olume 27 Issue 05

2nd Chance at Life

Testimony of hope & freedom



Are Your Kids
Addicted to
VIDEO GAMEST

Every Word COUNTS Watch your mouth

The Legacy of a GOD-FEARING DAD

How to deal with Grieving Friends

The father heart of

ANTHONY LIEBENBERG

12 Ways Satan Attacks Christian Mardanes

Theo & Sophia Roman

Bringing the Gospel to Mitchells Plain



5 REASONS TO CELEBRATE DADS



THE MOST EXTREME LEADERSHIP GAP YEAR OF YOUR LIFE

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JANUARY - JUNE 2018 | JULY - NOVEMBER 2018

THE CONCEPT OF 'EXTREME EDUCATION' WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DISCOVER AND DEVELOP THEIR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

What makes your programme extreme and adventurous?

We offer students a wide range of extreme activities to participate in such as: sky diving, bungee jumping, scuba diving, mountain biking, abseiling, kayaking etc.

What is the value of a gap year programme?

A gap year gives young people time to reflect on what they think would be the college/varsity or career choice best suited to their needs. It allows them to clarify their interests and become aware of their strengths and weaknesses.

We also believe a gap year allows them to take advantage of learning that takes place outside the classroom and apply these skills in real life situations, within a protected environment. It is imperative that youths experience life in communities different from those in which they have been living and our extreme gap year programme offers them this experience. We further believe that gap years allow students to learn about a variety of careers before making a critical decision and to gain maturity, initiative and resourcefulness, all valuable life skills.

What outcome do you hope is achieved in every student's life once completing your programme?

Our programme is designed to meet, challenge and grow the complete individual, body, soul and spirit, as we train tomorrow's leaders today. Our desire is for the young person to have fun and 'discover themselves' as they are developed into a person with vision and purpose. We endeavour to take boys and girls and to mould them into young men and women that will have a positive influence on our society and the world.

Describe how the programme works - when is your intake, how long does it last and how much does it cost?

The Beyond Adventure Extreme Leadership Gap Year Programme was launched in 2001. We are located 100 kilometres north east of Port Elizabeth in Alicedale. We are situated close to some of the great game reserves such as Addo Elephant Park and Shamwari. Our programme runs from the last week in January till the middle of November. The students are accommodated in rooms where they will learn to live with three other students. Cost enquires and further info can be obtained from our offices as well as our website www. beyondadventure.co.za, under the download section.

What makes your programme unique as opposed to other Gap year courses?

We believe the Beyond Adventure concept to be unique in South Africa. The concept of 'Extreme Education' was designed to provide a challenging environment for young people to discover and develop their leadership potential. Leadership deals with direction, vision, purpose and principles and our leadership programme focuses on building the students up, making them aware of other cultures, helping them with emotional bank account building and strengthening them as individuals functioning in a group context.

Most importantly, we run a programme that is founded on Biblical principles with Jesus Christ as the foundation stone.



For more info contact us on T: 042 231 8051 • F: 086 618 4803 • E: baregistrations@myriver.com Beyond Adventure Campus • Bushman Sands Lodge & Golf Estate • Alicedale • Eastern Cape

NEWS

KEEPING CHRISTIANS INFORMED

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CHRISTIAN
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PORTAL



STAY INFORMED WITH GLOBAL CHRISTIAN NEW STANDERS IN STANDARD STAND

ESSENTIAL FOR GAINING & MAINTAINING ABIBLICAL WORLDVIEW



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JOY!

Real Life Real People Real Christianity

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JOY! Magazine seeks to serve the whole Body of Christ and therefore does not necessarily subscribe to all the views of its contributors.

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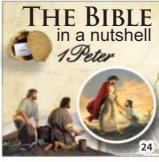




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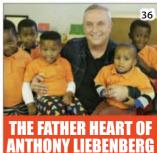
IN THIS ISSUE:



The Reasons For Suffering



A Mitchells Plain Revival



Communities & Lives Changed

WHAT ARE CHRISTIAN

MISSIONSP

Are They Worthwhile?

IS YOUR KID ADDICTED

Tips To Help Break The Addiction

TO VIDEO GAMES

COVER STORY:

- Theo & Sophia Roman Transforming The Cape Flats For Jesus
- The Father Heart Of Anthony Liebenberg

NEWS:

16 - 20

FEATURE STORIES:

- JOY! Bible Fun Word Search
- **Musings & Reflections**
- Revealing Ruth: A Book Of Courage, Faith, & Love Jews For Jesus
- 22 23 Why Is God Known As The Father Of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob?
- 24 27 The Bible In A Nutshell - 1 Peter
- Words Of Wisdom From Godly Men
- 28 Gideon, The Unlikely Hero - Nico Bougas
- What Are Christian Missions? Are They Worthwhile?
- Interview With Ps Marc Bredenkamp
- My Best Friend, The Holy Spirit II Dr. Siva Moodley
- 54 55 5 Reasons To Celebrate Dads
- Delicious Flapjack Recipe
- S Things Men Must Know About Women Speaking Life Over Your Wife The Blessing Of Marriage Errol Naidoo Growing In Sexual Intimacy 56
- 57
- 60
- 64
- 12 Ways Satan Attacks Marriages 65
- Are Your Kids Addicted To Video Games? 66 **Business Advice From Christian Leaders**
- 72 74 Born With A Dream - Stories Of Hope
- 76 **Trending Books & Authors**
- 81 This Month In Christian History - Saint Boniface
- The Light Shines In Cambodia
- The Importance Of African Bible Translations
- Bringing The Gospel To The Philippines
- The Legacy Of A God-Fearing Dad On The Frontlines Of Faith
- South African Evangelists 90
- Fearful Unbelief Reinhard Bonnke 92
- How To Deal With Grieving Friends Nico Bougas

COLUMNS:

- Editor's Note "God-incidences"
- Beyond A Crisis Bishop Tshalo Katshunga

REGULARS:

- Counteracting The Spirit Of Fear Harold F. Weitsz
- Letters To The Editor
- Ask Val

MEDIA SECTION:

- Every Word Counts André & Jenny Roebert
- 48 FBN TV Guide
- Trending Books & Authors 76
- TBN TV Guide







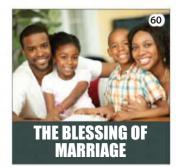


It's So Easy To Say The Wrong Thing Flapjacks For Fathers' Day!



Broken Holy Covenants





Families Are The Cornerstone



VALUES

Strive for excellence and integrity in all things

Provide interesting, accurate and honest reporting at all times

Respect all Christian denominations

Always seek to unite the Body of Christ

Evaluate everything in the light of the Bible

Provoke readers to fulfil the Biblical mandate to be salt and light in society

Encourage reader participation

Motivate readers to action

Be solution-focused

Take personal responsibility

VISION

JOY! Magazine seeks to glorify God by educating and informing Christians of a Biblical Worldview and applying the Lordship of Jesus Christ to all areas of life.

"God-Incidences"

"Remember the things I have done in the past For I alone am God, I am God, and there is none like me. Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass for I do whatever I wish... I have said what I would do, and I will do it."

- Isaiah 46:9-11

hat often appears to us as random chance or coincidence is in fact overseen by a sovereign God who knows the number of hairs on every head (Luke 12:7). God states that He is in charge of everything. I am so grateful to be a child of God and to get to experience these coincidences – and I am even more grateful that I get to praise the Lord and thank Him publically.

Just the other day I was encouraging one of our new sales ladies in the office. I shared with her how, when praying for her, God had 'shown' me a picture of a field with rows of freshly ploughed and prepared soil, and likened this to the 'field' that He has prepared for her to work in. Our company (the magazines and websites) is the seed. All He asks of her is to go out and plant the seed in the field. She must do this everyday, even if she sometimes feels that she is not seeing any results or becomes discouraged. He will water, fertilise, and watch over them for her. She must just pray and ask Him. Further, He showed me that she must not tire or grow weary of doing this. Galatians 6:9 instructs, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Well, only a week later she was telling me that she had met up with a spiritual friend for coffee. She had started to share this vision that I had shared with her. To her surprise, the friend pulled out a gift box. Her friend said she was not sure if she should have given it to her, but after hearing this story she knew that it was meant for her. Have a look at the photos below of the box. I have included the outside, inside, and the garden gloves that it contained. My sales lady knew immediately that God was speaking to her! What encouragement and perfect timing.

God is in control of our lives – submit all your ways before Him and He will continually show you His goodness. We serve a Father who loves us and wants us to know Him intimately and deeply. What a faithful, awesome Father we have.



God bless,



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LABOURERS TOAETHER) WITH AND FOR GOD; YOU ARE GOD'S GARDEN AND VINEYARD AND FIELDT UNDER (ULTIVATION..." I CORINTHIANS 3:9 (AMPC)

Inside message

SHOW YOUR DAD HOW MUCH HE MEANS TO YOU THIS FATHERS' DAY!

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COUNTERACTING THE SPIRIT OF FEAR & INSURGENCY

—by Harold F. Weitsz

hen the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him." - Isaiah 59:19

Right now, we are experiencing a flood of insurgency and lawless actions in our land. This, in turn, is causing a spirit of fear and distress to be loosed. We, as the Body of Christ, are empowered to pray and take authority over the forces of darkness. The above verse clearly indicates that God's Holy Spirit is the overcoming power that drives the enemy away even though the devil appears to be coming in like a flood. The New Testament 'standard' that is raised against the enemy is found in the restraining power of the blood of Jesus. His blood renders the enemy harmless.

We have a covenant with the Lord that embodies protection, provision, and incorporates all the promises contained in the Word. The spirit of fear must be counteracted with the spirit of faith and trust in what the Lord can do. This authority that we have in Christ is released through a powerful prayer and Word base. We must pray the Word of God into the situations that surround us and we will see the salvation of the Lord as He watches over His Word to perform (Jer. 1:12, Is. 55:11).

As believers, we are commanded not to allow fear to control us, but always be assured that our God is in control. Our Father will never forsake the righteous. (2 Tim 1:7) •

www.haroldweitsz.com

Livestream: www.littlefalls.co.za

The time for Reconciliation is never over

—by Tendai Chitsike

ur nation has been challenged by the rising temperature generated by political populism. In one such statement in parliament it was declared that "the time for reconciliation is over." As believers, this presents a wider challenge of how we ought to deal with challenges in our nation, be it land reform or otherwise, while remaining true to our Biblical convictions. First and foremost, we ought to take what we hear in the political and other realms of life, and hold it up to the light of Scripture. If the noble Bereans searched the Scriptures daily to see if what the apostle Paul said was true, how much more should we hold up the statements of politicians, media, and ourselves to evaluate what is true and good from what is not?

If we apply this approach to the comments concerning reconciliation, we find that this statement could not be further from the truth. We find that God has given us, His Church, the ministry of reconciliation. We find that He has broken the dividing wall of hostility between ethnicities. We find that in Christ, He has made one new man out of His Church.

We find that His peacemakers will be called sons of God. In short, we find that God has reconciled us in Christ and has given us a ministry of reconciliation. Our primary and unchanging mandate comes from Him and not the shifting sands of human opinion. So, while we seek God's wisdom on the issues of our day, may we reflect Christ and His mission to the world. rather than withdrawing into fear or pursuing an agenda that is antithetical to the spirit of Christ. As the Word and the Spirit lead you, may you follow the Lamb wherever He goes to be a reconciler in our nation. The time for reconciliation is far from over; nay, it must remain till eternity.

EVERY NATION CHURCH GRAHAMSTOWN

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Twitter - @haroldweitsz



JOIN OUR INTERCESSORY PRAYER NETWORK

"If My people, who are called by My Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."



prayer@joymag.co.za



BISHOP TSHALO KATSHUNGA

BEYOND A CRISIS

ough times and turbulent periods are part of our human experience. Whether a crisis was self-inflicted, God-orchestrated, or of demonic origin, it will eventually come to an end. The tragedy I've observed over the years is that many people don't know how to handle life "beyond a crisis". This article aims to give a few nuggets of wisdom that will give a better handle beyond any crisis one will ever face.

- First and most important is to saturate your soul with the Word of God. I have learnt from last fall when Cape Town went through a couple days of gale force winds that being routed to the source is of paramount importance. This revelation came from observing my garden, which had been affected by the strong winds. I noticed that the smaller trees remained standing while a huge one collapsed. Out curiosity I went to check how this happened and realised that the roots of the huge tree had died prior to the winds, which resulted in its fall.
- Secondly, do all you can do mend fences the crisis created.
 Ensure that in cases of relationships, emotions have no gaping openings. If the crisis involved people, try by all means to restore relationships to normality.
- Thirdly, because crises come and go all the time, try to use the power of hindsight or foresight to wise-up for future crises. Don't be found wanting again and again. As commonly said, fools don't learn that's why they repeat the same mistake over and over again.
- Finally, never forget to keep the big picture in mind; the glory of God and the building up of others. Make your life a wonderful adventure.

STANDARD EQUIPPING KINGDOM LEADERS

God wants us to STAND IN THE GAP

hat will move the hand of God in our cities and nation? What is God looking for? God is looking to us, as the Church, to stand in the gap on behalf of the nation and cry out to Him from a place of brokenness and humility for His mercy.

God spoke through Ezekiel saying, "So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one." – Ezekiel 22:30.

A powerful dream

The Church is called to identify with the sin of the nation and intercede on the behalf of the people so that God may spare us. We must also acknowledge our own sin and, in true repentance, judge ourselves so that we can escape the judgement of the Lord.

In a dream, the Holy Spirit gave a phrase to me. The words were: "Brokenness of heart releases a fragrance that moves the hand of God on our behalf." If I could summarise in just a few words the message contained in my dream would be this:

For the most part the Church in the nation was out of sink with the heart of God, with regards to the state of the nation. While God was grieving and His heart was breaking over what was going on in the nation, the Church went about being busy with her own religious activities totally ignorant of the issues the nation was facing.

What does the Bible say?

Let's look at Nehemiah's response when hearing news of the great distress of Jerusalem and his fellow Jews:

"So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven." – Nehemiah 1:4.

"Please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You. Both my father's house and I have sinned." – Nehemiah 1:6.

Seek for the broken heart of Nehemiah

The above Scriptures illustrate a broken and contrite heart, weeping and mourning for the plight of his people. He then takes ownership and identifies with the sin of his people as he prays to the Lord to, "Please let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant".

May we all seek to have the broken **heart of** Nehemiah, standing in the gap for our nation.

God bless you, **Andreas**

ANDREAS KYRIACOU is the founder of Alpha and Omega Ministries International. He is an apostolic and prophetic voice to many churches around the globe alphaomegaint.org.za







PAUL SCANLON

THURSDAY

JUNE

XFORD VILLAGE

FRIDAY

ARTH ROAD, MAYVILLE



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you are always welcome here

JESUS DOME

8am • 10.30am • 5pm

39 GARTH ROAD • MAYVILLE

HILLCREST

8am • 10.30am

9 OLD MAIN ROAD • BELOW OXFORD VILLAGE

PHOENIX

8am • 10.30am

126 ABERVALE RD • RYDALVALE • PHOENIX















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> 7PM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EDITOR@JOYMAG.CO.ZA

Why is the Church not influencing society?

Why are evangelical Christians so silent in the public domain with regards to issues of the day? Voicing the teachings of the Bible regarding daily living seems largely confined to church buildings, Christian magazines, and Christian television and radio; which is seldom accessed by the mainstream public. Issues such as: violent / destructive protests and labour strikes, murders and crime due to gangsterism and farm attacks, introduction of ungodly and unbiblical laws and regulations, frequent criticism of Christianity in public spaces, obsession with political correctness, market domination of foodstuffs offered to idols, and blasphemy against the Name of Christ on public television are just some of the things that continue unabated due to our indifference, and also results in God's judgement over our country. Even megachurches of evangelical Christians are unable to use their huge congregations to positively influence mainstream South African society - whether it be on a local or international level. Outside mass evangelistic and prayer campaigns in stadiums and community halls in communities are rarely seen. Not even simple media statements are issued by Godly Christian leaders, well-known televangelists, and evangelical churches to speak out against these things; as if they have been prohibited, like in communist countries. The voices of politicians are also heeded to more than the Word of God. The church's continual acceptance of ungodly practices, and compromise of God's standards, undoubtedly contributes to the worsening of evil in the country. A spiritual war is raging in our country, yet believers are asleep and unable to stand up for the Lord Jesus Christ, as soldiers of the Cross. Perhaps an in-depth article on the different ways in which Christians, as individuals and collectively, can be more effective and practical in South Africa, would assist in spurring us on to action again. Awareness regarding

how the Church can have a louder voice and become a stronger force, by also supporting existing Christian civil organisations in extremely large numbers; is definitely also a key aspect in this regard. This mass support for these groups who often have to battle it out in court will serve as an indication that whatever actions are called for, are not merely the sentiments of an isolated part of the Christian community; and therefore has to be considered by errant authorities. Other religions may also feed and clothe the poor and needy, but it is only the Church that can and must go out and contend for our precious faith in Christ (Jude 3). Let us therefore pray for God to open our spiritual eyes and to empower us to put our faith in Him into more concrete action.

