
- D) "Great Balls of Fire"

11) The name of John Wayne's character in the award-winning film *True Grit* was...

- A) "Big Jake" McCandles
- B) John Chisum
- C) "Rooster" Cogburn
- D) J.D. Cahill

12) What words are missing from this Charlie Rich hit song, "Hey, did you happen to see the _____ in the world?"

- A) "Most beautiful girl"
- B) "Best place to be"
- C) "Last brave man"
- D) "Greatest saloon"

13) Who is this?

- A) Lionel Hampton
- B) Louis Armstrong
- C) Dizzy Gillespie
- D) Lou Rawls



14) The Shawnee Trail, Chisholm Trail, Western Trail, and Goodnight-Loving Trail were all related to:

- A) Buffalo hunting
- B) Early fur trappers
- C) The Interstate Highway System
- D) Old West cattle drives

15) In 1959, The Coasters recorded a song which warned "You're gonna' need an ocean of Calamine lotion" to stop the itch coming from...

- A) "Poison Ivy"
- B) "Love Potion Number 9"
- C) "Love in Bloom"
- D) "Red, Red Wine"

16) What is something in common about Denver, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and Fort Knox?

- A) They are all state capitals
- B) They all have U.S. mints
- C) They were founded after 1850
- D) They all have mayors under 30

17) True or False -- Per capita, Germany ranks #1 in beer drinking.

18) Which of these Old West legends ended his life as a New York City sportswriter?

- A) Buffalo Bill Cody
- B) Wild Bill Hickock
- C) Bat Masterson
- D) Billy the Kid

19) "To dream the impossible dream; to fight the unbeatable foe; to bear with unbearable sorrow; to run where the brave dare not go." These lyrics from the song "The Impossible Dream" come from what Broadway musical?

- A) *The Music Man*
- B) *Brigadoon*
- C) *Guys and Dolls*
- D) *Man of La Mancha*

20) It is one of the most famous single words from a Hollywood film: "Rosebud." From what film does it come?

- A) *The Maltese Falcon*
- B) *Stagecoach*
- C) *Citizen Kane*
- D) *The Wizard of Oz*

21) Who played Hopalong Cassidy in the movies?

- A) Tom Mix
- B) William Boyd
- C) William Conrad
- D) Rory Calhoun

22) Geronimo was an Indian chief of what famous Native American tribe?

- A) Iroquois
- B) Sioux
- C) Delaware
- D) Apache

23) Finish the title of this 1966 Burt Bacharach and Hal David song, "What's It All About..."

- A) "Alfie"
- B) "When It's Over"
- C) "My Darling"
- D) "That's the Sad Mystery"

24) In 1793, Eli Whitney devised a machine that revolutionized Southern agriculture. What was it?

- A) Blackpowder grinder
- B) Cotton Gin
- C) 4-Wheel Drive tractor
- D) Boll Weevil trap

25) Barney Rubble was the sidekick and pal to what cartoon character?

- A) Huckleberry Hound
- B) George Jetson
- C) Dagwood Bumstead
- D) Fred Flintstone

26) The U.S. obtained the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Shortly afterwards, Thomas Jefferson commissioned the area's exploration by...

- A) Jedediah Smith & Jim Bridger
- B) Zebulon Pike & Kit Carson
- C) Meriwether Lewis & William Clark
- D) Daniel Boone

27) Who is this popular singer?

- A) Bobby Darin
- B) Rick Nelson
- C) Fabian Forte
- D) Frankie Valli



28) "Fulton's Folly" was the derisive name applied by critics to what Robert Fulton creation in 1807?

- A) Interior stove
- B) Repeating rifle
- C) Steamboat
- D) Telegraph

29) What could net you an extra \$50 on Groucho Marx's *You Bet Your Lifeshow*?

- A) Performing a special skill
- B) Saying a secret word
- C) Feeding the duck
- D) Promoting U.S. Savings Bonds

30) "Climb every mountain; ford every stream. Follow every rainbow, 'till you find your dream." Those lyrics are from this 1959 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical.

