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**Verse of the day for Monday July 24 2023 – Isaiah 25: 7-8**

**7 On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations;**

**8 he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.**

**Read Isaiah 25 for meditation and inspiration.**

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***THERE GOES THAT ILLUSIVE CHICKEN AGAIN!***

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Chicken stories are often fun. Here are a few:

Why did the chicken cross the road? To get to the other side, of course!

For our age of covid-19:

Why did the chicken cross the road? Because he was social distancing.

Back to the chicken fun:

Why did the chicken cross the road? It thought it was an egg-cellent idea.

What do you call a chicken crossing the road? Poultry in motion.

Why couldn’t the chicken cross the road? Because she was chicken.

Why did the chicken cross the road? To get away from Colonel Sanders.

Why did the momma chicken cross the road? To get to the Chick-Fil-A.

Why did the chicken stop crossing the road? He was tired of everyone making so many jokes!

Why did the dinosaur cross the road? Because the chicken wasn’t around yet.

Ok that was enough of that!

One day a man was driving down a country road when he noticed a chicken running ahead of him. He glanced at his speedometer and couldn't believe his eyes: he was topping 50 miles-per-hour, and the chicken was outrunning the car! The man increased his speed to 60, then 7O miles-per-hour and still the chicken was increasing its lead. Suddenly, the bird made a right turn onto a small farm and disappeared behind a small chicken coop. Amazed by the chicken's performance, the driver pulled over and walked to the farmhouse door. When the owner appeared, the man asked excitedly, "Sir, do you know that chicken of yours can run over seventy miles an hour?" The farmer chuckled, "Oh you must mean our three-legged chicken. Yep, he sure is fast. You see, I live here with my wife and son and when it comes to eating chicken, we all love drumsticks. So, we decided to breed three-legged chickens."

"That's amazing," the visitor said. "How did that turn out? Does a three-legged chicken taste good?" With a sigh of disappointment, the farmer replied, "I don't know. We haven't caught one yet."

That three-legged chicken is wonderfully symbolic of the pursuit of happiness in today's world. If, in your quest for happiness, you are pursuing anything other than a richer, deeper, fuller union with God, then whatever you may think, the happiness you seek will deceive you when you think you have it and will elude you at every turn.

Pursue the “joy of the Lord in all things and at all times and you will know the fullness of life with all its richness poured into your life by the hand of God.

The three-legged chicken will continue to cross that road but can never be caught nor would it bring true happiness. But the joy of the Lord is yours for the asking.

Praying for your JOY!

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Roger

A person standing on a rock

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