R Bartes

Thank you Mr Bartes for your welcome letter. I comment in my personal capacity. I believe the reason Christians do not influence society is because most Christians do not hold onto or possess a Biblical Worldview. They read secular books, magazines, and newspapers and watch secular movies and TV series, and listen to secular news stations and broadcasts. They therefore have Christian theology in their hearts, but live and make decisions from a secular perspective. Many, if not most, churches do not have Bible schools where appropriation of one's faith in society and Biblical worldview teachings should be taught. Offering Bible studies is a difference thing. Most Pastors only get to teach their members for an hour on Sunday mornings or evenings. These services are used mainly for, and rightly so, to teach about Jesus, and build good theology in their hearts. JOY! Magazine exists to fill this gap in some small way. Our vision is to "educate and inform Christians of the Biblical Worldview and to promote the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all areas of life". We also have an Afrikaans magazine called JUIG! and a Christian news site called JOY! News - www.joynews.co.za. This website can be

accessed by cellphones, tablets, or computers. Daily Christian news is available to you 24/7. Regular reading of this news will certainly influence and, hopefully, motivate one to become an active Christian citizen.

-Erin Georgiou, Editor

Reading JOY! each month is such a treat

May I compliment you on your magazine. I look forward to buying and reading the JOY! Magazine every month. Both my parents and I read it. Getting your magazine is one of our treats and highlights each month. I even tick the pages once I have read the articles to make sure I read the magazine cover to cover. Through your *Jews For Jesus articles*, I recently had the privilege of having a very enjoyable coffee meeting with Dr. Michael Sischy from *Jews For Jesus*. May God bless your year ahead.

Greg Olfin

With faith, we walk with victory

The adage, broadly to the effect "You have to work hard to get anything worth having" or, put differently, "Anything worth having doesn't come easy" is oft-repeated because, generally-speaking, it is very true. The fact that we are born as 'man after the Fall' means that for each and every one of us, walking with God does not come naturally. It wasn't meant to be easy, so it is never going to be easy. Having said that, knowing what is at stake and, looking to our God to sustain us, we can walk the walk - and, indeed, do it with a sense of joy and peace. With faith, we walk with a sense of victory, of overcoming and, as we walk, we rejoice at the many good things in our lives. In saying that something is not easy, this implies the converse - that it's tough. But, this doesn't mean tough in the sense of, for example, the cowboy classic, Clint Eastwood's, A Fistful of Dollars. We mustn't think we are not tough enough to do it. Rather, our context is that each one of us is made differently and we have grown up differently – as a result, to each of us, 'tough' means different things. God seeks us out and meets us in the place where He finds us. He meets our needs, each of us in our own way. He sustains each one of us in a completely different way because He made us unique, one and all. That is how special our God is and that's how special we actually should know that we are. Ours is a God of untold miracles.

Sandy Johnston

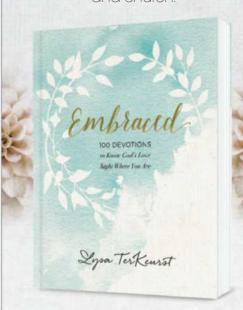
I escaped a stabbing, in Jesus' Name

About a year ago I was doing some work in the main street of Vereeniging. I needed to draw some money, so I walked down to the mall and went inside. As I came out of the mall, there was a very busy street market with lots of people milling around. Suddenly, a very large man appeared in front of me. He pulled out a knife with a ten-inch blade and lifted it above his head in an attempt to stab me. I grabbed his hand with both my hands. For a second or two I had a feeling of sheer terror, then I shouted at the top of my voice, (it came out more like a roar), "I bind you in Jesus' Name". He calmly put the knife down, turned, and blended into the crowd. As I was walking away a youngster came up to me and said, "Oom, you have to carry a knife in this area", and he showed me his small pocketknife. I replied, "No, I don't need to". As I walked across the street another man said, "Wow that was a big knife!" To which I replied, "Not as big as my Jesus". When I got back to where I was working, I thought about why I didn't I even look behind me as I walked away? He could have come up behind me and stabbed me from behind. But then I realised I had experienced such peace as I walked away that there was no need for concern. My heavenly Father showed me that the promises of Psalm 91 are literal, "That He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty." Thank you Father for your abiding promises!

Jeremy Taylor »

Embraced By Lysa TerKeurst

Favorite messages from Lysa's best-selling books have been brought together for the first time in a remarkable new devotional. The 100 readings were chosen for their relevance to the issues women face in matters of faith, marriage, motherhood, career and church.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EDITOR@JOYMAG.CO.ZA

I am a living testament to God's protection

I was born and raised in a small town called Ceres. I married my husband on the 4th September 2010 and moved to Gordon's Bay, where we still reside today. In 2013 I started a training company with the finances that I had available after our debts were paid; it was an extremely stressful time as I had to build the business from the ground. I was constantly making appointments with potential clients and I thought the fear that I experienced was due to the building of my business. I ignored my own spirit and thought this was just a warning for my family and that as I served God, I would not be involved in any accidents. Before I leave home in the mornings, I pray and ask God to give His angels charge over me, according to Psalm 91.

I am a testament that I was kept in the arms of angels, sent by God, to hold me whilst I was stuck in my car the morning of 19 August 2014. As I read through the reports concluded by the police, my vehicle had to be cut open with jaws to remove me from the wreck. I suffered major injuries, a ruptured aorta, and swelling on my brain (which led to memory loss). The manner in which I came back to life was a choice to choose life, whilst walking a grave yard. Two weeks before the week of 18 August 2014, I became scared and dreamt about accidents. In the mornings I prayed for my family, asking God to protect them on the roads. In the week of 18 August 2014, I had an important meeting with a potential client and I had to conclude all smaller projects in that week. Monday 18 August 2014 my husband would take the back road through Kuilsriver, instead of the highway, to my destination. Kuilsriver road was less busy and I was able to drive on a calmer road – we came to this conclusion based on the ongoing fear that I had been experiencing and the dreams I had. We prayed and went to sleep.

Instead of taking Kuilsriver's road, I somehow took the wrong turn and ended up on the highway. Between Monday evening and Tuesday morning, I had dreamt that I walked in a grave yard with my husband's late dad and late brother. I stood still and realised that they were dead, yet I was standing with them in a graveyard. To my right was a gate and next to the gate a big rock with a blue/ green colour lighting, shining through the rock. I stood still and looked at the surroundings – it was so dark. My late father in law walked on as my late brother in law waved at me to come with them into the grave yard, I stood still and said to myself, "I choose life, I want to live". When I opened my eyes I was in Panorama hospital's ICU with my husband and my dad next to me. On recovering, I just took one day at a time. Sometimes it was very dark and depressing. I thought I made the wrong decision to choose life as I had no feelings/emotions. But just like I chose life while walking in the grave yard, I was determined within myself to trust God in everything. It was only the end of 2017 that I began to get hope back and experience God's joy.

Leandra Cairncross



WORD SEARCH

ACTS 2:1-13

T	Н	G	Н	W		Α	L	K	Т	Р	0	N	Т	U	S
0	R	0	U	S	Е	Т		М	Α	L	Е	W		N	D
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С	Е	Α	L	Т	Е	М	М	Υ		0	U	N	F	Α	D
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PENTECOST
PERPLEXED
PHRYGIA
PONTUS
REST
ROME
SPEAKING
TONGUES OF FIRE
VIOLENT
WIND
WONDERS

PARTHIANS



This word puzzle was crafted by Theresa Jones who is a local author. JOY! has released a Biblical Word Search book that we are giving as a FREE GIFT with every JOY! or JUIG! Subscription. Email us on info@joymag.co.za to subscribe.

Musings







Jimmy Carter



God gives us the capacity for choice. We can choose to alleviate suffering. We can choose to work together for peace. We can make these changes – and we must.



"We need an untamed Saviour because ... only a wildly redemptive Jesus can free us from the pain and bondage of our past mistakes."

- Lisa Harper

To the Greek, the Cross was foolishness. To the Jew, it was a stumbling block. What is it about the Cross of Christ that so roundly defies everything that power relishes?

Crucifixion was humiliating. It was so humiliating that the Romans who specialized in the art of torture assured their own citizenry that a Roman could never be crucified. But not only was it humiliating, it was excruciating. In fact, the very word "excruciating" comes from two Latin words: *ex cruciatus*, or out of the Cross. Crucifixion was the defining word for pain.

Does that not give us pause in this season now before us? Think of it: humiliation and agony. This was the path Jesus chose with which to reach out for you and for me...

Ravi Zacharias

The fact that someone is not able to see your worth should not be your source of frustration. Sometimes God blinds the wrong people in order for them not to know or understand who you are, so that they cannot destroy what He has put in you. Hold on!!!

- Patience Miengana



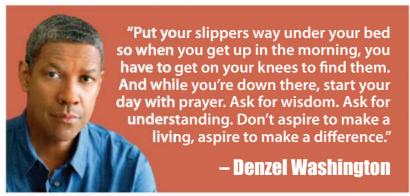


Dietrich Bonhoeffer



"Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ."

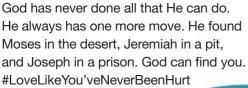






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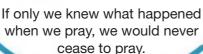








Louie Giglio 📀





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and give you a comebackover the hardships of life.





JOY! NEWS

KEEPING CHRISTIANS INFORMED

Connecting Modern Israel With Biblical Israel

GQ Magazine Attacks Bible, Labelling It As 'Foolish & III-Intentioned'

A new Hebrew-English Bible with a distinctly Israeli flavour has been published in honour of Israel's 70th anniversary GE

he Bible is the best-selling book of all time, but the fashion-smart editors of GQ have unequivocally decided that the Good Book isn't worthy of our facetime. GQ printed: "The Holy Bible is rated very highly by all the people who supposedly live by it, but who in actuality have not read it. Those who have read it know there are some good parts, but overall it is certainly not the finest thing that man has ever produced. It is repetitive, self-contradictory, sententious, foolish, and even at times ill-intentioned."

Instead, these glitz

and glam editors believe you should read *The Notebook* by Agota Kristof. New-wave European fiction can never outlast, outsell or outdo the Bible. No one who has read it with an open heart could suggest so. Make no mistake, The Notebook will pass away. GQ will pass away. Heaven and earth will pass away. But the Word of God will never pass away. The Word of God never fails. God watches over His Word to perform it.

Andy Stanley: Church Unity Is More Important Than 'Being Theologically Correct'



hurch unity is more important than "theological correctness," according to North Point Community Church Senior Pastor Andy Stanley at a conference with approximately 8000 attendees. At the Orange Conference, which focuses on issues of church leadership, Stanley spoke about the importance of Christians of different denominations being "one" in their mission. The influential author and speaker said that he found it significant that Jesus prayed for the disciples to be one, rather than for other things, including good health and being theologically accurate. "He prayed for our oneness, that we'd be on the same page," said Stanley. "This is mission critical. If they

are not one, we will not win ... unity is mission critical and disunity disrupts the mission." Stanley spoke of how he came to believe that believing in Jesus Christ was more important than theological arguments like how communion should be served or if babies should be baptised. "Will we prioritise our oneness over our doctrinal peculiarities? Our baptism, our communion, our style of worship, our preaching?" he posed. Stanley argued that oneness in the faith was "more important than being theologically correct," adding that he believed when Christians of various denominations get to Heaven "we will discover that when it comes to theology, we were all wrong about something.



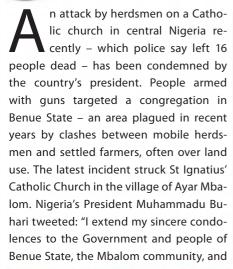
HOLY

BIBLE



Nigeria's Muslim President Condemns Church Attack Which Leaves 16 Dead

Trump Recently Met With Buhari in Washington





especially the Bishop, priests, & members of the St Ignatius' Catholic Church, whose premises were the unfortunate venue of the heinous killings of worshippers & two priests by gunmen." Hundreds of people have died in violence in Benue so far this year - with disputes over grazing rights and access to fertile land fuelling tensions. Both herdsmen - who are mainly Muslim and from the Fulani ethnic group - and the settled farmers - who are predominantly Christian - have carried out attacks.



President Trump Tells Nigerian President Buhari:

'We Cannot **Allow Christians** To Be Murdered'



President Muhammado Buhari

Over 6 Million Jews Were **Murdered During The Holocaust**

66 % of

American

Millennials

Have Never

heard of

Auschwitz or

the Holocaust

orth Korea's dictator, Kim Jongun, met with South Korean president Moon Jae-in on April 27 and announced that the 67-year-old Korean conflict is over. "I came here to put an end to the history of confrontation. There will be no more war on the Korean peninsula, and a new age of peace has begun," the two leaders said in a joint statement. Christians in South Korea had been fasting and praying for the

peace summit. Pastors held an all-night vigil in the city of Paju, south of the North Korean border. North Korea's persecuted Christians have also been praying for this moment—for years. They have been horribly persecuted. They have been forced to meet secretly. They have been routinely



After Prayer & Fasting Prior To Peace Summit, North Korea

Will Finally Open Its Doors To Christianity

rounded up and sent to labour camps—or just shot on sight—because they did not worship Kim Jong-un as their god. God has worked this miracle. He will engineer a lasting peace in this part of the world, and open the doors wide for the Gospel to flourish in a thirsty land.

Schoen Consulting Survey

Jesus performed the majority of His miracles in Capernaum

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God used
Todd White to
heal a blind
lady's vision
in Capernaum
through prayer
and laying on of
hands



e are living in a perilous era, where even the media cannot be trusted. Influential powers, such as politicians, have been observed to have swayed the media into reporting biased news, in favour of such influential powers. Many tactics have been utilised, such as fake news, clickbait headlines, and a genuine lack of fact-checking. In this era where our culture is veering further and further away from God's order and His truths, it is so important to be aware of what you are consuming and filling yourself with. If you are fed up with so many biased news stations, then it is time to start empowering yourself with knowledge by

doing your own research. Do not take things at face-value anymore, especially not news sites. Almost everyone has an agenda or a subjective narrative. Here at JOY! News, we are utterly sold-out for the Gospel. Our only goal is to do whatever we can to further the Lord's Kingdom here on earth by educating and informing Christians of a Biblical world-view. We have launched this news site that covers daily Christian news from South Africa, as well as around the globe. Please make sure to subscribe to our weekly newsletter to keep updated and informed with what is going on around the world, from a Christian perspective. Visit www.joynews.co.za

Google Rejects Christian Publisher Ads That Mention Jesus



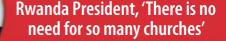
Censorship of Christian content has been more prevalent lately across a multitude of websites

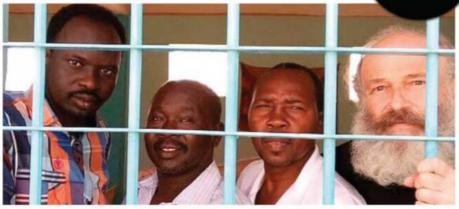
oogle controls many of the ads seen by consumers online, which means they also have control of what consumers don't see. Now a Christian publishing house says Google is intentionally banning ad content from their website. "This morning, we learned that Google ads will no longer accept anything related to our domain. They stated that the reason is "because of the faith we express on our website," wrote Concordia Publishing House CEO Bruce Kintz. "Google informed CPH that the type of ad in question would not be allowed based on Google's policy of religious belief in personalised content. As a Google AdWords Support representative explained, the disapproval resulted from the fact that the items in the ad and on the website refer to Jesus and/or the Bible. Clearly, CPH does not agree with Google's decision in this matter. We are not willing to sacrifice our beliefs to comply with Google's requirements". Kintz said that as society becomes increasingly hostile towards the Christian faith, their mission becomes all the more important.

Asma Yaqoob, 24, Died In North Eastern Pakistan Recently



Sudan Missionary Tortured By ISIS And Imprisoned For 14 Months — Led 40 To Christ Over Period





harged with being a spy, Czech missionary, Petr Jasek endured a 14-month imprisonment in Sudan where he was tortured by fellow cellmates. But Jesus supernaturally imparted peace during his confinement and he became a bold witness, winning many to Christ. Jasek shared an overcrowded cell with ISIS fighters and refugees, and was tortured and beaten to near-death. When Jasek began to exalt and glorify the Lord's name during his beatings, this made them even more furious. Jasek didn't have access to a Bible during his captivity, so he meditated on Scriptures he had memorised. "I was literally at ing the Lord that He will keep my mind

sound and that I wouldn't lose my mind," Jasek said. "The Holy Spirit kept reminding me some of the verses that I had memorised. This was just enough for me, to give me enough strength to pray. We were squeezed in a small room—15 by 18 feet. There were sometimes 40 of us. That was the situation and I was able to lead 40 Eritrean refugees to Christ," he said. "It was like new revelation for me. I started to be courageous and openly shared the Gospel with other fellow prisoners." In February 2017, he was granted a presidential pardon and the Sudanese President ordered his immediate release. He returned to the Czech Republic, and continues to share the Gospel.



