

The Ultimate Christmas Survival Kit

“How to Remove Pine Needles From Your Shag Carpet”

VIDEO – TREE CUE – PASTOR

The first record of a Christmas trees in America was in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 1747. GERMAN ESTABLISHMENT

But the Christmas tree really caught on in America in the late 1800's. The artificial Christmas tree was invented in the 1880's in Germany.

ILL: I'LL NEVER FORGET OUR FIRST CHRISTMAS AS A MARRIED COUPLE. I DECIDED TO GO IN THE BACKYARD AND CUT A CHRISTMAS TREE DOWN SO WE COULD HAVE A REAL CHRISTMAS.

WITH THE SMELL OF A REAL CHRISTMAS TREE, THE PINE NEEDLES, WATER IN THE BASE. IT WAS GREAT.

WHEN IT WAS TIME TO TAKE THE CHRISTMAS TREE OUT THE PINE NEEDLES WERE FALLING ALL OVER THE PLACE. I THOUGHT NO BIG DEAL I'LL JUST VACUUM THEM UP AFTER I TAKE THE TREE OUT.

PINE NEEDLES FALLING ALL OVER THE SHAG CARPET, KITCHEN CARPET, STEP CARPET, RIGHT OUT THE DOOR.

- PINE NEEDLES ARE A LOT A SINS THAT EMBED THEMSELVES INTO OUR HEARTS AND SOULS

- PINE NEEDLES ARE A FRUSTRATION, IRRITATION,

ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS SURVIVAL KIT

PEOPLE NEED A VACUUM CLEANER TO CLEAN OUT THE PINE NEEDLES IN YOUR LIFE

A. BUT WHAT PEOPLE TEND TO GET IS A MANUEL VACUUM CLEANER

ILL: (TRYING TO CLEAN UP THE PINE NEEDLES)

IT DOESN'T CLEAN UP - WHY?

MAN - UEL VACUUM

A. YOUR GOING NO WHERE FAST. FEVERISHLY YOU WORK

- 1. YOU STILL HAVE YOUR MAN - UEL VACUUM.**
- 2. TRYING TO CLEAN THE PINE NEEDLES IN YOUR LIFE MANUALLY - YOUR WAY - YOUR GOING NOWHERE.**
- 3. YOUR WORKING HARD TO MAKE A BETTER LIFE FOR YOURSELF**
- 4. BUT THE PINE NEEDLES ARE STILL THERE BECAUSE YOUR WORKING WITH A**

MAN - UEL INSTEAD OF THE IMMANUEL

Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us."

BUT YOU NEED A VACUUM TO CLEAN UP THE PINE NEEDLES

A. THE PINE NEEDLES NEED TO BE CLEANED UP BUT I'M TIRED.

- 1. I KNOW I'LL GET OUT THE**

IROBOT VACUUM CLEANER

- 2. IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH EFFORT I'LL HAVE THOSE PINE NEEDLES GONE WITH NO PROBLEM.**

ILL: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO WITH HER I'LL JUST TELL WHAT SHE WANTS TO HERE. I'LL JUST GIVE HIM WHAT HE WANTS. I DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS.

3. THEN YOU WONDER WHY YOU HAVE PROBLEMS AND ALL YOU DO IS GET POINTING THE FIGURE AT THEM INSTEAD OF YOU.
4. WHEN WE PUT NO EFFORT INTO LIFE THIS IS WHAT YOU'LL GET.

Luke 19:22, 26 (NLT)

“You wicked servant!...those who use well what they are given, even more will be given. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.

BUT YOU NEED A VACUUM TO CLEAN UP THE PINE NEEDLES

A. IT'S THE HOLIDAYS I DON'T HAVE TO MUCH TIME SO I'LL USE THE.

DIRT BUSTER

ILL: IT'S LITTLE – MANEUVERS - NO CORDS - NO FUSS

1. BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE THE TIME, YOU GET WHAT YOU PUT INTO IT.
2. BUT AFTER YOU USE THE DUST BUSTER YOU REALIZE IT'S BLOWING BACK THE HEAVY DIRT AND ONLY PICKING UP THE **SURF DUST.**

DEVILS BLOWER

A. THE THINGS THAT GOD WANTS TO TAKE OUT OF YOUR LIFE THE DEVIL BLOWS BACK IN.

1. HE ONLY CLEANS THE SURFACE AND WANTS YOU TO THINK EVERYTHINGS OK
2. BUT IN REALITY ITS NOT.

ILL:

A. IN MATTHEW 13 A FARMER WENT OUT AND SCATTERED SOME SEED AND IT FELL ON 3 DIFFERENT PLACES

1st group of seeds fell on a path and the birds came down and ate them.

2nd group of seeds fell on rocky places, where there wasn't much soil.
The plants grow quickly, but they were scorched by the sun and died.

3RD group of seeds fell among the thorns but as they grew the choked the plants.

4th group of seed

Matthew 13:8 (NIV)

Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

1. WHAT JESUS WAS SAYING THAT ALL 4 GROUPS OF PEOPLE HEARD THE SAME WORD PREACHED.
2. THEY WE'RE IN CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS.
3. BUT ONLY A FEW ALLOWED THE WORD OF GOD TO TAKE PERMANENT ROOT.
4. A PERSON IS HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE KIND OF HEART THEY HAVE.
5. ARE THEY USING THE DEVIL BLOWER (DUST BUSTER) AND BEING SUPERFICIAL AND NOT HAVING A TENDER HEART.
6. SO GOD AND GET DOWN TO THE ROOT TO GET THOSE PINE NEEDLES OUT.

BUT YOU NEED A VACUUM TO CLEAN UP THE PINE NEEDLES

GOD SAYS THERE'S ONLY one thing that can tackle the big jobs in life

THE SHOP VAC MAN

Mark 5:6-10 (NIV)

When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

A. JESUS THE SHOP VAC MAN NOT ONLY TOOK ONE OUT OR TWO DEMONS.

1. BUT NOTE HERE HOW JESUS LED THE EVIL SPIRIT TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF.
2. HIS NAME WAS LEGION, THIS WAS REFERRING TO THE ROMAN MILITARY LEGION THAT INCLUDED OVER SIX THOUSAND MEN.
3. JESUS THE SHOP VAC MAN NOT ONLY TOOK OUT ONE OR TWO PINE NEEDLES HE TOOK OUT OVER 6 THOUSAND AND THREW THEM INTO THE PIGS.

CONCLUSION:

A. I BELIEVE THE REASON WHY WANTED THE DEMONS TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES.

1. WAS TO LET US KNOW HOW IF HE CAN GET RID OF 6 THOUSAND DEMONS HE CAN DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEM.