

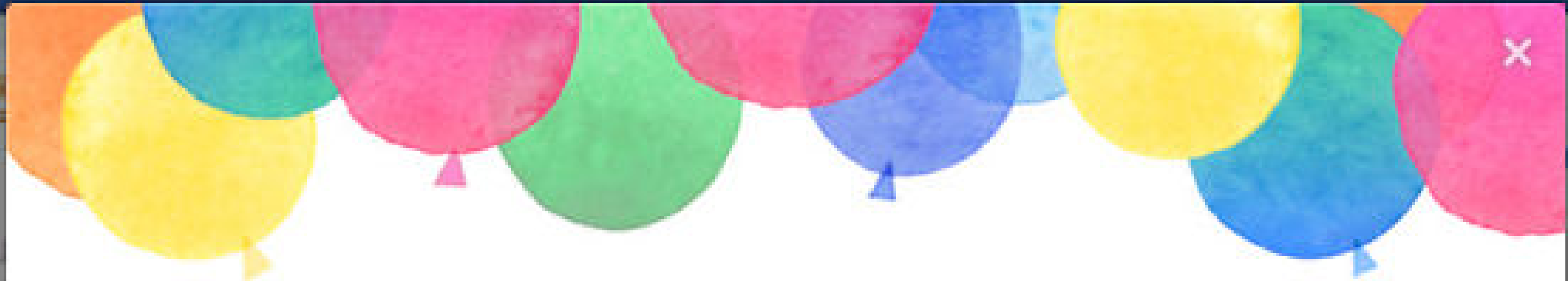
A close-up, slightly low-angle shot of a marble bust of King David. The bust is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing slightly to the right. It has curly hair and a serene expression. The background is a textured, aged parchment or paper with a network of fine, reddish-brown cracks. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of the face and hair.

David's Garden



Gary

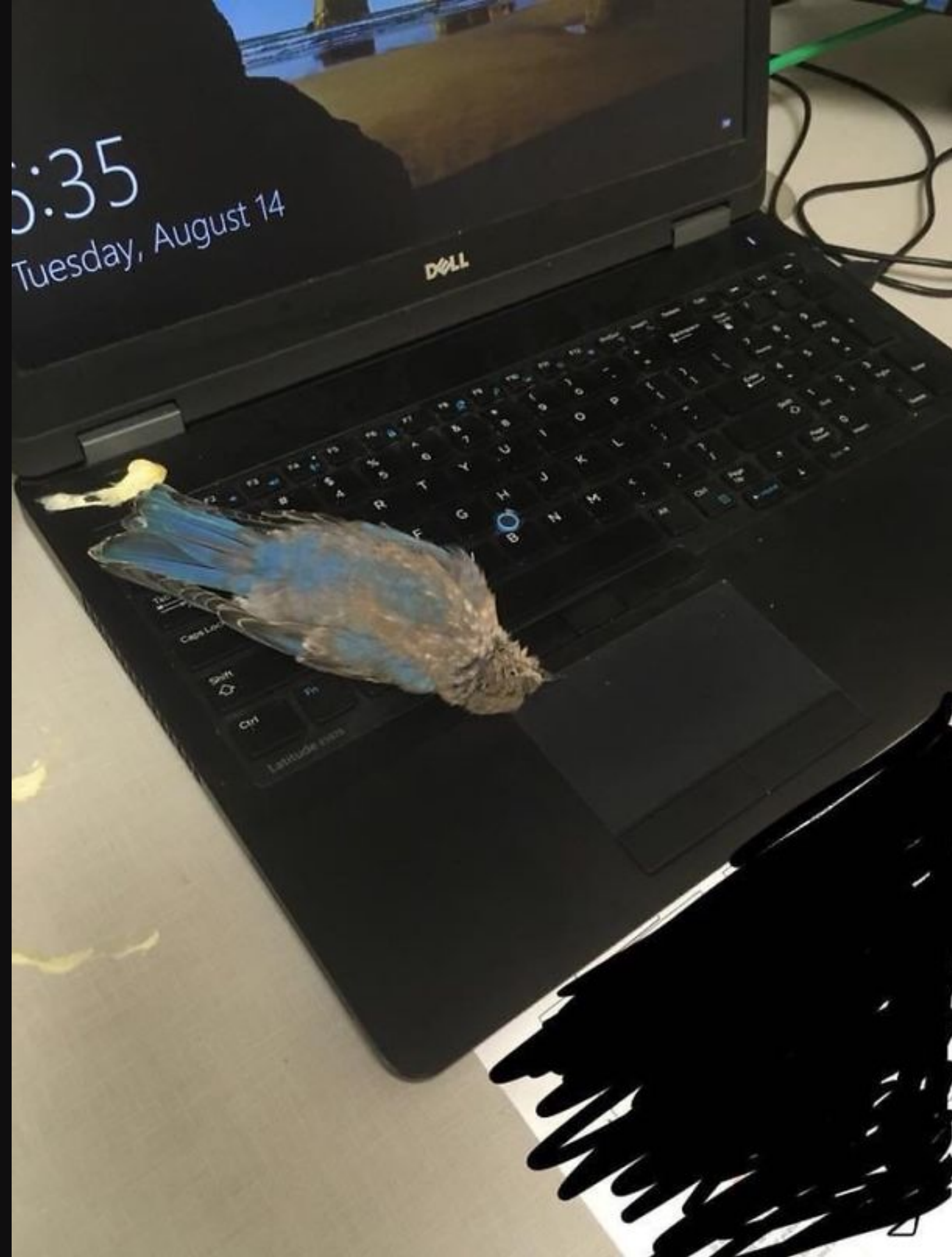
Home



Gary, 0 friends wished you a happy birthday!