Beth Moore On Sexual Abuse: Why Is The Church Last To Expose And First To Cover?

ible teacher Beth Moore says it is the will of God for Christians to expose evil, and she admits that for years she was part of a culture of silence about sexual abuse. Moore, herself a victim of sexual abuse as a child, spoke recently about the abuse she suffered in her home. The crime left her with a pervasive sense of shame that lasted for years. "What people don't understand," she said, "is that somebody's selfish five minutes can cause a lifetime of painful memories and set them on a course to question everything they believe to be true." Moore knows telling the truth can be hard and shared how her life was affected when she revealed the abuse. She first publicly referenced the sexual abuse in a book and even then did not identify her

abuser. But she said the revelation caused a schism between her and her mother that never fully healed. "When my mom found out she said, 'We protect the family.' There was a sense of shame to her for revealing what happened." The pressure to remain silent about the abuse came from others too. She was told by a mentor early on in her ministry that she should never share the abuse story, that it would "sink her ministry." She said her advisor was wrong because staying silent leaves you feeling nothing except anger. The result, in her case, was a shattered worldview and poor choices. Using Ephesians 5:11 as a reference she said the church must expose sin and needs to become a shelter for the abused, not the abusers: "When we don't expose them we are taking part in those

works of darkness. We are part of the silence culture," adding, "Why is the church often the last to expose and the first to cover?"

— Christianity Today



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Newly Minted Trump/Cyrus Third Temple Coin — The Prophetic Significance



coin minted to celebrate Israel's 70th birthday has Donald Trump's profile superimposed over King Cyrus on one side and the third temple on the other. It's called the temple coin. "The fact that Orthodox Jews wanted to honour Trump for recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and they minted this coin—a one-half silver shekel—is as if they are confirming this word given by Christians as valid," says Warren Marcus, the executive producer of It's Supernatural! With Sid Roth. "The great significance is that on one side the coin has the image of Cyrus and Trump. On the other side it has the image of the third temple yet to be built. The one half-silver shekel during the time of the temple was required to be paid as an offering by each male of a Jewish household during Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) that was earmarked for the upkeep of the holy temple! It is the hope of the Orthodox Jews who minted this coin that this coin will be actually used to pay that offering again for the upkeep of the third temple," Marcus says. Many modern-day prophets, including Lance Wallnau and Mak Taylor, prophesied Trump would be like King Cyrus of the Bible. The prophet Isaiah wrote: "Thus says the Lord to Cyrus, His anointed, whose right hand I have held—to subdue nations before him and to loosen the loins of kings, to open doors before him so that the gates will not be shut: I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and shatter

the bars of iron. And I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places so that you may know that I, the Lord, who calls you by your name, am the God of Israel." - Isaiah 45:1-3. The coin, a joint effort of the nascent Sanhedrin, the Mikdash (Temple) Educational Centre and the United Temple Movements, was prepared to honour Israel's 70th anniversary. "In the context of the coin, we are expressing gratitude for President Trump's bold decision to transfer the American Embassy to Jerusalem, thereby recognising King David's capital and the site of Solomon's temple as the true capital of Israel," Mordechai Persoff, head of the Mikdash Educational Centre, a non-profit organisation for education about the Temple, said, "They are non-Jewish leaders who played an essential role in the return of the Jews to Jerusalem. Hopefully, Trump will continue in this path and, like Cyrus, play a central role in the building of the temple." Marcus says the coin is an example of further Biblical prophecies coming to fruition. "We are truly living in the end times; the parable of the fig tree blooming speaks of Israel becoming a nation again. The recapturing of Jerusalem during the six-day war helped serve as the fulfilment of Jesus' prophecy. He said,

This generation will not pass away without seeing the millennial Kingdom of God established in the earth."





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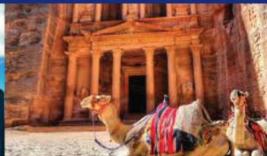
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—by Aden Friedman

he book of Ruth is read on the holiday of Shavuot (Pentecost) because of its focus on the grain harvest. This book is set in the time of the Judges when, "In those days Israel had no king. Everyone did as he saw fit." – Judges 17:6. The story begins with Naomi who is widowed after the death of her husband, Elimelech. Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Chileon, died as well, widowing Naomi's Moabite daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah.

Looking at the Hebrew origins

The narrative displays an act of immense courage and faith on the part of Ruth the Moabitess. She chose to follow Naomi no matter what the cost. In contrast, Orpah decided to return to her former life (Ruth 1:13).

The Hebrew word used originally for the way Ruth "clung to Naomi" is the word "davkah", meaning "to cling". It has an interesting modern use, likened to "in spite of difficulty" or "on purpose to make a point". Ruth was most certainly making a point when she chose to follow Naomi. Ruth's use of the word YHWH, rather than Elohai, gives us a clue that she knew more about the God of Israel than a typical Moabite would know. Scripture tells us that God would use the word YHWH as a way of revealing Himself in a very personal way.

Why was it so bad to be a Moabite?

Why was Ruth so "davkah", so intent, on following Naomi? Perhaps she had the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob revealed to her in such a way that she saw it impossible to return to her former life. In Deuteronomy 23:3, God said, "No Ammonite or Moabite may enter the assembly of the Lord, even to the tenth generation".

How was it then that Ruth the Moabitess was able to follow God? I believe we need to ask

Ruth's persistence resulted in many blessings – this book is not to be overlooked.

ourselves why it was so bad to be a Moabite? We know that it was through the incest of Lot's daughter that the nation of Moab was formed (Genesis 19:36). Moabite women also turned the men of Israel away from God and had them worship other gods (Numbers 25).

Boaz - Ruth's redeemer

Later in the book of Ruth, we meet Boaz. Boaz is revealed to us as a "worthy man" and a "go-el", a possible kinsman/redeemer for Ruth. Naomi then asks Ruth to glean among the fields of Boaz in accordance with the law of gleaning (Leviticus 23). The story continues with a

narrative that reveals how Ruth becomes aware that Boaz is family of Elimelech and a kinsmen/redeemer for her. We see how Boaz has a generous heart and is prepared to become Ruth's redeemer. This redeemer invites her into the inner circle of his family. He provides for her and takes her as his wife. I see how through a woman who once was considered "a Moabite", the line of David is created, through this line the Messiah would be born.

Jesus, our Redeemer

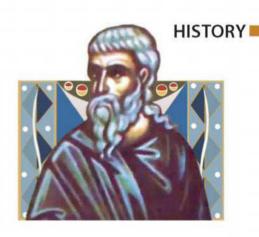
God is an expert at revealing Himself to us; He provides a redeemer that rescues us from our former selves and gives us a new inheritance. Our redeemer adopts us as "sons and daughters" and takes us as His bride. David's line was created because Ruth clung to the one true God. We should be encouraged to do the same. When we receive our redeemer, the Messiah, we can dwell forever in His comfort and love.

ADEN FRIEDMAN is a missionary with Jews for Jesus and is stationed in Johannesburg. To book Aden as a speaker in your church or at your next conference, please contact the Jews for Jesus office.

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Why does God refer to Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob?

—by Got Questions

n about a dozen places in the Bible, the Lord is referred to as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Genesis 50:24; Exodus 3:15; Acts 7:32). This name of God emphasises the covenant that God made with Israel and the Israelites' special place as God's chosen people. God repeated the Abrahamic Covenant to three different generations: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – they were all given the promise of land, many descendants, and blessing. The Lord first calls Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees to the land of Canaan, establishing a covenant with him (Genesis 12:1-3). God reaffirms the same covenant with Abraham's son, Isaac (Genesis 21:12; 26:3-4), and later with Isaac's son, Jacob (Genesis 28:14-15). The Lord who established and ratified this covenant is rightly called the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

God's faithfulness and Israel's blessing

When God revealed Himself to Moses in preparation for bringing His people out of Egypt, He called Himself "the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" in Exodus 3:15. He also instructed Moses to identify the Lord by that name when speaking to the Israelites (v. 16). In this case, the name carries a couple of important implications. First, when God identifies Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, He clearly distinguishes Himself from the gods of Egypt in whose land the Israelites dwelt. Second, the reference to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob implies a reason for the exodus: the promise of land. God had vowed that the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Ja-

cob would inherit a certain geographical area. God's faithfulness and Israel's blessing were directly tied to Israel's possession of the Promised Land, and the name God uses for Himself harkens back to the covenant with Abraham.

Jesus should get the glory

Jesus alluded to God's burning bush appearance to Moses and used God's name to teach a lesson on the resurrection to the Sadducees: "About the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living" – Matthew 22:31-32. As Jesus points

Through the seed of Abraham, God blessed all the nations of the world.

out, the verb *am* is in the present tense; God did not say, "I *was* the God of your fathers." He said, "I *am* their God," showing that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were still alive (in heaven) in Moses' day.

In Acts 3, as Peter preaches to the Jews in the temple, he refers to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, a name that his hearers would have commonly used in their worship. Peter and John had just healed a lame man, who was now standing before them. Peter attributes the miracle to the power of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, working through Jesus. In other words, Peter was careful to link

the miracle they had just witnessed to the one and only God of their fathers. The same God who spoke to the patriarchs was at work in their midst, and Jesus should get the glory.

Biblical history is important

In explaining the miracle of a lame man walking, Peter also sets up a bold contrast: "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate" - Acts 3:13. The God whom the Jews purported to revere treated Jesus of Nazareth much differently than they had: God glorified Jesus, and they killed Him. Peter hammers home the contrast in verse 15: "You killed the author of life, but God raised Him from the dead." As he closes the sermon, Peter reminds his hearers that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was fulfilling His covenant with them: "You are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers" (v. 25). Many Jews believed in Christ that day, but Peter and John were thrown in jail (Acts 4:1-4).

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob has plan for the ages involving a Saviour who provides forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God. That plan was set in motion when God called Abraham and blessed him, and that plan was brought to fulfilment when Jesus died and rose again. Through the seed of Abraham, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob blessed all the nations of the world.

GOT QUESTIONS provides Biblical answers to tough questions. For more info: <u>www. gotquestions.org</u>

SERIES

THE BIBLE in a nutb ell

1 Peter

—by Dr. Victor Kuligin

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

- 1 Peter 1:3



As an eyewitness of Jesus (5:1), the Apostle Peter wrote two New Testament letters, both near the end of his life. 1 Peter was written to believers scattered throughout Asia Minor (1:1), what is modern-day Turkey. Peter used Silvanus as his scribe (5:12), perhaps because Peter was not a polished or trained writer, or he could have been in circumstances which made it difficult for him to write. Some scholars believe Peter may

have written 1 Peter from Rome (see 5:13, where Babylon may be a veiled reference to Rome) most likely in the mid-60s AD. Recent estimates about how many Christians around the world suffer persecution annually for their faith have the number in the tens of thousands. Suffering is not only a common aspect of Christian discipleship, it is to be expected. Jesus made this clear to His disciples when He told them, "A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you" — John 15:20. The Apostle Paul made a similar statement, "All who desire to live Godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" — 1 Tim 3:12.

An important letter for the Church today

This Biblical truth forms the background for Peter's first letter. It is written by someone who had firsthand knowledge of what it means to suffer persecution for following Jesus, and it was written to other believers also suffering for their faith. It is an important letter for the Church today because so many Christians either don't expect persecution and suffering in their discipleship, or they falsely promise other believers that such things will never happen.

Hated by the world

One of the primary reasons why followers of Jesus will suffer persecution is because the world hates Jesus' message. Again, this truth is rooted in Jesus' teaching. "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you" – John 15:19.

That is why Peter's letter is addressed to "pilgrims" (1:1), that is, people who really

The Bible tells us that suffering it is to be expected in our Christian walk.

are not of this world and are simply passing through it. The original Greek for this word has in mind exiles or temporary residents; their true home is elsewhere. Because Christians do not live as the world lives, nor hold to the world's values and ideals, they will be hated by the world. Jesus has called them out from it. Unfortunately, though, many Christians are far too comfortable in this world and act as if it is the most important thing to them.

A heavenly inheritance

Peter reminds his readers that because believers are not of this world, they have a heavenly inheritance awaiting them.

24 JOY! MAGAZINE

Chosen by God

One argument used by Peter to help suffering Christians endure their trials is to remind us that God has chosen us. We are not followers of Jesus by accident. God's choosing is an important theme in this letter. At least half a dozen times Peter teaches this concept. He opened his letter speaking about believers as God's elect (1:2), chosen by Him, and he will make a similar reference at the very end (5:13). Similarly, Jesus is the chosen stone (1:20; 2:4), believers are a chosen people (2:9), and the calling of God (5:10) is directly related to this concept as well. It is God who chooses, God who calls, God who elects, God who predestines, God who foreordains. This should be a source of great comfort for His children.



This inheritance has three qualities: it is incorruptible, undefiled, and it never fades away (1:4), the exact opposite of everything in the world. Because of this "living hope" (1:3)—guaranteed by the resurrection of Jesus-Christians can endure suffering in this life. While we are not given specific details as to what kind of suffering his readers were undergoing (they were "grieved by various trials," 1:6), the topic is so important to Peter that he mentions something about it in every chapter of this letter.

However, Peter sees a benefit from these trials, something that we often miss today when we suffer for our faith. God uses these trials to test our faith (1:6-7). In fact, faith that is never tested in this way is nothing more than weak, feeble faith. The ultimate goal of Christian suffering is a salvation that the prophets of old predicted and that angels desire to look into (1:10-12).

Called to holiness

The heart of Peter's letter is his call to holy living. "As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct" - 1:15. Peter provides several reasons why believers should be holy:

- 1. As we have already seen, because we have a heavenly inheritance the value of which far outweighs anything the world can offer us.
- 2. Because Christians are strangers in the world, their character should reflect the

- character of their holy heavenly Father (1:16), not that of the world.
- 3. We should live holy lives because God is a judge who will judge everybody impartially (1:17).
- 4. Because we have been redeemed, that is, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (1:18-19).
- 5. Because we have been born again of incorruptible seed through the Word of God (1:23-25).

Peter's first letter was written to other believers also suffering for their faith.

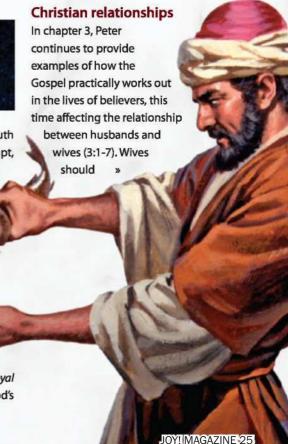
All of these reasons have a simple truth behind them: the world is fallen, corrupt, and will soon perish. Therefore, Peter implores his fellow believers to hold on to that which will never perish. By living holy lives we show that the world's ways are worthless.

Living stones

In this regard, believers are "living stones" who are being built into a "spiritual house" (2:5), with Jesus as the "chief cornerstone" (2:6). This is the Spirit-empowered purpose of the Church, to be a "royal

priesthood" (2:9) that shows the world God's

goodness, even as Christians are exiles in the world, "sojourners and pilgrims" (2:11). Therefore, believers should respect human authority (2:13-14) and Christian slaves should behave in a manner pleasing to God (2:18-20). Christian conduct under persecution should mirror Jesus' behaviour when similarly treated (2:21-25). "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps." - 2:21.



THE BIBLE in a nutshell

1. Peter





One of the best known verses from 1 Peter involves defending the Christian faith, what we call Apologetics: "Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you." - 3:15. Believers should be prepared to explain to skeptics why we follow Jesus. However, even if we are being persecuted for our faith, we should do so fearlessly (3:14), gently (3:15), and with lives that back up our talk of good conduct (3:16).

26 JOY! MAGAZINE

be known for "the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit" (3:4), while husbands should give honour to their wives (3:7). Peter then provides general commands for believers, encouraging us to be courteous, truthful, and peaceful (3:8-12).

Peter again returns to the topic of suffering, this time noting that Christ's suffering has brought us to God (3:18) and serves as an example we should emulate as we turn away from the sins of the flesh (4:1-5). Christian conduct is driven by love (4:8) as we exercise our gifts for the betterment of others (4:9-11). Believers should rejoice that

> By living holy lives, we show that the world's ways are worthless.

> > they participate in Christ's sufferings (4:13). "Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator." - 4:19.

