

March 2019

We've never had a four-dollar bill as part of our United States currency, but our neighbors to the north had one.

First released in October 1882, the Canadian version could be found in wallets and purses for the next 30 years. The original bill was modified and reissued in 1900 with the final version being produced just two years later. The Canadian government finally removed the four-dollar bill from circulation in 1912.

So, why the popularity? Wouldn't a five-dollar bill be just as useful? Four is a strange number for paper money.

Well, Canada didn't have a "five" until 1912 when it took the place of the four-dollar note. Additionally, in the late 1800s, due to an influx of people from Great Britain and a number of banks being valued in British currency, the four-dollar bill made sense because it was roughly the equivalent of the British pound.

Today, in the States, four bucks can still buy a pound...of ground beef, butter or coffee.

And, if we had four-dollar bills today, Frances Simpson might have one in her purse.

Frances is a pastor's widow living in Mississippi. Like 60% of our Mission:Dignity recipients, she served in ministry with her husband for many years — in Frances's case, that was nearly three decades alongside Perry in small churches in Mississippi, Virginia and North Carolina.

The Simpsons were first approved for a Mission:Dignity grant back in 1998. We have continued to help Frances since Perry died in 2012. She replied recently to a survey we sent our retirees asking if there were any particular needs that were going unmet.

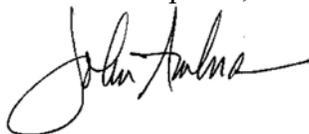
Thanks for checking on me. I think I can make it on what I have. That is to say, God takes care of me, too. I will soon be 77 years of age but still know how to watch my

money. I ended the month with \$4.00 and that's better than zero! Thank you, Father God. May He bless you!

Frances may have finished January with just a little in her checkbook, but she had an overflowing balance in her heart. What really amazes me is there wasn't even a whisper about what she didn't have, but only rejoicing that God had once again met her every need. He continues to do that not only for Frances, but also for 1,700 others who benefit from a Mission:Dignity grant each month, and He does so through people like you.

Thank you for sharing generously and for making life more comfortable and secure for God's faithful servants in need. Every dollar of your gift, whether four or much more, will find its way to someone like Frances who sacrificed much for Christ in years past and who now doesn't have to worry about "making it" to the end of each month.

Grace and peace,



John Ambra
Director of Development

P.S. In addition to the survey we mailed our recipients, we also sent a separate one to about half our donors. The responses were extremely helpful in letting us know what Mission:Dignity means to you. One common theme we saw was the passion our donors have about helping others through Mission:Dignity. You count it a joy and privilege to give for their financial well-being and as an expression of your gratitude for their many years of service. You frequently mentioned terms like "honoring" and "giving back."

Two other interesting statistics showed that a little more than half of our donors (54%) still like to give to their favorite charities by mail, but an increasing number (43%) have a desire to give online with credit card giving being twice as popular as bank drafts.

Fortunately, we have options for every preference. If you are one of those who wants to consider giving online, it's a very secure option and saves both time and postage. You can even set up an automatic monthly gift via credit card or bank draft. Just visit our website at **MissionDignity.org** and look for the green Donate Today button.

If you have any questions or would like additional info, you can send an email note to **MissionDignity@GuideStone.org** or call us, toll-free, at **877-888-9409**.

Thanks again for your partnership in ministry!