



What's In YOUR (Wallet) Toolbox? *By Ellyn Roe*

A long-running television commercial from a credit card company ends with the phrase, "What's in YOUR wallet?" When that question is modified to ask about your toolbox, you wonder,

Do I even have or want a toolbox?

Answer:

- 1) If, for your own personal study or the blessing of another person, you have ever wished for a collection of Scriptures written out and arranged by topic, you have wanted a "toolbox."
- 2) Last May (2024), God enabled global worker Tom Horton to comply an amazing Ministry Toolbox, *and* he is making it available to one and all, free of charge.

In ministry for 57 years, Tom was BPC's Youth Director for 28 years and then served with Rural Church Youth Ministry for the next 29 years, reaching rural youth all over the Pacific Northwest. In 1996, God laid it on Tom's heart to create the Ministry Toolbox. This labor of love begins with a stirring autobiography that testifies to God's provision and guidance in Tom's life and that of his dear wife Judy. What follows in the Toolbox are compilations of topically arranged Bible verses and biblical principles that can be used for personal enrichment, small group study, teaching sons and daughters, mentoring, or with God's help, succeeding in ministry.

Tom writes, "I did not want to write theory or speculation as if I could add something to what God has already revealed or written in His Word. Rather I wanted to let God's Word speak for itself and allow the Spirit of God ... to reveal His truth that transforms those who have a tender heart for Him. My prayer is that anyone who meditates on and contemplates the meaning which God purposed in writing His Word will discover not only some of the insights which I share but will even uncover principles of faith and ministry that the Holy Spirit reveals to them in life-changing ways as well. I have always been convinced that a Changed Life will Change another person's life."

Psalm 145:4 NIV tells us, "One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts." The Ministry Toolbox is a goldmine to the person serious about running the race well and living out the biblical mandate to pass the baton of faith on to others. The Scripture passages or principles are presented in colorful styles or graphic organizers to help the user contextualize, memorize, and apply.

While I was preparing this article, I received news of a family member facing yet another crisis. I turned to the Ministry Toolbox section entitled, "The ABCs of the Christian Life for those who SUFFER." There I found an A-Z list of written-out Scriptures pertaining to suffering. For example:

A Affliction—has purpose—**Psalm 119:71** "It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes."

F Fear—**II Timothy 1:7 NIV** "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and of a sound mind."

R Remember—**Lamentations 3:21–25** "The loving kindnesses of Yahweh indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 24 "Yahweh is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I wait for Him."

Tom offers, "It is important to me to pass on what has been of a tremendous spiritual value to me personally and in the years of service God has given me to serve Him by serving others. Hopefully, you will find something in these pages that will help you to be even more successful in your walk and service to the Lord."

Free Ministry Toolbox binders and/or thumb drives will be available (hopefully soon) by contacting Tom at tom@ruralchurchym.org or (206) 954-4100.

(This mission's article was in the Boulevard Park Church's September Press (monthly newsletter))