Spirits in prison

Within this section of 1 Peter are some of the most controversial verses in the letter, ones that speak of Jesus preaching to "spirits in prison" - 3:19. While there is much debate about

> this passage some believe Jesus Himself preached in hell to

the souls of those who had sinned during Noah's time, others that Jesus through the Spirit preached through Noah to unbelievers before the flood came—this passage should not be understood that people who have already died have another chance to hear the Gospel. That would contradict everything else said in the New Testament. It is usually understood that the message preached was one of Christ's victory and the vindication of the righteous, like Noah, not a "second chance" message of salvation.

Exhorting elders

Peter ends his letter with an exhortation to elders to serve willingly, eagerly, and humbly (5:2-3). As a fellow elder who ministered with Jesus, Peter cites Christ's return (5:4) as motivation for Godly leadership. However, this command to humility is not limited to elders, but to everyone who follows Jesus (5:5-6).

Before his closing remarks, Peter turns to the topic of spiritual warfare. Peter is no pie-in-the-sky preacher. He knows that satan is ready to exploit Christians undergoing suffering, so he warns believers of this real danger (5:8-9). They must resist the devil. Yet Peter is confident that God will strengthen his children and bring them into "eternal glory" -5:10. "For the time has come for judgement to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?" - 1 Peter 4:17.

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WORDS OF WISDOM



LEON DU PREEZ FUNCTIONING LIKE GOD



enesis 1:26 - "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." We have been made with an incredible inherent power to rule and have dominion. When we become born-again, it is vital for us as believers to begin to move and exude this rulership and dominion! When God made man, He gave man authority and dominion over everything on earth. In order for us to have an idea of the kind of dominion that man would have had, had he not sinned, let's look at the perfect Man – Jesus Christ. When Jesus wanted to pay temple tax, He simply commanded a fish to bring the money to Him. When He wanted to feed a multitude, He only needed to multiply five loaves and two fish. When a storm threatened the lives of His disciples, He only had to speak to the storm and there was perfect calm. Every sick person who was brought to Him went away healed. Demons were cast out just by a word. He even brought the dead back to life because He had dominion over death! You and I have the same dominion that Jesus exercised, because Christ resides in us. You can command any storm in your life to cease. You can take authority over your finances in the Name of Jesus! You can command any sickness in your body to be healed! You can decree change in your circumstances! You were created to rule, not to be subject to the elements. Rise up and take charge in the Name of Jesus!

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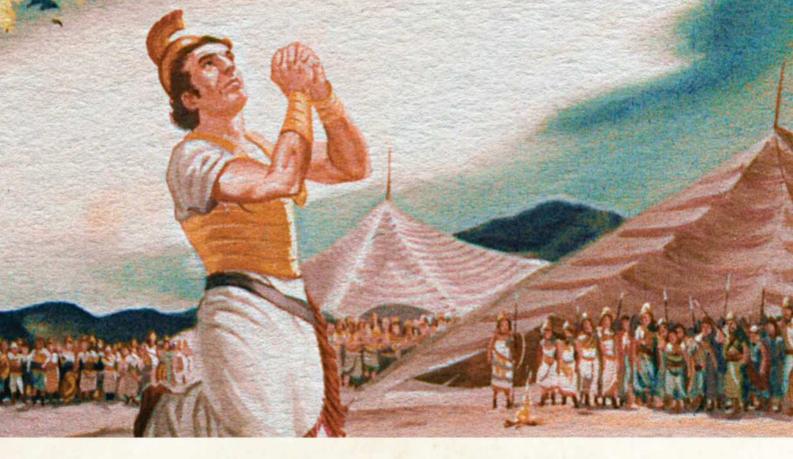
RAINER BOSHOFF YOUR ABILITY COULD BE YOUR DISABILITY

pon leaving work one afternoon, I saw a man leave the Pro Shop at the golf driving range. He had a walking disability so severe that he needed crutches to get along. My first reaction was to feel pity for his situation and the fact that he could clearly not play golf or partake in sport activities. Still feeling sad on his behalf, it suddenly dawned on me that lately I haven't had time to hit a few balls at the driving range, which incidentally is a stone's throw from my offices, let alone to play a round of golf. I realised that this man, with his disability, is probably enjoying a better quality of life than I was. I had to ask myself if my disability wasn't perhaps the fact that I was able bodied and could do anything I wanted? I had to admit that the way I was managing my work/leisure schedule was imbalanced. God was the first to be an example of how we should balance our lives – He created earth in 6 days and the 7th He rested. If God saw the need to rest, how much more would I as a human not benefit in following His example? In Ecclesiastes 1:14 Solomon says: "I observed everything going on under the sun, and really, it is all meaningless – like chasing the wind." My responsibility as a man is to model a balanced life to my spouse and my children. If your ability to do anything you please has you so busy that it actually became your disability, I invite you to join me in praying that the Holy Spirit will remind us to enjoy life a little more and stop to

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smell the roses from time to time.





GIDEON The Unlikely Hero

—by Nico Bougas

he Children of Israel were in a desperate state. Their land was overrun by the Midianites, they were without a leader, without faith, and without God. In this state of desperation, they began to pray and cry to God to visit them again, and God began to work. But not in the way that most people would have expected Him to work. The angel of the Lord appeared to a most insignificant person - Gideon. The fact that God chose Gideon should be a great encouragement to us. He didn't have the patience of Job, the courage of Daniel, the wisdom of Solomon, the obedience of Abraham, or the strength of Samson - yet God chose him. A most unlikely candidate to be a leader of God's chosen people.

The most unusual encounter

When we first meet him, he is not out leading an army against the Midianites or planning some major insurrection – he is threshing wheat by the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. This was against all common practice. Wheat was usually threshed in a wide open space where the breeze could blow freely and separate the wheat from the chaff, but on this occasion Gideon needed the protective shelter of the winepress

God's power has not run out. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

building so that the enemy could not see him and steal his produce.

It was then that Gideon looked up and saw the stranger, he was sitting under a nearby oak tree. Gideon hadn't seen him come, but suddenly he was there. There was something both eerie and wonderful about it. Was he a prophet perhaps? Then he spoke, "The Lord is with you, you mighty hero".

Mighty hero? All Gideon was doing was whacking at the wheat with a rod. Gideon looked around him and shook his head. "If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors have told us about – such as when He brought them out of the land of Egypt?"

Looking for someone to blame

"If the Lord is with us then why?" – We are constantly having this argument thrown at us. If God is God then: Why suffering? Why wars? Why sin? Why pain? Why evil? Why do the wicked succeed?

"And the Lord looked upon him..." We blame our circumstances, our times, our church, our God. Stop looking around you for excuses, stop looking for others to blame – the Lord is looking at you. We don't know all the answers, there are a great many mysteries. The philosophers, the intellectuals, and the apologists of this world will spend the rest of their lives arguing about them.

28 JOY! MAGAZINE

The church is a recruiting station from which men should go out to fight the battles of the Lord, not a retirement home in which to live idly upon an old age pension.

We have to get on with the job

We have to live by faith not by sight. We have to get on with the light that is given to us and radiate the love and the message of the risen Lord – that God cares. He cares about a fallen world, He has intervened in the person of Jesus Christ and wants to reconcile us to Himself and give us freedom from sin and a peace that passes understanding.

Ever since the Garden of Eden, we have been making excuses. After Adam had disobeyed God, he was quick to minimise his guilt. "The woman that you gave me, she gave me to eat." When Moses came down from the mountain and found the Children of Israel worshipping the golden calf, his deputy Aaron was quick to blame the people. "You know this people, that their hearts are set upon wickedness. I told them to bring me their gold and jewellery and I threw it into the fire and out came this golden calf." We are so quick to defend ourselves, so quick to make excuses.

And the Lord looked upon Gideon, as he looks upon you and me, and says simply stop making excuses. I am with you, I am the one who does not change. Look to Me and be enlightened. God has not gone on early retirement, He has not lost interest in mankind. His power has not run out. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Nobody special

"But, says, Gideon, my family is poor in Mannaseh, and I am the least in all my father's house. He felt he had nothing to offer. He didn't have any special talent. He wasn't anybody special. He was no miracle worker. But God has chosen the foolish things of this world to confound the wise." – 1 Cor 1:26. Maybe God wants to use you in a special way. What He requires is not ability, but usability.

And then the Lord looked upon Gideon, weak, helpless, and frail, and said, "Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!"

Today we face overwhelming odds, the

devil is turning up the pressure because he knows he is running out of time. He is causing havoc everywhere. We are hearing of wars and rumours of wars. We are seeing wickedness in high places. We are seeing families broken up, we see violence, lust, and sinfulness everywhere. Evil seems to be triumphing. More than ever, we need God's grace to stand in these evil days. We may be fearful, we may feel inadequate for the task, but God has given us His assurance that He is with us, as He was with Gideon.

Destroying the idols

Gideon's first task was to pull down the idols of Baal. It seems impossible to believe that the children of Israel could fall to such a level.

More than ever, we need God's grace to stand in these evil days.

They had seen all the mighty works of God, they had experienced His deliverance and His mighty victories, they were the ones who served the true God. They were the people who wouldn't mix with the neighbouring peoples, lest they be defiled by their wickedness and idolatry. And now they were doing the same foolish things. They were worshipping the same inanimate objects;

objects that were unable to hear their cries and unable to supply their needs.

Idols can come in any form: even families & spouses

It seems so ridiculous that these people, who had known of the living God, would turn to dead idols. Perhaps you have experienced the power of God in your life and you have seen it at work in the lives of others. You acknowledge Him to be the almighty and all-powerful God, and yet maybe you still have that little idol that you worship. Maybe you don't even realise that it is an idol. Maybe it isn't an object, but an idol that you strive to please and satisfy. Anything that comes between you and God is an idol.

Are you your own idol?

We call ourselves Christians and followers of Him who is meek and lowly in heart, who made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant – yet our lives are riddled with selfishness. Self is not just an idol that wants to be worshipped, it is a baby that wants to be pampered. It manifests itself in so many different ways. If we want to win the victories of life, we have to begin by removing the idols and giving God first place in our lives. We have to die to the idol of self.

Moment of triumph

This was meant to be his moment of triumph, but soon came his moment of trouble. "Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together and went over and pitched in the valley of Jezreel." This was a full scale invasion by countless enemy troops. What a terrifying sight they must have been, thousands of them, and every one a sworn enemy of Israel, out to destroy the land.

Eventually Gideon rounded up his army

– 32 000 men – to battle against the mighty »



GIDEON The Unlikely Hero

Midianites. But God said, "No, you have too many men here for Me to deliver Midian into their hands – if they win, they will exalt themselves, they will say it is the work of their own hands, it is their strength, that has given them the victory." So the army was cut down to 10 000, but that was still too big for God to use.

We have to be careful of pride

You may be very talented, you may have lots of personality and be a natural leader. You may have a very good singing voice, or preach a good sermon. Perhaps the Lord has used you in winning others to Himself. But if you depend on these, if your confidence is in your achievements and potential, then God will not be able to use you.

But the Lord had not promised Gideon a great army, only the presence of the Lord Himself – the Lord began to put the pressure on this fearful, faithful servant. Now that he had the army together, he didn't sit back and wait to be attacked. He launched out and won a mighty victory for the Israelites. He recognised that God was on his side and that nothing could stop him.

A winning strategy

We can become terribly negative in the Christian life. We can creep into our shells and always be on the defensive. Instead of launching out and gaining new territory for the Kingdom of God, we can sit back an become very introspective. We can be known

If your church is not going, sowing, and growing – then it is dying.

as Christians because of the things we don't do, we don't do this and we don't do that. In the early church, the Lord's people were known as His followers because of what they did. It was said of the Lord Jesus that He went about doing good.

Take one step at a time

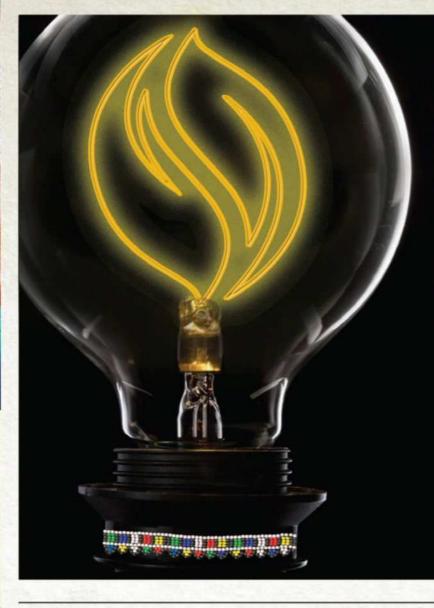
The church is a recruiting station from which men should go out to fight the battles of the Lord, not a retirement home in which to live idly upon an old age pension. God never intended the church to be a refrigerator in which to preserve perishable piety. He intended it to be an incubator in which to hatch out converts. If your church is not going, sowing, and growing – then it is dying. Once again the Lord had demonstrated His mighty power in delivering His people. But once again he had done it through a man. He was not a superman, but one who was fearful, yet faithful. This is the way He works today, through people who can take only one step at a time in faith. As it was with Gideon, so too it can be with us.

God doesn't need an army, just obedience

"Mighty hero, the Lord is with you! Go with the strength you have . . . I am sending you!"

Go, and the Lord will be with you. Stop looking for excuses. Stop feeling sorry for yourself, stop feeling inadequate. God is with you. He doesn't need a great army. He just needs you. If God be for us who can be against us?

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Nation Builder, an initiative that supports businesses in leading social change in South Africa, has launched a Social Innovation Challenge in conjunction with Stellenbosch University's LaunchLab and the Mergon Group.

#Innovate4Change

Entrepreneurs with a self-sustainable business idea that addresses social issues, positively impacts communities or empowers the disadvantaged, are invited to enter and win a share of R150 000 seed capital and business support from the LaunchLab.

Entrants need to submit a 3-minute video explaining their business idea by 11 May 2018.

For more information, see the LaunchLab website http://www.launchlab.co.za/nationbuilder2018
OR scan the QR code.









Celebrating 10 years of Nation Builder and Mergon business with purpose.

Theo & Sophia Roman

Transforming the Cape Flats for Jesus

—Interview by Gillian Fraser

n March 24th 2018, Angus Buchan shared a powerful message at the It's Time prayer gathering in Mitchells Plain. This message landed upon 150 000 ears, and a revival in the area has since been set in motion. Mitchells Plain has always been known as a dangerous, gang-infested, fatherless, drug-ridden town in South Africa; but the prayer event saw countless gangsters repenting and giving their lives to Christ. Following up from this event, I went through to Mitchells Plain to interview Pastor Theo

Roman and his wife Sophia, who have a large church and a very impactful presence in the area. Theo pastors the Assemblies of God church, heads up the AOG Association Nationally, and is part of the General Executive of AOG Southern Africa. They are following on with this momentum and changing lives for Christ. What an honour it was to meet a couple with such a heart and a passion for the area in which they live and

Love for one another, Love for Christ

Theo and Sophia were married only a year ago, and their absolute love for one another is evident. This love filters through into their work, their ministry, and their interactions

There is a great revival happening in Mitchells Plain today.

with the lost – their focus is to share the love of Christ with the lost. Theo has been called the leader to the leaders, and a father to the lost. He leans on his intimate relationship with Christ to minister and share the

Gospel with the hopeless and fatherless gangsters in the Cape Flats. We would love to feature the entire story of Theo and Sophia, but due to spacing we are only featuring Ps Theo's story in this issue – we will do a follow up on Sophia's powerful testimony in the months to come.

When and how did you receive the call to go into ministry?

My father was not saved until the last few years of his life, but I still grew up in a Christian home – my mom would sing and worship in the house. I gave my heart to the Lord as a young boy, at 10 years old. Due to a lack of true discipleship, I drifted from the Lord in my teen years. I recommitted my life to the Lord when I was 23. Since then, it has been a continual journey of spiritual growth to get to the position that I am in now. I have always been in the AOG movement; I have a great passion for the church that God established.

Who are your mentors?

I am part of an Apostolic team for the AOG – our oversight and leader is Pastor Colin La Foy. We meet together a few times per year – he has been a great role model for me. He leads an exemplary Godly life and upholds Biblical values. He has guided me and coached me, and ended up marrying Sophia and I.

Fatherlessness is a huge problem in this area – what are your thoughts?

Children want a father - what they need



going into Drakenstein Prison to minister to the inmates. Listening to their stories, the common vein that runs through each young man is that of fatherlessness and the adverse effect this had upon their lives. Whilst they now take personal accountability for their past actions, one cannot shun the lack of proper mentoring and grooming that contributed to rendering these young men vulnerable. My visit afforded me the opportunity to interact with these young men, share the Word of God with them, and enjoy the Breaking of Bread as commanded by the Lord Jesus. I believe that in communities where the pervasive culture of gangsterism and violence has caused a rift between fathers and sons, we have a huge mission field. I have a burning desire to be a father to sons who have lost their way in life. a father to sons who have need of a mentor. I've also surrounded myself with spiritual fathers with similar convictions, and my daily prayer is to see the hearts of the biological fathers turned back to their own sons, so that together we can restore the laughter and joy

How did you feel recently when you heard the prophecy from Angus Buchan over Mitchells Plain?

