

# Thought of the Month News & Notes

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**News & Notes** 

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#### **Ouotes of the Month**

A Few Quotes on Christmas, Hannukah and Kwanza

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful. ~Norman Vincent Peale

Colorful candles burning bright, each lit on eight very special nights. Author Unknown

May the lights of Hanukkah usher in a better world for all humankind.

Author Halanous

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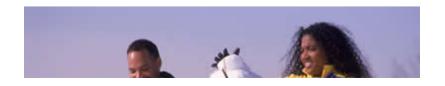
### Dear Friends,

Do you remember what a special time of the year Christmas and Hannukah (and now, Kwanza) was when you were a child? It was magical! You behaved better than ever, made funny little homemade gifts for parents and they loved them and you had a constant feeling of expectation. You *knew* that wonderful things were in store for you! Well, we all know how and why we lost that feeling but wouldn't it be nice to capture it once again?

We're sure you know someone who has totally shut him or herself off from things because of unhappiness, depression, bad luck, job loss, debt and/or illness. We also know of someone who has experienced one or more of these issues but is the happiest person we have ever met! What makes the difference? Is it hope, optimism or is he or she just naive? Science has proven that people who have hope and optimism live longer and are healthier and happier. You know what else? You can ACT happy and optimistic and get the same results! Somehow you just start believing.

Our wish for you this season is to BELIEVE! Try it and you and your loved ones will benefit.

Remember to keep in touch! Share your problems and ideas for other Thought topics. We are here for you.



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He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree. ~Roy L. Smith

Christmas, children, is not a date. It is a state of mind. ~Mary Ellen Chase

Once again we find ourselves enmeshed in the Holiday Season, that very special time of year when we join with our loved ones in sharing centuries-old traditions such as trying to find a parking space at the mall. We traditionally do this in my family by driving around the parking lot until we see a shopper emerge from the mall, then we follow her, in very much the same spirit as the Three Wise Men, who 2,000 years ago followed a star, week after week, until it led them to a parking space. ~Dave Barry

Put on your yarmulke,
Here comes
Hanukkah!
So much funukah,
To celebrate
Hanukkah!
Hanukkah is the
festival of lights.
Instead of one day of
presents, we have
eight crazy nights.
Adam Sandler
The Hanukkah Song

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other. ~Burton Hillis

Santa is very jolly because he knows where all the bad girls live. ~Dennis Miller

They celebrated it for eight days with gladness like Sukkot and recalled how a little while before, during Sukkot, they had been wandering in the mountains and caverns like wild



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES...PLEASE JOIN US:

"The Next Step:Overcoming Reactivity" opportunity Frederick, MD

January 30-31, 2010

"Conscious and Connected Parenting"
Workshop in Frederick

February 20-21, 2010

We are very excited about sharing this material and the experience from our previous workshops with parents. Your children will appreciate that you are participating in "Mommy & Daddy School" as a way of being the best parents you can be.

(This is powerful for parents of all age children.)



animals.
So carrying lulavs
...they offered hymns
of praise
to God who had
brought to pass the
purification of His
own place.
II Maccabees 10. 6-7

There has been only one Christmas - the rest are anniversaries. ~W.J.

It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air. ~W.T. Ellis

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. ~Martin Luther King Jr.

Faith makes the discords of the present the harmonies of the future. ~Robert Collyer

For Africa to me... is more than a glamorous fact. It is a historical truth. No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place. ~Maya Angelou

"I must do something" always solves more problems than "Something must be done." ~Author Unknown

The time is always right to do what is right. ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. ~William James

In the old days, it was not called the Holiday Season; the Christians called it 'Christmas' and went to church; the Jews called it 'Hanukkah' and went to synagogue; the atheists went to parties and drank.



December 14, 2009 Teleclass,
"Curiosity and Compassion: The Keys to
Intimacy."
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. EST

E-mail or call to let us know you want to participate so we can send you the number to call. 301-898-0527 or 301-404-7711 info@connectingcouples.net

Thought of the Month

December: Celebrate and Enjoy!



This month finds us in the same place many of you find yourselves. Busy trying to stay healthy and "bug" free (and not doing a great job of that!) and dealing with the issues of family, shopping, travel and the hustle and bustle of the season.

Our Thought is simple this month---Celebrate and Enjoy!
In case you didn't already know it, we don't have a perfect marriage, we also don't have a perfect life...or management of it...so the January Thought will be doubly interesting. We hope everyone has great holidays and, like us, finds a way to slow down in order to celebrate enjoy the joyful connections in our lives.

With abundant blessings, David (& Donna)

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People passing each other on the street would say 'Merry Christmas!' or 'Happy Hanukkah!' or (to the atheists) 'Look out for the wall!' ~Dave Barry, "Christmas Shopping: A Survivor's Guide"

Chanukkah, Oh Chanukkah Come light the menorah Let's have a party We'll all dance the hora **Gather round the** table, we'll have a treat Shiny tops to play with, latkes to eat. And while we are playing The candles are **burning low** One for each night, they shed a sweet light To remind us of days long ago. Chanukkah, Oh Chanukkah (Song)

And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't

come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more. ~Dr. Seuss



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Please stay in touch and let us know how to support you.

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

With Love and Abundant Blessings, David and (Donna)







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