🕒 Want to look back on past birthday memories?

[See birthday memories](#)











01462 111000

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Following your
recent eye test,
we are writing to
confirm your next
appointment
which is at:
12:45pm Tuesday
1 March 2016

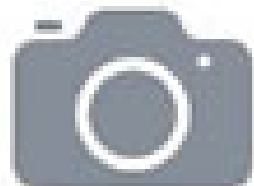
Can we go to the gym
tomorrow

Sure Abby

Baby*

Oh boy here we go

Read 8:59 PM



iMessage



1 Samuel 30: David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it, ² and had taken captive the women and everyone else in it, both young and old. They killed none of them, but carried them off as they went on their way.

1 Samuel 30: 3 When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. 4 So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. 5 David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. 6 David was **greatly distressed** because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters.

I Samuel 13: 5 The Philistines assembled to fight Israel, with three thousand chariots, six thousand charioteers, and soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They went up and camped at Mikmash, east of Beth Aven. 6 When the Israelites saw that their situation was critical and that their army was hard pressed, **they hid** in caves and thickets, among the rocks, and in pits and cisterns...Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were **quaking with fear**.

1 Samuel 13: 7 Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear.

1 Samuel 13: 9 Saul offered up the burnt offering.
10 Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

11 “What have you done?” asked Samuel.

1 Samuel 13: 12 I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering.”

13 “You have done a foolish thing,” Samuel said.
“You have **not kept the command the Lord** your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time.

1 Samuel 15: 20 “But I did obey the Lord,” Saul said. “I went on the mission the Lord assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king.

1 Samuel 15: 24 Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned. I violated the Lord’s command and your instructions. **I was afraid of the men** and so I gave in to them.

Saul was afraid
so Saul sinned.

Saul was afraid

- Was afraid when he was first anointed (10:22)
- Was afraid of David (18:12, 29)
- Was afraid of the Philistines (28:4-6)
- Sought a witch in fear of Samuel's words
- Was afraid of his soldiers (1 Samuel 13/15)

The foundation of sin

is always fear.

I John 5: 16 I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death (produces a fear of death). I am not saying that you should pray about that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death (death has been overcome through Christ).

Saul's sin became routine and
acceptable to him.

When our sins become
acceptable to us, we assume they
are to God as well.

1 Samuel 30: 6 But David found strength in the Lord his God.

7 Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him, 8 and David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?”

1 Samuel 30: “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

The fear of the Lord

Motivated David's righteousness
AND his repentance.

Strengthening in the Lord does
NOT mean:

Using gospel magic
(no quick fixes)

Strengthening in the Lord does

NOT mean:

Venting

Strengthening in the Lord does
NOT mean:

Openly expressing anger and
assigning blame

Strengthening in the Lord does
mean:

Approaching a personal God

Psalms 80: I Hear us, **Shepherd** of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.

Psalms 23: I The Lord is **my shepherd**, I lack
nothing.

1 Samuel 30: 6b But David found strength in the
Lord **his** God.

“At this point in David’s life, he could no longer say, “My house,” “my city,” or “my possessions,” but he could say, “My God.” That is where strengthening begins.”

Alexander Macclaren

Strengthening in the Lord does
mean:

Remembering promises and
affirmations of God's word.

1 Samuel 23: 16 And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. 17 "Don't be afraid," he said. "My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this." 18 The two of them made a covenant before the Lord. Then Jonathan went home, but David remained at Horesh.

Strengthening in the Lord does
mean:

Using your access to God's
presence.

1 Samuel 30: 6 But David found strength in the Lord his God.

7 Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him, 8 and David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?”

Luke 15: 17 “When he came to his senses, he said,
‘How many of my **father**’s hired servants have food
to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will
set out and go back to my **father** and say to him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against
you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son;
make me like one of your hired servants.’ 20 So he
got up and went to his **father**.
21 “The son said to him, ‘**Father**, I have sinned
against heaven and against you.

Hebrews 4: 14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess...16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

We don't need information but
endurance.

We don't need to know
something. We just need to
stay on our feet.

A close-up, slightly low-angle shot of a marble bust of King David. The bust is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing slightly to the right. It has curly hair and a serene expression. The background is a textured, aged parchment or paper with a network of fine, reddish-brown cracks. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of the face and hair.

David's Garden