Uncle Angus prophesied that Mitchells

"I have a burning desire to be a father to sons who have lost their way in life."

Plain is the Flower of Cape Town. He spoke of the wonderful revival that is to come – of the drop in crime and gangsterism, of the restoration of a broken society. We have had many powerful speakers come to Mitchells Plain in the past – such as Jimmy Swaggart and Reinhard Bonnke – but this message from Angus really resonated with my soul. Sophia and I were so overwhelmed with emotion; we were in tears. Seeing 150 000 white, black, and coloured people coming

together in our notorious town, standing together in unity – it was something really powerful to witness. There will be challenges going forth – but if God brought the message, it will come to pass. There have been countless reports following the gathering of people's lives changed. There is a great revival in Mitchells Plain. Churches are growing, the miraculous is happening.

Have you, as a spiritual father figure of Mitchells Plain, got a plan to reach and encourage local »



What does it mean that God is a father to the fatherless?

salm 68:5 says, "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Of all the ways the Lord God Almighty could have chosen to relate to humanity. He chose the language of family. He could have described Himself as a benevolent dictator, kind boss, or patient landlord. But instead. He chose the word 'father'.

What makes God our Father?

He presents Himself as a Father because we all know what a father is and does. Even if we did not have earthly fathers who treated us well, we have an intrinsic understanding of what a good father should be. God planted that understanding in our hearts. We all have a need to be loved, cherished, protected, and valued. Ideally, an earthly father will meet those needs. But even if he doesn't, God will. Jesus taught His followers to address God as Father. Throughout Scripture. God describes His love for us as that of a caring parent (Isaiah 49:15).

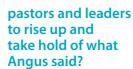
God is our protector

God has a special place in His heart for the orphans and fatherless (Deuteronomy 24:20). Psalm 27:10 says, "Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me." God knows that many times earthly fathers have been absent or have not done their job (Ephesians 6:4). He offers to fill the role of a Father (John 6:37). He invites us to call out to Him when we are in trouble (Psalm 50:15), to cast all our worries on Him (1 Peter 5:7), and to enjoy His company (1 Corinthians 1:9). He models for us the characteristics He had in mind when He designed fatherhood. Although many times earthly fathers do not live up to the ideal, God promises that, in Him, no one has to be without a perfect Father.

- Gotquestions.org

Theo & Sophia Roman

Transforming the Cape Flats for Jesus



I have lived in Mitchells Plain for many years. I have been exposed to the realities of the societal challenges that plague our communities, and the resultant effect upon families, but particularly upon the youth. I therefore carry a burden for fathers and voung people. The local churches in Mitchells Plain have all stepped up with their evangelism.

Churches are growing. As a corporate church in this town, we will all be joining our forces – joining hands and taking hold of this together. We have some open air crusades planned, and some evangelism training courses that will take place.



We ask for prayer to cover us. Where God sets plans in motion, the devil sets out to hinder these. Prayer needs to precede any revival.



FACT FILE

- Where were you born? T: Retreat, Cape Town S: Kimberley, Northern Cape
- When were you married? T & S: 25 March, 2017 - We are newlyweds!
- Which is your favourite Scripture at the moment? T: 2 Timothy 4:5 - "But you, keep your head in all situations,
- endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry."
- S: Deuteronomy 8:2 -"Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands."



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36 JOY! MAGAZINE

The father heart of Anthony Liebenberg

—Interview by Gillian Fraser

t is very rare that you meet someone in this day and age who really impresses and blows you away. This was my experience recently when I had the opportunity to interview Anthony Liebenberg, the Senior Pastor of Life Churches in South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi, and recently Zimbabwe. I had emailed him to set a time and a date that suited, and he replied asking if we could meet at the Life Child School and Safe House in Samora Machel, a township in Cape Town, Upon arrival I was introduced to the precious children who attend the school, my heart melted. We were treated to a delicious lunch by the house chef. My eyes were opened to the amazing work that is done around the world, spear-

No matter your circumstances, God can always use you.

headed by Anthony. From leading

an extremely influential church in

Sea Point, to orchestrating orphanages and schools

around Malawi and Mozambique, Anthony has a huge portion on his plate. I was blessed to get a moment to sit down with him and learn all about his father heart for this nation.

In short, can you share your testimony of how you got saved?

I grew up in a dysfunctional non-Christian home. There were many social abuses and much substance abuse. I have 2 brothers and a sister - none of them finished school. My sister fell pregnant out of wedlock, and my brothers went off to the army at a very young age. I was the youngest. When I turned 13, my father went to rehab and managed to sort his life from an addiction point of view, although their was clearly something still amiss. I was blessed that I was able to finish school. Our family was very involved with karate - my parents were both Black Belt Judo Kai, and my brother won the SA Heavyweight championship. I won the South African Middleweight Championship in 1982, and was sent to the World Championships in Taiwan - I remember being there and really feeling that something was missing from my life. While I was there, 2 Chinese girls who were assigned to look after our team reached out to me and shared the Gospel with me. I was deeply moved, but







did not give my life to Christ at that point. I came home and only a few weeks later, my best friend - who was an atheist and whom I had shared a room with in the military barracks - came back from the military and told me about his new-found faith. A few weeks after that, my brother called me to tell me that our parents had both given their lives to the Lord too. The Lord was working in every sphere of my life. My parents came to visit my brother and I and invited us to join them after a church service in Cape Town. My dad greeted me and said, "Son, there is something that I need to tell you. I love you." I had never heard him say those words to me before. He began to weep, which then led to me weeping. I knew that there had to be a God. That Sunday was when I made the decision to follow Christ, by the Thursday I was baptised. Within six weeks, my entire family had come to Christ. No matter how hard you run, the call of God will always find you.

What advice do you have for those who come from atheist families how can we shine God's light with them?

Keep praying for them - the power of prayer is amazing. It is also extremely important to live the truth. You are a walking Bible to the unsaved. Your love for God must be evident beyond just your words. Show God's love in action - live the fruit of the spirit: love, kindness, gentleness. In a world of fake people and compromise, it is important to be genuine. It is important to never compromise – always

stay true to what you believe in. Be strong in truth and deep in love, and always keep the door open. Do what you can, and then step back and let God do what He can.

You are a husband, a father, and a grandpa – can you tell us a little more about your family?

My beautiful wife Desiree has been my teammate in life and ministry for many years. Desiree has a teaching and prophetic

From an athiest family to a family of four pastors, God is the ultimate Restorer.

gift. She is involved on our leadership team and heads up our woman's ministry, Divine. I am grateful to have my two daughters, who love Jesus and have both chosen to serve full time at Life Church. Amy is our children's pastor, Megan is our Media and Design Head for Life Child and Life Church, she also coleads the young adults' ministry and has given us a beautiful granddaughter, Ruby Joy. Her husband Bruce McCleland is Life Church Cape Town's executive pastor.

You are a father figure to so many, through your family, the church, and through Life Child – Would you say that the Lord called you to this, and do you see the value of your position?

One of the powerful realities of a Christfilled life has been to see the Father heart of God evidenced in my own family. My two brothers are the most caring and doting fathers to their families and both pastor churches. My father, who is now retired, pastored and love many churches with the Father heart of God, this has been evidenced over and over again in the many churches we have helped to pioneer or lead. The birth of Life Child is as a complete result of us experiencing the Father heart of God. God is in the business. of restoration - He is able to transform any circumstance. Your trials are never too difficult for God. The calling to any form of ministry is the greatest privilege that any person can receive from Father God. "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." - Isaiah 1:17. »



The father heart of Anthony Liebenberg

Tell us a little about Life Child:

A prophecy was spoken over Desiree and my life when we were on honeymoon in 1983. A lady said to us "God will use you to work with young people." We took hold of that prophecy and sowed our seeds – which eventually led to the formation of Life Child. The church focuses on restoration, but we choose to focus on prevention. Children still have their entire lives ahead of them. Life Child exists to reach orphans and vulnerable children, and restore communities for generational change, one life at a time. We have Christian schools and orphanages in South Africa, Malawi, Mozambique, and soon to be Zimbabwe. Life Child initiatives are focused on building firm foundations in the education, health, welfare, and spiritual development of children across life phases, creating a platform for community transformation for future generations. Today we are seeing hundreds of children being rescued, educated, and given a new opportunity with a strong sense of hope and belief in the future.



What is your view on mentorship, imparting wisdom into younger lives?

The world is desperate for leadership — the best way to ensure Godly leaders for the future is through mentorship with discipleship. If and you look at Jesus and His disciples, or Paul and Timothy, wisdom comes from knowledge and experience. Mentorship imparts that knowledge and experience. We need to model a Kingdom standard by living in close proximity to that which needs to be affected. Discipleship can't happen from a distance — true discipleship happens in close proximity.

"Always be strong in truth and deep in love – never compromise on your beliefs."

As an influential leader, what would you say are the key principles to lead a successful life?

Pray, learn, teach – But always be a FAST person. Faithful, Available, Submissive, and Teachable. Ensure that you commit to most referable habits on the planet: "Do what you say", "Finish what you start", "Show up on time", & "Say please & thank you."



FACT FILE:

Are you married?

Yes, to my lovely Desiree, married for 34 years

Do you have any children?

2 daughters, Megan (31) and Amy (28), and 1 granddaughter, Ruby Joy (15 months)

When is your birthday?

17 September, 1962

What is your favourite Scripture in this season?

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

— Ephesians 3:20

Where were you born?

Springs, Gauteng





22 JUNE 2018, 7PM LIFE CHURCH, 30 MAIN ROAD, SEAPOINT LIFECHILD.ORG.ZA



CHANGE

CHANGE



Dercia's 2nd Chance at Life

A testimony of hope & freedom

—compiled by Gillian Fraser

ife Child is a ministry that exists to reach orphaned and vulnerable children and restore communities for generational change. Through the pioneering work in South Africa, Mozambique, and Malawi and the organisational leadership of Anthony Liebenberg, the ministry of Life Child was established to champion the social justice expression of Life Church in Africa. Their impact in these nations and in the lives of orphaned children in the communities is ab-

Dercia João

solutely awe-inspiring. Life Child initiatives are focused on building firm foundations for the education, health, welfare, spiritual development, and relationships of children across life phases and focus areas, creating a platform for community transformation for future generations.

Life Child exists to reach

orphaned and vulnerable

This testimony below is of Dercia João, a precious little gift from God who was born into a hopeless situation. Through Life Child's involvement, Dercia is now a bright shining example of God's goodness and gracefulness.

A devastating start to life

Dercia Celestino João is the daughter of Celestino João Impareia and Sonia Veloso Daniel. Her father passed away in 2011 as the victim of HIV Aids, only a few months before she was born. This devastating passing left Sonia worried about her future, as she was pregnant with Dercia and had absolutely no money or resources. Sonia was also not well herself, and was thus not able to fully take care of little Dercia. Sonia's father-in-law claimed the estate of Celestino, and rejected his granddaughter and her mother, writing them off completely. This betrayal left Sonia and Dercia alone, worried, and out of hope.

The brightest child in the class

Life Child heard about Sonia and Dercia's story, and managed to step in immediately to help. Sonia was trained up and identified as a "House Mother" at the Life Child centre, in the Okalawo Children's village. Sonia and Dercia are still there today, many years later. At the time when Life Child got involved,



XXX life child One life at a time

Dercia was a little over one-year-old. Today she is a bright, happy, and active six-yearold; and is outperforming all her peers at the Okalawo village school.

Preaching the Word

Life Child is doing phenomenal things in the local communities, but take no credit themselves. Their efforts are God-inspired and prayer-covered. In addition to the emotional support, financial aid, food, clothing, and shelter that they provide, Life Child seeks to always provide the most important foundation – an introduction to God and His Word.

Dercia and her family have grown in many ways through the ministry of Life Child. Today they have a sense of stability, they are healthy, and they are completely integrated into the local church – where they are

growing spiritually. Dercia has a bright future ahead and dreams of becoming a teacher so that she can help other children.

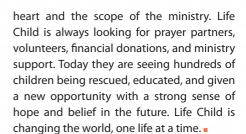
Partner with Life Child today!

If you have been moved by this testimony, or would like to know more about Life Child and

"A small one will become a thousand and a small one a Mighty nation." – Isaiah 60:22

the work that they do – visit <u>www.lifechild.</u> <u>org.za</u> and watch videos that truly capture the















—by Got Questions

hen Christians go on missionary outreaches, they are following Christ's call: sharing the Gospel with the lost world through God's wisdom and strength.

Christian missions = obeying Christ

After Christ's death and resurrection, the Lord commanded the disciples to share the Gospel, the message of His redemption, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." – Matthew 28:19–20.

The Great Commission applies to Christians today. Rather than weighing us down with a burden, obeying God's call brings joy and rewards in heaven. We should fulfil our mission not out of duty, but love (2 Corinthians 5:14–21). God could convert

everyone using a blinding light and the voice of Christ, as He did with the apostle Paul – however, He gives Christians the mission of reconciliation (Acts 1:8–9). He works through us, calling sinners to turn to Christ in repentance and faith.

Christian missions = sharing Christ
Our mission is proclaiming Christ as the

The Great Commission applies to Christians today. God works through us.

only Saviour from sin and the only way to abundant, eternal life. Whom do we tell? Jesus told Christians to reach out to "all nations". Jesus sends us to all people groups – to every ethnic culture without a Gospel witness.

Christian missions, however, are not

limited to overseas ministry. While believers should faithfully support those who go to the unreached on foreign soil, all Christians have the mission to share Christ on the home field with family, friends, coworkers, and the community.

The Christian mission of sharing Christ does not end with a sinner's salvation. The commission was to make disciples—not immature believers. Thus, Christian missions involves not only evangelism, but also discipleship.

Christian missions = relying on Christ

Sharing the Gospel humbly, boldly, and passionately, is our Christian mission. But we cannot do it alone. The power and results of Christian missions come from the Lord. He gives us the wisdom, strength, and desire to witness! Through our witness, He works repentance and faith in the sinner's heart (2 Corinthians 5:20–21).

Although missions are ultimately God's work, Christians are responsible to understand and share the Gospel and to have a strong relationship with Christ.

Although missions are ultimately God's work, Christians are responsible to understand and share the Gospel and to have a strong relationship with Christ. Such a relationship guards against hypocrisy. "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander" - 1 Peter 3:15-16. Jesus assured us that suffering would accompany missions, but God uses even suffering for good (Romans 8:28).

All Christians have a mission

In sum, Christian missions is obeying Christ, sharing Christ, and relying on Christ. Specifically, God sends missionaries through the support of the church to the unreached. All Christians, however, have the mission of

Christian missions involves not only evangelism, but also discipleship.

reconciliation. The Lord works through them to rescue the lost. What greater mission can one fulfil?

What are the pros and cons of short-term missions?

Although short-term missions have draw-

backs, they can be overcome with Godly wisdom, training, and heart.

The pros:

- Short-term missionaries better
 understand the ministry and purpose of
 missions
- Short-term missionaries become more sacrificial supporters of long-term missionaries.
- Short-term missions develop passion for knowing Christ and making Christ known.

The cons:

- 1. Short-term missions are expensive.
- 2. Short-term missions may not require "counting the cost."
- 3. Short-term missions may not have a lasting impact.

Conclusion: are short-term missions worthwhile?

God uses both short and long-term missionaries to make disciples of all nations (e.g. the apostle Paul vs. Timothy). The call and heart of both types of missionary are most important. While long-term missionaries carry out the bulk of missionary work, short-term missions can lighten the load. Short-term missions are usually most effective under the direction of long-term missionaries and the national church.

GOT QUESTIONS provides Biblical answers to tough questions. For more info: www. gotquestions.org



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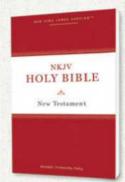
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to its kind"; and it was so and God made the beast of the earning to its kind, cattle according to its deverything that creeps on the earth ording to its kind. And God saw that it wood.

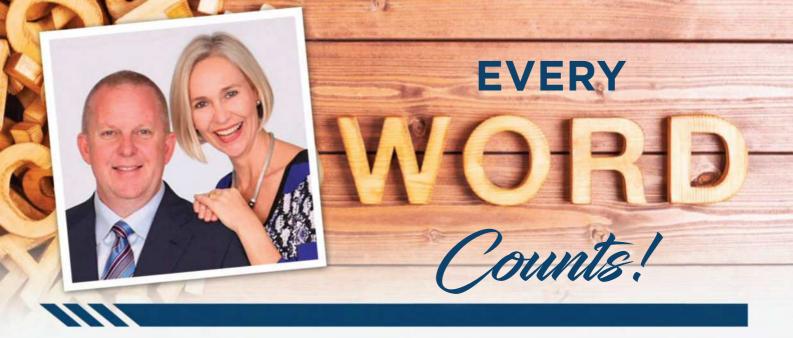
io Land said, "Let Us make man in Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over

Then God said, "Let there NEW t"; and there was light. And God say that there was light. And God say that there was good; and God divided the darkness. God called the night Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the even God said, "Let there be a the midst of the waters."

