Miss Y'All! Love to Y'All!! Hope to see Y'All soon!!!

(That's the cowgirl in me talkin')

On the weekends when the weather is nice men & women & their horses arrive by the trailer-full. They gather to ride on the trails through the mountains. It was great to see them this past weekend although I have to admit I was a bit envious. What a peaceful way to spend a day! I'll bet none of them even talked about the pandemic, just naturally kept distances & probably did not need to wear masks.

We have certainly had enough of Covid19 by now; have experienced the full range of emotions, too. I don't need to name them all. You know what they are. It's hard. In these trying times I am drawing on LOVE to get me through. I'm pretty sure Y'All know the power of LOVE! It is thought that the flip-side of LOVE is HATE. Hmmm and HATE goes hand in hand with ANGER. The restrictions imposed upon us right now is causing a lot of anger out there. Sometimes anger can spur us into helpful action if used in the right way, but usually it has a negative effect. The story I'm sharing with you today is by an Unknown author. The message, my friends, is timeless!

THE FENCE

There was a little boy with a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, to hammer a nail in the back fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Then it gradually dwindled down. He discovered it easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same." When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one.

Friends are a rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1 NIV