



NightLight

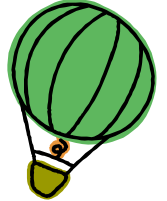
A NEWSLETTER OF McLEAN MINISTRIES

"take heed....as to a light that shines in a dark place." II Peter 1:19

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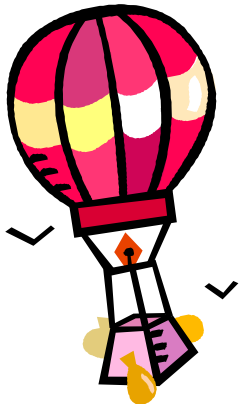
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Dear Friends,



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans :15:13



There is obviously no hope of a peace plan being imposed on the exploding Middle East by a befuddled West. Our southern border is now non-existent thanks to the treasonous government shenanigans. Ebola, the deadly killer of 90% of its victims is raging in Africa at an all time high, and there is no way to measure what kind of disease is pouring over our southern borders. The world is on the brink in a dozen different scenarios, with dozens more waiting to materialize. What are we to do?

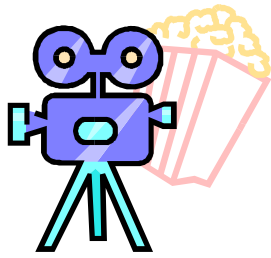
I sit here looking out my window at the beauty Mary makes happen out there: trees, flowers, greenery. And I am thinking of all of you who allow us to enter your world once a month. You cannot lay aside what is important to you and focus on Ebola or Obama or any one of the other erupting crises. You have to deal with bills, jobs, family demands, relationship problems, etc. That you allow us into your world regularly means you find (or hope to) something from us that is helpful. I know how it can feel when the outer pressures of world affairs and the inner pressures of private life collide. Then add to that the feeling so many of us may struggle with that we are not doing enough.

Oswald Chambers is such a great friend to so many of us. His words have weight because they were not written in an ivory tower, but on a World War I battlefield. What Chambers has to help us most may not be his words about facing battle, but more about how to face the inbetween times.

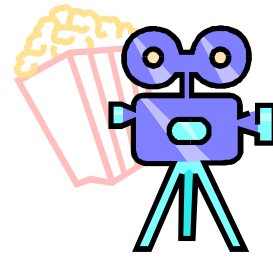
These are the days when we are not in some high intensity spiritual place, but are sinking under the routine of daily drudgery. Do we find the joy of the Lord and gratitude that we are His day by day? Or does the daily grind of unsung uninspired frustrating tasks, or disappointments, failures, or conflicts overwhelm us? Are we as thankful to be His when we are hidden as when we are praised by others? Is being HIS all that matters? Are we only waiting to find out what we were meant to be and do? **What if you are in what God called you to be and do?** What if at the present moment it is trying to fix your little girl's baby doll? (Did you know it is not humanly possible to turn a baby doll's leotards back right side out once a three-year-old has managed to turn them wrong side out?) "If you are faithful in the small things, I will make you ruler over larger...." because **the small things are as great as the great things.**

There are small muscles in our bodies which easily get neglected but which make the larger muscles able to perform much better. If the small ones are weak there is danger of injury and failure in the larger. Can we shine in the dark? Certainly. Can we shine in the hot sun? Maybe not shine, but we might have a warm glow if we keep our focus on what is really real and truly important. We must be aware of the evil and not faint at it nor go off on a self-generated quest to fight it. We must not hide on the one hand nor rail on the other. We are commanded to be awake and to not be afraid. BOTH. In the meantime, we are to do what is in front of us, with joy, gratitude, and love. I am working on it. I know a lot about the struggle to get there. (Do baby dolls have to even wear leotards anyway?)

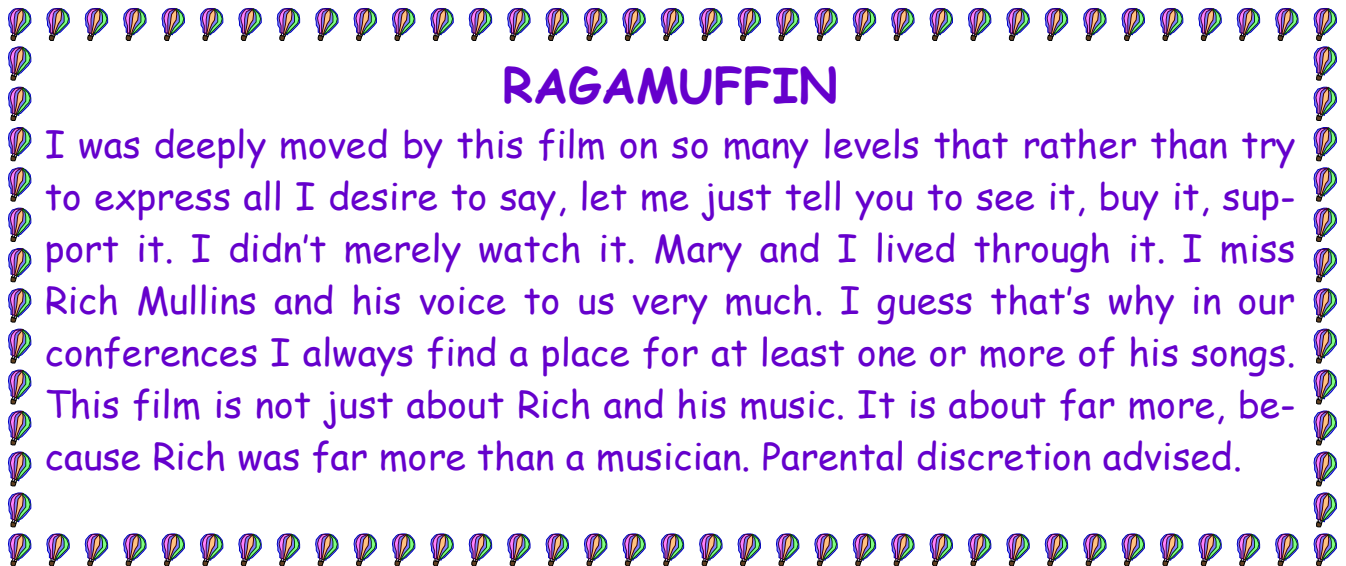




Movie News

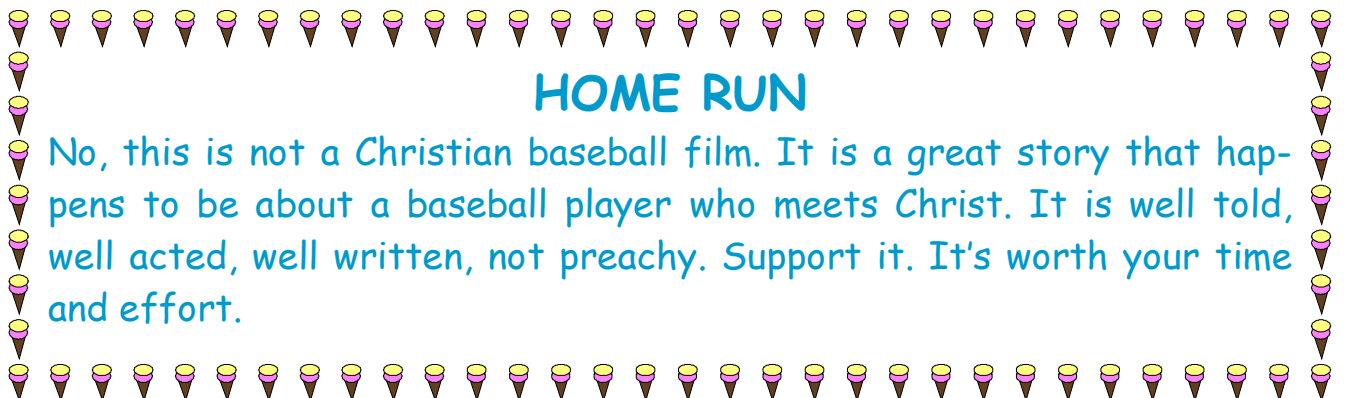


I mentioned in the **IMAGINATION** series I would soon record a special separate section to address the power of image and symbol in the film medium. I am working on that and it will be available soon. But for now let us celebrate the fact that Christian film makers are making great strides forward in producing really good story telling. And it is story telling that matters now. Not special effects, not end times theories. But stories which reach the core of our pain and need, and offer us the Answer, not in any religious preachy way, but in Reality. Here are two that come closer than ever to that point. Both depict the intimate bond between forgiveness and healing that come together in the Person of Jesus Christ.



RAGAMUFFIN

I was deeply moved by this film on so many levels that rather than try to express all I desire to say, let me just tell you to see it, buy it, support it. I didn't merely watch it. Mary and I lived through it. I miss Rich Mullins and his voice to us very much. I guess that's why in our conferences I always find a place for at least one or more of his songs. This film is not just about Rich and his music. It is about far more, because Rich was far more than a musician. Parental discretion advised.



HOME RUN

No, this is not a Christian baseball film. It is a great story that happens to be about a baseball player who meets Christ. It is well told, well acted, well written, not preachy. Support it. It's worth your time and effort.

Closing Thoughts



I wish we who share this ministry each month could know each other better. Mary and me and you, and you with all the others we know but you don't. And then there are you that even Mary and I don't know. All of you are precious. We are part of a small community that stretches across the whole world, from Jackson to Jerusalem, and from Longview to London. We are conscious every day of the honor of preparing you something we pray will help when it is hard, encourage when it is lonely, strengthen when it is exhausting, and motivate to deeper love, obedience, and redemptive action. You are precious indeed! And most dearly loved. May we all come to live with joy and peace, rooted and grounded in Love Himself. Remember us in prayer August 16–20 during our conference.



With Love, Clay & Mary

McLean Ministries

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