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rowing up, I remember my dad trying to comfort me with a rhyme after my heart was broken by a mean, spiteful word that someone had spoken over me. My dad said, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Unfortunately, despite his good intentions, this couldn't be further from the truth. You see, all words, good or bad, are like seeds. They have the ability and potential to lodge themselves into our minds as thoughts. They root and anchor themselves down and produce after their own kind.

The science of thought

Scientific studies have proven that our thought lives directly influence our physical bodies. If we reject a thought, before we spend time meditating on it, it will have no effect on us (which is really what my dad was implying). However, if we meditate on that thought we cause it to build up a memory in our brains that becomes a mental stronghold. It has also been proven that every thought releases a chemical response and has an emotion attached to it as a response to that thought. As you think on it, it carries that emotion and chemical response along a network of nerves that are directly linked to the rest of your physical body.

You have the choice

Every word released from our (or others') mouths is received by our physical senses as a thought. If we pay attention to that thought, it will produce an emotional and chemical response. That response will be

carried throughout our physical bodies and, depending on whether it is good and healthy or wicked and fearful, it will produce its very nature and intent in our lives. It doesn't matter if the person who spoke the words meant it or not. The hearer gets to either receive it and make it a living memory or reject it and never have it penetrate his mind or life.

The power of life and death is in the tongue

Doesn't that make you want to think twice before you say any word?! In a nutshell, so to speak, good, healthy thoughts produce good, healthy people; and wicked, fearful thoughts, produce wicked, unhealthy people. For this reason, the Bible teaches us to

All words, good or bad, are like seeds – they root and anchor themselves down.

guard our hearts with great vigilance (the state of keeping careful watch of possible danger), because out of them flow the issues of life. Whatever we allow to attach itself to our hearts (mind), will produce in us, the same nature that flows from it. Proverbs 3:26 says, "For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

God's Word is incorruptible

Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones."

Now, the Bible declares God's Word as an

—by André and Jenny Roebert

incorruptible seed (1 Peter 1:23,25). When it is received into our thoughts and meditated on, it produces after its nature (God's own nature), bringing peace and life and healing with it! As we meditate on it, it carries it's never-failing and everlasting power into every area of our lives – chemically and emotionally affecting everything in our physical bodies! Proverbs 4:20 says, "For they (God's Words) are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh."

Meditate on the Truth

Philippians 4:8 says, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." As we make an asserted effort and a conscious decision to take God's Word of truth, and meditate on it, we cause it to become a rooted memory in our minds that has the supernatural peace and life of God attached to it. Every time we think on it, it produces and transmits that peace and life attached to it, to every part of our physical bodies – bringing healing, peace, and well-being.

ANDRÉ AND JENNY ROEBERT are the founders of Faith Broadcasting Network, South Africa. Part of a larger ministry, FBN currently reaches a potential of 251 million homes worldwide, impacting all people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For more info visit: myfaithtv.com

JUNE2018 HIGHLIGHTS



GRASSROOTS

WITH ANGUS BUCHAN



Angus, a farming evangelist, is committed to the truth and will take you back to the basics of Christianity. Join Shalom Ministries as Angus shares a simple, yet powerful message.

Watch Grassroots with Aungus Buchan Mondays to Fridays at 1pm

POWER ENCOUNTER

WITH DONNA SCHAMBACH



Donna Schambach, only daughter of the late global evangelist, R.W. Schambach, has been an educator, lecturer, pastor and evangelist. Whether in a church setting or on the mission field, Donna is known for bringing a powerful word of the Lord, often prophetic in nature; and, as Donna usually lays hands on the people, the Holy Spirit accompanies the ministry with signs following.

Watch Power Encounter on Fridays at 2:30pm

LEGACY TV

WITH JEREMY AND SARAH PEARSONS



"We believe there are two kinds of legacies: the one you keep and the one you leave." Jeremy and Sarah Pearsons present the Word of God with sincerity, passion, and a deep-rooted revelation.

Watch Legacy TV on Tuesdays at 7pm

LIFE IN THE WORD

WITH CHUCKS OZABOR



Grace House Family Church: Where the word of Faith is preached and Biblical truths are presented to you in a simple and life-changing manner.

Watch Life in the Word on Saturdays at 8:30am



CHANNEL 341



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
00h00			The 700 Club Nigeria			
00h30	REAL with Diego Mea [R]	myw hy.tv [R]	The Bible Projet [R]	#TheGoodNew₹ VShow [R]	One Cubed Naija [R]	
01h00	D D	Wid om For Life - Allan Bagg				
01h30	Documentary [R]		Beliee r's Walk Of	Faith - Bill Wint on		
02h00	LegacyTV - Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons		Believe r's Voie Of Vit o	ory - Kenneth Copeland		
02h30	Faith That Counts - Keiv n Daiv s [R]	Liiv ng Life - Theo Wolmarans				
03h00		LIVE BIG - Derek Grier [R]	In Toub - Charles Stanley	REAL with Diega Mea [R]	Abba's Houe - Ron Phillips	
03h30	F ''' F' FD	Now Faith - d hn Torrens	Following & s - Tommy Lilja	Manna-Fets - Perry Stone	Zola Leiv tt with Mly es Weis	
04h00	Faith on Fire [R]	Celebrate Life - Tom Deub le [R]	Ee r Inc easing Faith - Fred Prie	Hille ng - Brian Hout on	CHOOSE LIFE - d hn Roebert	
04h30		CHOOSE LIFE - d hn Roebert	Zola Leiv tt with Mly es Weis	Following & s - Tommy Lilja [R]	Manna-Fets - Perry Stone	
05h00	Discover Life - At Boshoff [R]	Following & s - Tommy Lilja [R]	Planetha ake rs TV [R]	Prophetic Eno unter - J al Wes .	The Mes nger - & L Bee re [R]	
05h30	Shaping Your Det iny [R]	Chrit ian V	Vorld News	Real Women, Real Life - T. Tredrea [R]	Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza [R]	
06h00			Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar			
06h30	Wid om For Life - Allan Bagg					
07h00	Beliee r's Walk Of Faith - Bill Wints on					
07h30	Building Champions -Kenneth Ulmer [R]	Curt Landry Minis ries	Building Champions - Kenneth Ulmer [R]	d rry Saw lle Minits ries [R]	é e Duplantis Minit ries [R]	
08h00		Belie	e r's Voie Of Vit ory - Kenneth Cope	land		
08h30	Wae Church - Stee Kelly	Higher Life - d nny Roebert [R]	Brand New You - Luke Brugger	Inp ire - Mark Sare r	Legacy TV - Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	
09h00			Enjoiyng Ene roplay Life - ol op Mene r			
09h30	of hn G. Late Minits ries					
10h00	Liv ng Life - Theo Wolmarans					
10h30	9		Gop el Truth - Andrew Wommak			
11h00			Quik Study - Rod Hembree			
11h30	LIVE BIG - Derek Grier	In Toub - Charles Stanley	The Hope Connet ion [R]	Abundant Life Today - Walter Hallam [R]	Now Faith - o hn Torrens [R]	
12h00			TI 700 01 1			
12h30	The 700 Club					
13h00			Gras oots - Angus Bub an		,	
13h30	Reiv ar I Radio TV - Gene Bailey	Turning Point - Dai⁄ d e remiah [R]	Preab er of Righteou s e s - Mark T. Barb ay	The Word For Liiv ng - Daiv d Shearin	Trans ormation Now with Ed Silø e	
14h00	Walk in the Word - a mes MaD onald	The el wils els s-Kirt Sho neider	Faithlift - Glenn Arek on	Prophetic Eno unter - Jul Wetshuizen	Low Is ael - Barub Korman	
14h30	Higher Life - d nny Roebert [R]	E≇ rlat ing Love TV - Patric a King	Mirab es Happen - ø an Hunter	The Bais s with Beth - Beth of nes	Power Eno unter - Donna Sb ambab	
15h00	Paws & Tales	The Dooley and Pals Show	B'J's Teddy Bear Club	Roll ids TV	Truth Quale	
15h30	The Revolution TV	Superbook	Kid s l ubTv	Celebrate Life - Tom & Bonnie Deuschle	TV One Life - Sean Park	
16h00	MXTV - Tim Bia gno	Turning Point International	End of the Age - Iriv n Balk er	Youth Bty es - Chad Daniel	The Bible Projet	
16h30		Belie	e r's Voie Of Vit ory - Kenneth Cope	land		
17h00	Your Mirab e Mome	ent - Sia Moodley	Behind the Faith	Your Mirab e Mome	ent - Sia Moodley	
17h30	One Cubed Naija	Faith That Counts - Keiv n Daiv s	Faith Matters	Manna-Fets - Perry Stone	The Secret Place - Christopher Lynn	
18h00			It's Supernatural - Sid Roth			
18h30	el nteze n Frank in	Wath men on the Wall	Now Faith - o hn Torrens [R]	The Mes nger - & L Bee re		
19h00	Behind the Faith	Legany TV - de remy & Sarah Peanos ns	Till All Have Heard - Patric a Bailey	Higher Life - d nny Roebert	Dog mentary	
19h30	Faith Matters - André & et nny		d nathan Sh	nuttles orth		
20h00			Hour of Sala tion - Dai/ d Ibiş omie			
20h30	Enjojyng Ene rogl ay Life - ol ge Menger					
21h00	Following & s - Tommy Lilja	Prophetic Eno unter - J vl Wes .	Faith Worx - Rola an Sing	Reigning as Kings - Bais I Troy n	Now Faith - d hn Torrens	
21h30		Hot ing	the Supernatural - Nilg an der Wes	huiz n		
22h00	Supernatural Now - Guillermo Maldonado					
22h30	Brand New You - Luke Brugger [R]	d ntez n Franklin [R]	Freb dew	Grae for Today - Laws n Perdue	The el wils el sis	
23h00		[1.1]	Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar	,		
23h30			Winning Way - Matthew Ab imolowo			
201100			- induited An Intolowo			



	P. Concell	-
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
The Great Awale ning - Rodney Howard-Browne [R]	Dog mentary [R]	00h00
Wid om For Life - Allan Bagg [R]	Turning Point - Daiv d & remiah [R]	01h00
Believer's Walk Of Faith - B.Winston [R]	Elea tion Experiene [R]	01h30
Believer's Voice Of Victory - K. Copeland		02h00
Liiv ng Life - Theo Wolmarans [R]		02h30
REAL with Diego Mea	Faith on Fire [R]	03h00
Life in the Word - Chuk Oz bor [R]		03h30
		04h00
	Dog mentary [R]	04h30
Faith on Fire [R]	Ever Increasing Faith - Fred Price [R]	05h00
	Shaping Your Dets iny - Mile	
	Aphane	05h30
Behind the Faith	Reformation3 TV	06h00
Faith Matters - André & e nny	Hot ing the Supernatural - N to Wet huite n	06h30
Superbook [R]	The Great Awale ning - Rodney	07h00
Kidlsl ubTV [R]	Howard Browne	07h30
The Liiv ng Stone - Edgar Holder	d e Duplantis Minit ries	08h00
Life in the Word - Chuks Oa bor	el rry Sane lle Minits ries	08h30
Following & s - Tommy Lilja	E III W L I O TI DI	09h00
Hille ng - Brian Hout on	Faith Worls ip @ The Rie r LIVE	09h30
On the Liv ng Edge - Mark Chironna		10h00
The Mirao lous - Wes I du Brun,	Faith Matters - André & d nny	10h30
Winning Walk - Ed Young Sr.	The Supernatural Now - G.	11h00
CHOOSE LIFE - d hn Roebert	Chrit For All Nations - D. Kolenda	11h30
Faith The Counts - Keiv n Daiv s	It's Supernatural - Sid Roth	12h00
Real Women, Real Life - Tray Tredrea	Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar	12h30
The Mes nger - J & L Bese re [R]	Dom Deo	13h00
el ntene n Frankin [R]	DOM Deo	13h30
Faith Aliæ - Ted Shuttlesworth	The Hope Connection - Harry Jackson	14h00
Answ ers - Baly es Conley	Turning Point - Daiv d & remiah	14h30
UnderDogZone - Renier Weideman	On the Living Edge - Mark Chironna [R]	15h00
The Cros - Mik Hardy	E∉ r Inc eas ng Faith - Fred Prie	15h30
The Bible Projet [R]	Building Champion b ips with Kenneth Ulmer	16h00
One Cubed Naija [R]	Enjoiy ng Ene royl ay Life - ol ne	16h30
Celebrate Life - Tom Deuls le	In Toub - Charles Stanley	17h00
Creation Today - Eric Hoiv nd	Believer's Walk Of Faith - B.Winston	17h30
Faith Life Churb - Keith Moore	Beliee r's Voie Of Vit ory - Kenneth & Gloria Copeland	18h00
Save The World - Jarrod Davidoff	Discover Life - At Boshoff	18h30
Hour of Sala tion - Daiv d Ibig omie	Sunday Praie	19h00
Rhema Churb - Kenneth Hagin d .	,	19h30
		20h00
Faith on Fire [R]	Faith on Fire [R]	20h30
		21h00 21h30
Planetba ake rs TV	Abba's Houe - Ron Phillips	22h00
Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza	Home Group - Rik Renner	22h30
Discover Life - At Boshoff [R]	Order My Steps - of hn Franc's	23h00
#TheGoodNews VShow	Abundant Life Today - Walter Hallam	23h30
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Interview with Ps Marc Bredenkamp

—by Gillian Fraser

arc Bredenkamp's fiery, fresh, and bold prophetic ministry continues to impact the lives of precious people all over the planet. With an irreligious, unique prophetic expression, Marc and his music team journey into the supernatural realm of the prophetic spirit. Within this incredible, tangible, saturated, manifestation of His Holy Spirit, Christ's message of hope and secrets are revealed. Secrets and mysteries that have been hidden in God concerning individuals and nations from before the very foundations of the earth.

How did you come to know the Lord?

I was called to follow satan at the age of 5 years old. At the age of 27 I was about to

Marc & Mickaelle Bredenkamp

step into the fullness of that satanic calling. Christians who knew how to pray and intercede were Marc is a true man of causing spiritual havoc in the area. flair into the Kingdom. inspired this? The Bible - 'Sound' often plays a

Prayer affected the atmosphere, causing the Holy Spirit to begin to convict me. Realising that if I crossed that line I would be lost for all eternity, I fell to my knees and simply cried out and said, "If there is a God in heaven, where are the true Christians?". Suddenly, the heavens went open and I saw angels on one side and evil spirits on the other, and I just knew they were warring for my soul. The power of God supernaturally led me to Ps. Harold Weitsz. He has been my pastor and spiritual father ever since.

What is your opinion on mentorship and spiritual accountability?

Spiritual Fatherhood and sonship are deeply imbedded in Scripture - the ultimate expression is found in the highest orchestration of all things pertaining to life - The Godhead!

God - he brings a unique

We see the Son laying down His life for the vision of the Father, carrying with such obedience, great reward!

You have a unique method of sharing prophecies; what

major role in operating and expressing the power of the prophetic and the supernatural divine intervention of God. We see God's sound right in the beginning in the cool of the day in Genesis 3. And we hear a sound when He returns, "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the

voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first." - 1 Thessalonians 4:16. David played a musical instrument and tormenting spirits departed from Saul. Elisha said, "Bring me a minstrel that I may prophesy." There are so many Scriptural references and so I have a prophetic band that I personally disciple and train in 'prophetic' sound – God uses my personality to deliver His Word with a sound that can include everything from rap to opera!

What would you say to those who believe that prophecies are no longer Biblically relevant?

Ignorance is the devil's happy place. If there are those who wish to understand what the Bible has to say about prophecy today, I encourage them to get your previous issue where those desiring truth can read the article you posted regarding"'True Prophets, False Prophets, and Prophecy'. Do not despise prophecies - 1 Thes 5:20.

You won an award for "Outstanding Service to the Community" - Can you tell our readers a little more about this?

I was doing a lot of work with youth coming out of satanism, drugs, prostitution, prisons etc. However, the award, given by the Caxton Media Group, related specifically to my work on the ground with the gangs in Westbury, Johannesburg. I received this award because I was able to negotiate peace between certain gangs as I spent almost a year with them, taking the wounded into my home, loving them, caring for them, accepting them, and spending a lot of time with them. One entire gang laid down their arms and one night two gangs came to church. It was amazing to see these two opposing gangs walking down the aisles and giving their lives to Jesus Christ. It was just my wife and I and I wish I had the resources and manpower I have today, I could have done so much more.



