

## Aunt Carrie's Verse

By

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Aunt Carrie's letters always began the same: "Dear Ones, I hope this finds you all well."

There would be news of how things were going for Aunt Carrie and her sister, Julia, who shared her home. A short summary followed, concerning other relatives Aunt Carrie had recently heard from or visited.

Written on a blue lined tablet, the letters were filled with love and concern for each member of the family.

Aunt Carrie was my father's sister. A widow, she'd also lost her only child when he was around the age of twelve.

At least three times a year our aunt would send us bulky packages wrapped in brown paper.

Packed neatly inside were items such as rice, sugar, dried beans or other staples. Around the start of school each year, the packages also contained underwear, handkerchiefs, notebook paper, and pencils.

Without fail, the letters from Aunt Carrie were signed, "Much love to all."

As was her usual custom she noted one of her favorite verses from the Bible: "Numbers 6: 24."

"The Lord bless thee and keep thee..."

This lovely verse would forever be linked in our family's minds to our beloved aunt.

It's a good verse, a powerful verse, one that suits any occasion in life.

What more could we ask for those we love than that the Lord bless and keep them?

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