

THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

We were sitting around the breakfast table visiting with my in-laws, they took an annual trip to Door County every September to pick cherries and came home with 30-gallon milk cans full. We talked about when the threshing crew would go from farm to farm as a group. They would thresh the wheat on one farm and then moved to one of their neighbors. When they did our farm, the lady of the house would make a meal for all of the workers. My wife's dad owned the threshing machine.

Of course, then we had our "outhouse" where in winter you didn't lollygag too long because it was a chilling experience. The Sears catalog was a blessing to have.

Even though we can't go back to "the good old days", it seems fun to talk about it. This was a time in our lives where everything seemed much simpler. I know my parents didn't lock the doors to our home for many years, that was until there was a rash of robberies, then it took forever to find the key to lock the doors when we went away.

Communication was simple, a telephone if you had one. Being on a party line, where as many as 10 families shared the same line was a challenge at times. The phone number 002short was our phone number.

The fun times came when we would lay on the front yard and look at the stars. It seemed that you could reach up and touch them the night sky was so clear. There were the heavy work times, but we were told that work never killed anyone. There was always time for laughs. *We were taught always tell the truth, never take anything that didn't belong to us and always respect your elders.* Heck, I didn't ever know the first names of our neighbors, because we called them Mr. or Mrs. I had a friend in high school whose parents first names I didn't know until I saw my friend's obituary.

We went to Sunday School and church every Sunday. We didn't always understand everything that was taught, but it was great ground work for the years ahead as believers and a worker in the Lord's work.

As we moved into the 20th century, there were many advantages that we've had available to us. Much faster communication. Colored television was a real treat the first time we saw one. Our Lord has provided all of these forms of communication to aid us in getting the message of His love out to the world. That message of love beyond all understanding.

When all is said and done about the Good Old Days, we find there is always change from one generation to the next and you can never go back. But the Love of our Lord is still constant and we can count on that. **Hebrews 13:8 (NIV) ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.** Never forget that promise. God's loving forgiveness for you through Jesus was a wonderful message in the good old days and it is the same today.



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