—by Marc Bredenkamp

"This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare." – 1 Timothy 1:18

f a prophecy is truly from God and received, it will produce a 'measure of faith', allowing one to 'fight a good fight of faith'. One of the most powerful ways a believer can wage a good spiritual warfare is with a true prophetic utterance! Too many Christians are waging a bad spiritual warfare. In order to be effective, in part, to fulfilling prophecy, there are some important guidelines to follow:

1) Ensure that prophecies are recorded

This will ensure that the prophecy can be judged, assessed, warred with in the future, and determined to be a sure word of prophecy or not! There is no Scriptural reference that suggests one can put it 'on the shelf'. It is either a Word from God or not. Always write the prophecy down!

2) Determine whether the prophetic utterance is from God or not

You judge the prophecy by it's 'content'. No prophetic utterance will ever violate Scripture. Once this is established, the most important way to determine whether a prophecy is from God or not is to ask yourself if any of the parts of the utterance reveal any information about yourself that was not known by the person prophesying? This is usually a good indicator that the 'secrets' revealed concerning future events are from God.

3) Wage a good warfare

This is an area that most Christians ignore and it costs them dearly. A prophetic utterance, whether you receive the prophecy through reading of the Word, inspired

With so many false prophets around, it is important to test prophecies.

preaching, a vision, a dream, or prophetic utterance from a person, the Word must be given 'a voice'. This is known as 'The Sword Of The Spirit' – A two edged sword in Scripture is actually described as a 'two mouthed word' in the Greek language. God speaks to you by the Spirit of Truth, producing 'revelation', which now enables you to 'wage a good warfare', using the 'Sword Of The Spirit', by speaking that Word; that promise, into the atmosphere.

Our most powerful weapon

This piece of our weaponry is a powerful offensive spiritual weapon and when given a voice, has the power to punish all satanic disobedience that exalts itself against the knowledge of God concerning our lives. Once God has spoken to you and your

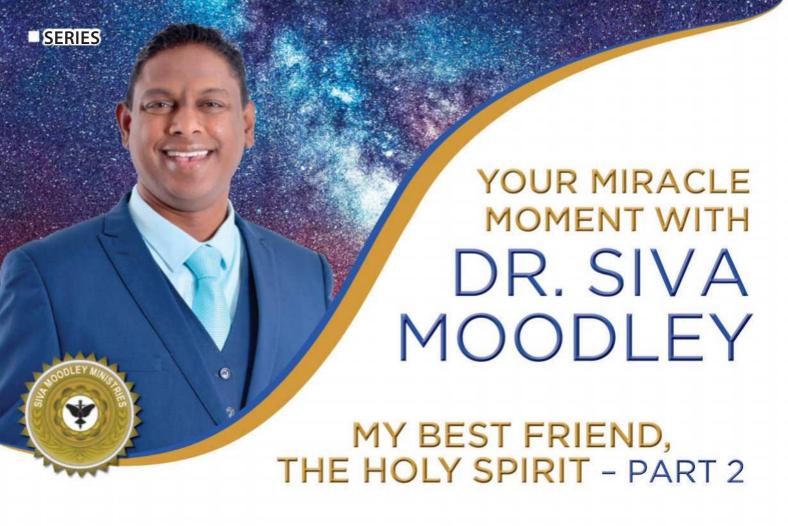
obedience to that truth is fulfilled, God's divine perspective concerning your life is revealed, and will always contradict any satanic suggestions or 'circumstance'. God's Truth always has the power to change our circumstances.

Angels are on our side

The way that you 'Wage A Good Warfare', is to take the prophecy revealed that you believe, and with faith, simply 'pray the prophecy' aloud by declaring and decreeing what God has said, and not what 'some say', the 'enemy say', or the 'circumstances say.' This is how you take your prophecy and bring it into fulfilment.

Giving 'Voice to God's Word', not only manifests His Divine Intervention and will for our lives, but also activates and mobilises His holy angels to assist in the warfare where necessary! "Bless the Lord, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word." – Psalm 103:20

MARC BREDENKAMP is the senior pastor of Destiny in Umhlanga. He is also recognised as a prophet within the body of Christ. You can follow him on Facebook @MarcBredenkamppropheticExpressions, alternatively you can call Destiny Centre on 031 584 6065



he Holy Spirit is a person and has a personality. Firstly, He has a mind (Rom 8:27). Secondly, He has a will. The Holy Spirit decides which gifts we are to receive. "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills." – 1 Cor 12:11.

Acting according to God's Will

We are to earnestly desire the best gifts, but the final decision lies with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit therefore makes His own decisions – but these decisions are always in line with God's Word (John 16:13). Even Jesus had the ability to make His own decisions, but chose to submit to the Will of the Father (Matt 24:42; John 5:30; John 14:10). The Holy Spirit is attracted by hunger in a person and makes a decision on His own to move towards that individual. "And Jesus said, somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me." - Luke 8:46. The Holy Spirit did not consult with Jesus, but went ahead and healed the lady that was so desperate for a miracle. Realising this had happened, Jesus turned around looking for the person.

Third, the Holy Spirit grieves

(Is 63:10; Eph 4:30). He can be easily wounded

by the way we talk and behave (Eph 4:30-31). For example, when a child of God engages in gossip, or becomes bitter, the Holy Spirit is wounded. The wounding is so deep that it is as the pain one feels at the loss of a loved one.

Fourth, the Holy Spirit is responsible for the joy in our lives

(Luke 10:21; 1 Thes 1:6; Gal 5:22). He is so full of joy that it radiates from us and is infectious. While happiness is an emotion, joy is the

The Holy Spirit's agenda is to always reveal Jesus Christ in every need.

state of our heart and level of relationship with the Holy Spirit. The more time I spend with the Person of the Holy Spirit, the more intense my joy becomes and at times I end up laughing because my human body cannot contain so much joy.

Fifth, the Holy Spirit gives love

(Rom 15:30). Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up with love at his murderers and

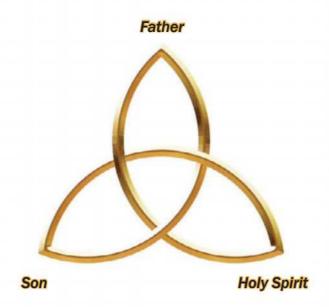
asked God to forgive them. (Acts 7:55-60). The Holy Spirit floods our hearts with such great love that we are able to love our enemies. Without the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to love our enemies.

Sixth, the Holy Spirit teaches

(John 14:26; 1 Cor 2:13). His name is teacher and He gently teaches us everything we need to be successful on the earth. The Holy spirit teaches us everything we need to know concerning our gifting and ministry. However, the teaching of the Holy Spirit is not just limited to spiritual matters. I have written many academic exams carrying qualifications in 12 different fields of study. In most of those exams, it was the Holy Spirit who taught me the subject matter. The Holy Spirit also taught me how to be successful in business. God is interested in every area of our life, 24/7, and it is the Holy Spirit who will teach you if you will allow Him to.

Seventh, He testifies about Jesus Christ

(John 15:26). The Holy Spirit's agenda is to always reveal Jesus Christ in every need. For many, this is the only picture they have of the Holy Spirit, yet God the Holy Spirit



is interested in every area of our life and wants us to succeed in our careers, business, ministries, as a parent, as a student, as an artist, as a leader, in sports, in health, financially, emotionally, and in relationships.

Eighth, The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin

(John 16:8). It is not our job to convict or condemn the world of sin, but rather to preach the Truth of the Gospel in love. By

Without the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to love our enemies.

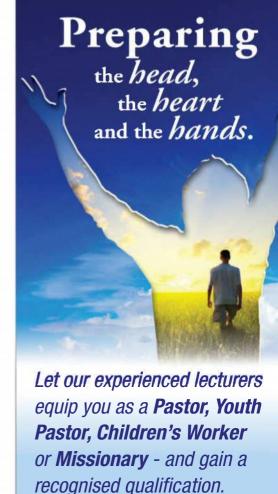
ministering God's Word, the Holy Spirit is then able to convict sinners. In the absence of the Holy Spirit, intellectual words and persuasive language is used to convince someone to change but only the Holy spirit can convict that person. Someone convinced might change their mind later, but someone convicted will need to fight and overcome their heart before they can change their mind.

Ninth, The Holy Spirit leads us

According to Scripture, sons are led by the Holy Spirit, not children (Rom 8:14). A sign of spiritual maturity therefore is the ability to be led by the Holy Spirit, and not how much of the Word or experience a person has. Every believer can mature to the point that they too can be led by the Holy Spirit daily. In this series in JOY! Magazine, I will teach you how to be led by the Holy Spirit. For a very detailed teaching on this subject, I recommend my CD set, *The Person of the Holy Spirit*. This article will be continued in the next issue of JOY!

SIVA MOODLEY is a pastor, preacher, and author, he also has a daily TV show. For the broadcast schedule, more info on his ministry or to purchase his new series on the Person of the Holy Spirit, call 011 792 2266 or visit sivamoodley.com





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—by All Pro Dad

Being a dad is important and rarely celebrated. Can we just take a minute to celebrate dads? If you're reading this and you're a dad, I want you to emphatically know—you matter! A whole lot. Science proves it, and psychology proves it, but most importantly, you prove it each day that you stand in the gap for your family in this world. Each day that you lead them, love them, provide for them, protect them, and teach them, you are fulfilling the greatest task you'll ever be charged with—fatherhood.

In this article we openly discuss the challenges that face us as men and provide viable solutions. In your honour, here are 5 essential qualities a determined dad brings to his children.

1. Motivation

You are the catalyst for your child's motivation. You never give up on them no matter how challenging it can get. And you continually spur them to do better, work harder, care deeper, and excel to the best of their abilities. Our children long to make us proud. Here's a favourite quote: "My father gave me the great-

est gift anyone could ever give another person: he believed in me."— Coach Jim Valvano.

2. Moral compass

It's our sacred duty to instil right from wrong in our kids. We accomplish this by example. We don't just tell them how to live, they learn by watching us do it every day. As the wise Proverbs tells us, "Start children off on the way

In the eyes of a little child, the world is BIG. And so are you, dad.

they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

3. Stability

There are medical conditions and chemical imbalances that go beyond our control as parents. However, in an otherwise healthy child, the presence of and relationship with their dad is key to the mental health of children. 'Daddy issues' is not just cultural

slang. It's real. Never abdicate your authority and duty as a father to your kids. The wrong things will be waiting to fill the void left behind. Stand firm.

4. Discipline

By filling your natural discipline role, you're providing consequence to action. Solid parental discipline is a balance between nurturing and structure. We set clear expectations, enforce rules consistently, and teach personal responsibility. We earned respect not by yelling or bullying, but by simply ensuring there will be a consequence of both good and bad actions.

5. Providing security

In the eyes of a little child, the world is BIG. And so are you, dad. You're Superman. We cherish that role and earn it each day. Security is born from one place: love. Keep on loving your family.

ALL PRO DAD are a group of people passionately committed to bringing intentional focus to fathers around the world. Visit: www.Allprodad.com

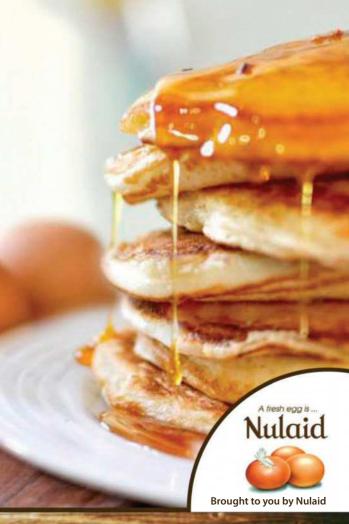
FLAPJACKS FOR DAD

Ingredients:

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 Tbsp. sugar
- 2 Tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 Tsp. fine salt
- 1/8 Tsp. freshly ground nutmeg
- 3 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 2 large Nulaid eggs
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 1/2 Tsp. vanilla extract

Method:

- In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and nutmeg.
- In another bowl, beat the Nulaid eggs and then whisk in the milk and vanilla.
- 3. Melt the butter in a large pan.
- 4. Whisk the butter into the milk mixture, add to the flour mixture, and whisk until a thick batter is formed.
- 5. Keeping the pan at medium to medium low heat, ladle about 1/4 cup of the batter onto the pan, to make a pancake. Make one or two more flapjacks, taking care to keep them evenly spaced apart. Cook until bubbles break the surface of the flapjacks, and the undersides are golden brown, about 2 minutes. Flip with a spatula and cook about 1 minute more on the second side. Serve immediately or transfer to a platter and cover loosely with foil to keep warm. Repeat with the remaining batter, adding more butter to the pan as needed. •





^{*} Recipe from Food Network Kitchen



—by All Pro Dad

hen you know what women want from men, it is much easier to navigate relationships. There are 5 things that men must know about women. Women desire to "feel" these things, not just know them logically. Men must know that:

Women want to feel loved

Many women feel insecure about our love for them. There are two things that we men can do about it. First, reassure her. In times of conflict with our wives, we should tell them we love them no matter what and that everything will be okay—"I love you. We'll get through this." When she's upset, she doesn't need space, she needs a hug and to be held. Second, pursue her. Women need to be pursued throughout the relationship, just as we pursued them before we got married.

2 Women want to feel understood

Women need us to understand how they think and feel, even though that is virtually impossible. It would help us to understand that most women's thought lives are like computers, with multiple windows open and processing all at once. Unlike men

Relationships are a lot easier when you put yourself in your partner's shoes.

who can only process one thing at a time, women are constantly juggling multiple thoughts and emotions all at the same time. On more than one occasion, I've watched my wife, daughters, and their friends having a conversation where three of them were

talking at once about three different things. And guess what, they all understood each other! So, hopefully, if we can generally understand how women think, we might be better able to understand how they feel.

3 Women want to feel emotionally secure

Women want security. Yes, financial security is important, but it comes second to emotional security. Women do think about the house, bills, and tuition, but feeling emotionally connected and knowing we are there for her, no matter what, is what really matters.

4 Women want to feel listened to

Men, she doesn't want us to fix it, she just wants us to listen. She doesn't want or need our solution to the problem, even if she asked for our opinion. She does want us to under-



stand how she's feeling about the problem and identify with her in that feeling—"Thanks for sharing that with me" or "I'm so sorry that happened" might be good words to consider saying to her.

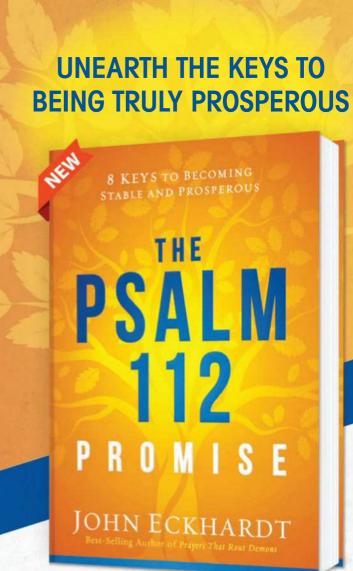
Women want to feel beautiful

She needs to know, deep within, that we find her beautiful and that we only have eyes for her. She doesn't just want to know, "Am I beautiful?" but, "Am I beautiful to him?" There may be many

There may be many mirrors in your home, but the mirror that means most to your wife is you.

mirrors in your home, but the mirror that means most to your wife is you.

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Speaking life over your wife

—by Brett Johnson

yn and I recently spoke at a marketplace leaders' retreat. On the Sunday morning I shared Ephesians 5:26-27 with them, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word". Every time I have heard someone speak on this topic, the application has been that husbands should read Scripture to their wives. In reality, few husbands do this, and I suspected the men were waiting for the usual "read the Bible to your wife" lecture.

Speak life over your wife

Instead I asked the men to take a moment, and ask God for a *rhema*, a fresh word for their wives. What did they believe God wanted to say to their wives, right then and there? The men took a moment and asked the Father to speak. Then I asked them to share those words, to speak them over their wives. Earlier in the weekend, I had noticed a couple where the temperature between them seemed in minus territory; their body language indicated that they were not really on intimate terms. A day-and-a-half later, when this same man shared the *rhema* word with his wife, she was in tears.

Why did I do this exercise?

Look at the verse in the Greek translation; it is not talking about reading the Bible to your wife, since the word used is *rhema*, (the spoken word of God) and not logos, the printed word.

Isn't this precisely what Jesus does for us? He speaks afresh, He speaks new, He doesn't just mail us regulations. As Christ loves us husbands, giving us a fresh word each day, so we are instructed to share a fresh, life-giving word with our wives each day.

To hear a fresh word for our wives, we need to be listening to God ourselves.

Are you considering your wife's needs?