- A) *The Sound of Music*
- B) *Annie Get Your Gun*
- C) *Porgy and Bess*
- D) *West Side Story*

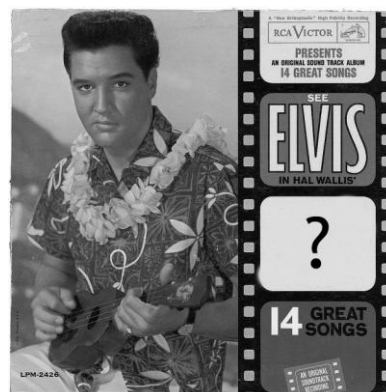
A “Cities in Songs” Quiz

- 1) From the Broadway musical *Oklahoma* came a song that bragged about how “everything’s up to date in” what city? In fact, “they’ve gone about as far as they can go!” _____
- 2) Johnny Horton had the #1 song in the country in 1959 about a battle fought at the end of the War of 1812 between the U.S. and Great Britain. What city was mentioned in the title of that song? _____
- 3) It was 1967 and one of the hottest songs in the nation was a song from Glen Campbell about a man who leaves his girl and heads for a large city in the American Southwest. That city was... _____
- 4) It was a song and a film for Elvis Presley: “Viva _____.”
- 5) This title also belonged to a film and a song. And Judy Garland was the actress and songstress connected to both. The action centered around the World’s Fair of 1904 which took place in this city _____.
- 6) Okay, here’s yet another one – a film and a song. The 1941 film starred Betty Grable, Don Ameche, Robert Cummings, Carole Landis, and Jack Haley. Can you name the city which finishes the title, “Moon Over _____.”
- 7) This city turned out to be a dangerous spot indeed for Marty Robbins after having a drink at Rosa’s Cantina because it was there he got in a gunfight with another cowboy over “wicked Feleena,” the girl that he loved. _____
- 8) It was one of the “hippy songs” of the 1960s, one which instructed kids coming to this California city to “be sure to wear flowers in your hair.” _____
- 9) Ready for another city from a Glen Campbell song? In this song a young American soldier serving in Vietnam cleans his gun while he dreams of the girl he left behind in this coastal city. _____
- 10) In the classic song “Route 66” (written by Bobby Troup and delivered by Nat King Cole), what **two** Missouri towns are mentioned? _____

A “U.S. States in Songs” Quiz

- 1) What state name begins the title of a Glen Miller classic? (Hint: the title of the song is actually a phone number!) _____
- 2) “Well, the sun shines bright on my old _____ home.”
- 3) It was 1966 and the folk-rock group The Mamas and the Papas recorded a song that launched their very successful career. The song was about their “dreaming” of a certain western state. _____
- 4) This state was the title of a fantastic Broadway musical written by Rodgers and Hammerstein. In fact, the name of the state was also used for the title of the play’s theme song, a song that described how the wind “comes sweepin’ down the plain.” That play, that song, and that state are _____.
- 5) Let’s go back to another Johnny Horton song, one that told about love, loneliness, and the mad desire for discovering gold. It’s a state that is, as the song lyrics describe it, “way up north.” _____
- 6) This album came from a hit 1961 film starring Elvis Presley, Joan Blackman, and Angela Lansbury. Included with the title song (which has a state name), Elvis recorded one of his best songs ever, “I Can’t Help Falling in Love With You.” _____
- 7) According to the 1979 hit by Charlie Daniels, the devil “went down” to this state.”

- 8) In this 1965 pop hit, The Beach Boys sang, “I wish they all could be _____ girls.”
- 9) “The stars at night are big and bright, deep in the heart of _____.”
- 10) In 1950 Patti Page had a mega-hit with a song with a U.S. state in the title. It was a sad song of unrequited love, a song that begins with, “I was dancing with my darling to the _____ when an old friend I happened to see. I introduced her to my loved one and while they were dancing, my friend stole my sweetheart from me.”



