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**AIM FOR THE
HIGHEST**

inspiration for your

LIFE • MINISTRY • BUSINESS

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WHERE SELDOM IS HEARD....

I guess most of us would know the old cowboy song...

*"O give me a home where the buffaloes roam
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day
Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day"*

Bing Crosby, Roy Rogers, Jimmy Dean, Burl Ives, Connie Francis, and even the Mormon Tabernacle Choir have performed the song! I researched the song online and found out the following:

"This song started its life as a poem written by Dr. Brewster Higley in Smith County, Kansas in the early 1870s. Higley originally called it "My Western Home". The poem was published in 1873 in the "Smith County Pioneer" as "Oh Give Me a Home Where the Buffalo Roam". A patient of Dr. Higley's persuaded him to have the words put to music, resulting in "Home on the Range". And, on June 30, 1947, the Kansas legislature made "Home on the Range" the official state song.

One line in the song resonates with me... **"Where seldom is heard a discouraging word."** With all the negativity we hear on the news these days wouldn't it be nice if one news broadcast a week was limited to GOOD NEWS ONLY. We can only dream!! Even the Lord's people can get sucked into a downward spiral of discouragement and despair. Someone once said that *"Some Christians can look at a donut and all they see is the hole!"* So, let me **encourage** you to do the following:

First of all, read I Thessalonians 4:13-18. That's the section in the New Testament that speaks about Jesus' return. V.18 tells us to *"encourage each other with*

these words.” The Lord is coming back!! Let's encourage each other that our future is secure. Secondly, let's make it our goal to be an encourager. Go out of our way to encourage others as often as we can. I want our church family to be filled with encouragement this year – so that when people come to visit us they immediately sense a spirit of encouragement. Let the Little Brown Church be a place *“where seldom is heard a discouraging word.”*