Proverbs to Ponder

“Own only what you can carry with you. Know language; know countries; know people. Let your memory be your travel bag.” (Alexander Solzhenitsyn)

“How much more grievous are the *consequences* of anger than the *causes* of it.”
(Marcus Aurelius)

“This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.”
(Joshua 1:8)

“There is no quiet place in the white man’s cities. No place to hear the unfurling of leaves in spring, or the rustle of an insect’s wings. But perhaps it is because I am a savage and do not understand. The clatter only seems to insult the ears.”
(Chief Seattle) (1786 -- 1866)

“The judge is condemned when the criminal is absolved.” (Publilius Syrus)

“I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.”
(Joyce Kilmer)

“My personal hobbies are reading, listening to music, and silence.” (Edith Sitwell)

“All the world is a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts.”
(William Shakespeare, *As You Like It*)

“Men can know more than their ancestors did if they start with a knowledge of what their ancestors had already learned... That is why a society can be progressive only if it conserves its traditions.” (Walter Lippmann)

“In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved.”
(Franklin D. Roosevelt)

“Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him.
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one’s youth.
Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.” (Psalm 127:3-5)

What Comes Next in This Song Lyric?

- 1) “And then there suddenly appeared before me the only one my arms will ever hold. I heard somebody whisper, ‘Please adore me,’ and...
- 2) “By the time I get to Phoenix she’ll be rising. She’ll find the note I left hanging on her door...
- 3) “Every time it rains, it rains pennies from heaven. Don’t you know each cloud contains pennies from heaven? You’ll find your fortune’s fallin’ all over town...
- 4) “Out through the back door of Rosa’s I ran, out where the horses were tied. I caught a good one, it looked like it could run. Up on its back and away I did ride...
- 5) “He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands. He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands. He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands...
- 6) “I’m with you once more under the stars and down by the shore an orchestra’s playing. And even the palms seem to be swaying...
- 7) “Since you went away the days grow long and soon I’ll hear old winter’s song. But I miss you most of all, my darling...
- 8) “Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plain...
- 9) “I’ll never know what made it so exciting, why all at once my heart took flight...
- 10) “I’m as busy as a spider spinning daydreams. I’m as giddy as a baby on a swing. I haven’t seen a crocus or a rosebud -- or a robin on the wing...”

The Answers! Multiple Choice

- 1) B
- 2) C
- 3) A
- 4) True
- 5) D
- 6) C
- 7) B
- 8) A
- 9) True
- 10) D

- 11) C
- 12) A
- 13) B
- 14) D
- 15) A

- 16) B
- 17) False -- #1 is the Czech Republic
- 18) C
- 19) D
- 20) C

- 21) B
- 22) D
- 23) A
- 24) B
- 25) D

- 26) C
- 27) A
- 28) C
- 29) B
- 30) A

“Cities in Songs” Quiz

- 1) Kansas City
- 2) New Orleans
- 3) “By the Time I Get to Phoenix”
- 4) Las Vegas
- 5) St. Louis
- 6) Miami
- 7) El Paso
- 8) San Francisco
- 9) Galveston
- 10) St. Louis and Joplin

“States in Songs” Quiz

- 1) Pennsylvania
- 2) Kentucky
- 3) California
- 4) Oklahoma
- 5) Alaska
- 6) *Blue Hawaii*
- 7) Georgia
- 8) California
- 9) Texas
- 10) Tennessee Waltz

What Comes Next in This Song Lyric?

- 1) “...when I looked, the moon had turned to gold.”
- 2) “...She’ll laugh when she reads the part that says I’m leaving, ‘cause I’ve left that girl so many times before.”

3) “...Be sure that your umbrella is upside down.”

4) “...Just as fast as I could from the west Texas town of El Paso, out to the badlands of New Mexico.”

5) “...He’s got the whole world in His hands.”

6) “...when they begin the Beguine.”

7) “...when autumn leaves start to fall.”

8) “...and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.”

9) “...I only know when he began to dance with me, I could have danced, danced, danced all night.”

10) “...But I feel so gay in a melancholy way that it might as well be spring. It might as well be spring.”