This instruction has implications: to hear a fresh word for our wives we need to be listening to God ourselves as a matter of routine. We also need to be carefully considering our wives: how are they doing, what are their perceived needs, what would encourage them, what are their dreams, what might be troubling them? Wives no

more want a lecture from the Bible, via their husbands, than we want a root canal.

Ask God for a word!

Does this mean I neglect my Bible and just wait for a fresh word? Of course not. Reading Scripture is one way to press pause on a busy day, creating space and time for the Spirit to insert a *rhema* into our distracted busyness. The key point, husbands, is that God expects us to ask Him for a fresh word for our wives. How often? Well, how often would you like your wife to bath, shower, clean up?

Married or single, this still applies

What if you are reading this and you are single? Developing the habit of hearing God's whisper is preparation for marriage. Practice sharing uplifting words with others. Care enough to wash those around you with fresh water. All of us, single and married, can imagine how much healthier the Body of Christ would be if we all cared enough to routinely

seek God for a "word in season" for those close to us.

BRETT JOHNSON is the author of numerous books including 50 Principles of Faith-based Financing, Visit www.repurposing.biz



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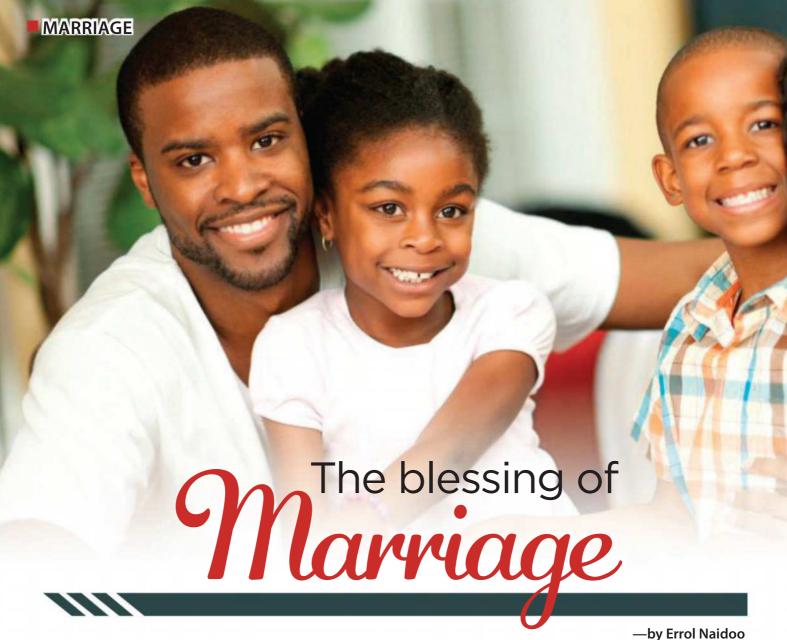
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other Theresa said, "If you want to change the world, go home and love your family!" This statement bears special significance in a society where family breakdown is endemic. Abraham Lincoln said, "The strength of a nation lies in the homes of its people." This fact is indisputable. The family is the backbone of the Christian Church, and of society as a whole. History shows that if any society wants to survive, it must uphold, strengthen, and continue to build upon the Biblical institutions of marriage and the family. Marriage and family is God's idea. It existed in the mind of God before the foundations of the world. Both marriage and family were established in the earth as an express act of God's will to bless and protect nations! Marriage and family are therefore God's blessings to men, women, children, and nations.

Marriage existed before the Church

Marriage is the first and most ancient of human institutions. Before there were governments, the Church, or any human institution, marriage existed. Genesis 1:27-28, declares, "And God created man in his own

God's purpose for marriage is the blessing, welfare, and fulfilment of mankind.

image: in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them. And God blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth..." Significantly, God blessed a man and a woman in marriage. He sanctions no

other union. The Family Manifesto says, "God created marriage so that a man and a woman could glorify God as one flesh, parent Godly children, and enjoy sexual intimacy. As iron sharpens iron, God uses marriage to sharpen a man and a woman into the image of Jesus Christ." God established marriage on the earth to symbolise the sacred relationship between His Son, Jesus and His Bride - the Church. Ephesians 5:22 -27, underscores this truth, "Wives submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord, 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might



God established marriage on the earth to symbolise the sacred relationship between His Son – Jesus, and His Bride – the Church.

present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."

God blesses marriages and families

God's purpose for marriage is the blessing, welfare, and fulfilment of mankind. Marriage is a cornerstone institution. It is the glue that holds society together. From marriage a family is established. God

God has called His Church to proclaim the truth about marriage and family to a dark and dying world.

blessed the family, which is the natural and most fundamental group unit of society. The family existed in God's mind before the foundations of the world. God created mankind because He wanted a Family. He is a God of Family – our Father. God established the earthly family for our health, welfare, and prosperity. Contemporary »

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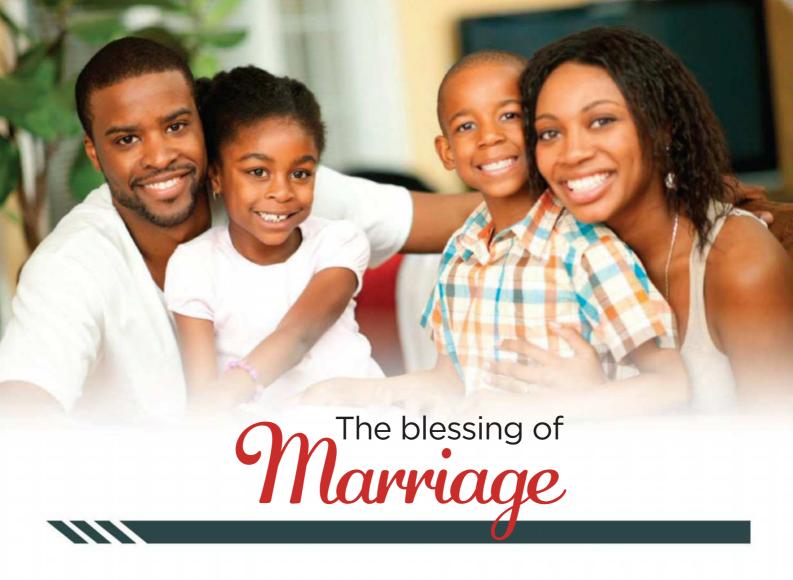
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culture is openly hostile to Biblical Christianity. As a result, attacks on God-given institutions like marriage and family are escalating mainly in western society.

Currently, there are huge efforts to redefine marriage and the family to legitimise sin. *The Family Manifesto* says, "The Bible defines the Family through God's instructions for married couples to have children whether by birth or adoption. The purpose of the Family is to glorify and honour God by forming the spiritual, emotional, physical, and economic foundations for individuals, the Church and every society on earth."

Society collapses when families break down

But when families break down, entire societies collapse. Family breakdown impacts every sector of society, including the Church. Psalm 11:3 asks the question, "If the foundations are destroyed what can the righteous do?" The family is the first learning institution that children are exposed to. "It is in the home that manhood and womanhood are

modelled. It is in the home where moral values are taught by parents and where the reality of relationship with Jesus Christ is modelled. Significantly, however, the Family is still God's original and primary means of producing godly offspring and passing on godly values from generation to generation." Marriage and family is in crisis – divorce and family breakdown is at an all-time high in South Africa. Research indicates that only 35% of

Marriage is a cornerstone institution. It is the glue that holds society together.

children live with both biological parents. This means most children live in fatherless homes. Family breakdown and fatherlessness has devastated South African society. Most of the social ills ravaging our communities can be traced to family breakdown. Consequently, to fix our society we must first fix our marriages and families. We cannot build

a strong, healthy, and prosperous society on broken families.

Step up, Church!

God has called His Church to proclaim the truth about marriage and family to a dark and dying world. However, before we proclaim God's truth about marriage and family, we must first live that truth! A living demonstration of God's intention for marriage and family is the most powerful and impactful thing we can do. People need to see - not just hear - what Biblical marriage and family looks like. It starts with us! The Church of Jesus Christ is called to be a light to the nations. Marriage and family breakdown is devastating our communities. We, God's people, can and must reverse this curse by living God's Word in our marriages and families and by demonstrating God's true purpose for these vital institutions.

ERROL NAIDOO is the President of Family Policy Institute. His organisation acts as a Christian voice in government and the media. For more information: <u>www.familypolicyinstitute.com</u>

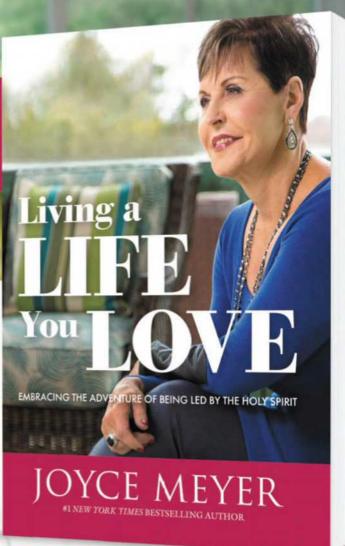


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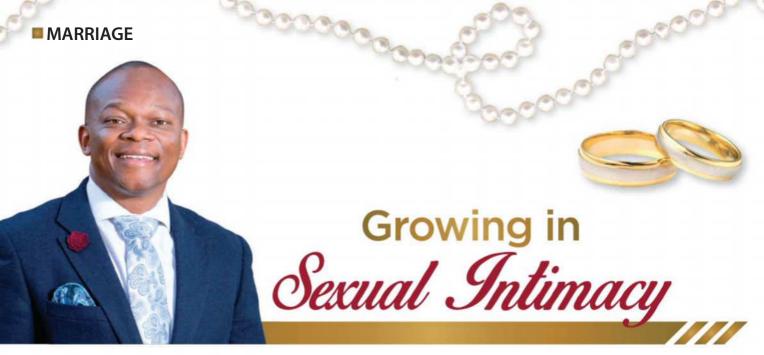
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—by Paul Nyamuda

ntercourse is the fulfilment of an entire process. Many men complain about their wives not wanting to be intimate with them but it's important for us men to ask the question, "What can I do differently to make myself irresistible to my wife?".

Men and women are different

It is important to educate ourselves and discuss these differences with empathy. Empathy is: understanding someone else's experience from their frame of reference. Can you answer the question "What turns my spouse on"?

Sex is a barometer

Often when your spouse is closed sexually, it is an indicator that something is not quite right. Don't accept this as the normal state of your married life. Ask yourself, what are they hurt about? Are we spending adequate exclusive time together? Are we getting into a rut? Is there unforgiveness? Don't attack them, rather minister to them.

Sex must be guarded from its thieves

What stops you and your spouse from being intimate? Common ones are kids, work, routine, exhaustion, different sleep patterns (night owl VS early bird). It's important to fight for your time together. If you are not intentional about it, the thieves will devour you.

Conversing during sexual intimacy

Sex has a verbal aspect that can have a nega-

tive or positive impact. Communicate appreciation for what they say. How do you feel if your spouse says something fairly administrative right after you have been intimate? Help your spouse to know that you enjoy them!

Be romantic

Many couples are not romantic because they don't feel competent in this department. If you don't see yourself as a romantic, you tend to not even bother trying. Don't make

Sex is a safe place where intimacy is built and love is expressed.

your spouse have to guess what you like. Rather, tell them. Ladies remember that there is a book called *Men Read Newspapers*, not Minds.

Get out of the rut

Think of different environments for romance; different ways of initiating; different times, etc. Don't become too predictable. It's important to keep adapting to each other's changing needs. Get healed. The best gift you can give your spouse is your own personal wholeness. If you have guilt, fear, or shame in this area – it's important that you do not project them onto your spouse. Remember, you are a gift to your spouse, make sure you

are delivered on time and well wrapped.

Love gives, lust gets

Focus on blessing your spouse in this area. When their emotional bank account is full of your love, you will find them becoming the best version of themselves. Don't place demands on your spouse whilst not being willing to fill their love tank. Love focuses on giving. Lust focuses on getting. Sex, in the context of marriage, is a safe place where intimacy is built and love is expressed. No one should be forced to do things they are not comfortable with and the dignity of either party should be preserved.

Self-confidence

Have conversations that make your spouse feel more confident with their sexuality. Confidence is critical in sex, and you can do a lot to boost your spouse's confidence in this area. Don't underestimate the fragile nature of the masculine ego. Speak to the treasure in each other and you will see more of this

treasure manifesting in your relationship.

PAUL NYAMUDA is the senior pastor of Go Christian Church in Centurion. He has authored 30 books on marriage, leadership, personal mastery, and business. Visit www. paulnyamuda.com. The Inner Life is available on Amazon.





—by Chuck Lawless

've studied spiritual warfare for more than twenty years, and I'm continually reminded of how the enemy attacks Christian marriages. From the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3), he has sought to lure individuals and couples into his traps. He wants to weaken or destroy marriages, and he delights when children are wounded in the process. Without suggesting a "the devil made me do it" philosophy, I list here some of the enemy's primary tools I've seen over the years:

Neglect
The same couple that spent all their dating time together, grows apart after the wedding day. The neglect is usually subtle, though – which is the way the enemy often works.

2 Sin
We can't get around this one. Regardless of what the sin is, disobedience that weakens one's relationship with God also weakens our relationship with our spouse.

Blame
That's what Adam did in the Garden, and what we often do. "When it's not my fault, I don't have to worry about changing. My spouse does."

Selfishness
Too often, couples commit themselves

to one another until "death does us part" during the wedding ceremony, but then live as if the other doesn't exist.

Secrets

Anytime we're hiding anything – especially from our spouse – the enemy's winning in some way. Honesty breaks the enemy's strongholds.

"Join me today in praying God's protection over our marriages."

Anger
Many of us have lived this experience.
Uncontrolled, unleashed anger can destroy the bond between husband and wife.

Prayerlessness
A couple that does not pray together misses an opportunity to strengthen their marriage. In fact, their prayerlessness says they can handle marriage without God's

help.

Pornography
Increasingly, both males and females
struggle with this sin that reduces human
beings to an image and implies that our

spouses aren't good enough for us.

Financial fights
That happens especially when we live for wealth and security, most often doing so at the expense of spending quality and quantity time with our spouse.

10 Offspring trouble
From Genesis 4 (Cain's killing
Abel), the enemy has attacked our children.
Too often, their struggles result in conflict
between mom and dad.

Adultery

As satan often does, he magnifies the temporary pleasure of sin over the devastating long-term effects of crossing that line. Families then pay the price for our bad choices.

Divorce
Even with the exception clauses of
Matthew 19, we cannot conclude that God
ever delights in divorce. The enemy does.
Join me today in praying God's protection
around our marriages.

CHUCK LAWLESS is a global theological education consultant for the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.



Are Your Kids Addicted To VIDEO GAMES?

—by B.J Foster

everal months ago, we took a trip to my sister's house in another town for a week. It's always fun to watch all the little cousins playing together. My kids love their cousins' house because they have a big basement, and that basement is a toy wonderland. One part of the basement that my son zeroed in on was the video gaming system. Normally, we have daily time restrictions - but we figured we would let it go since we were on vacation. He played for hours a day, rarely choosing to do anything else. We were surprised by how his personality changed. He became more irritable, self-focused, and prone to disobedience. The amount the cousins fought was closely connected to how much video game time they had.

The gaming system controlled my son

We finally decided to cut it off and my son flipped. The gaming system had complete control over him. Through it, he was getting stimulation, but it was costing him relationally. So we explained to him that our highest priority as a family is having good relationships with each other; therefore, his gaming cycle needed to be broken. If you have a kid with a video game addiction, here are 3 options you can use to make a change. Note: I'm not against video games. In fact, I love playing with my kids. However, I have seen the nega-

tive effects first-hand and also have seen the benefits of each of the options below.

Option 1: Designate times

Video games train kids to expect instant gratification and results. The more they play, the more they expect life to give them things easily. The only way to fight that is to restrict their playing. Limit the amount of time they are able to play video games daily. We used to

Video games train kids to expect instant gratification and results.

have a half an hour limit each day. Friends of ours have a weekend only policy. Keeping this restriction will help them understand what it takes to set limits on themselves. Have them set a timer. When the buzzer goes off, the system goes off. If they don't set the timer and don't stop voluntarily, then give them a consequence.

Option 2: Make them earn game time

Option 1 works well, but I must say that this option has been even more effective. This negates some of the feelings of instant grati-

fication because they have to put the work in beforehand. Make them complete their school work and chores in order to play video games. You could also allow them to earn video game time based on how they treat people, particularly you and your partner, and their siblings. This also reduces their sense of entitlement.

Option 3: Take it away

You can take it away from them in two ways. First, you can take video games away from them as the first consequence to any wrong committed. When they are disobedient, they lose a day. When they lie, they lose a week or more. You can use this in conjunction with option 2 also. When they are disobedient they lose the privilege, but they can reduce the lost time by serving the family in a big way. The second way is to get rid of it altogether. A child does not need video games to have a rich childhood. If your child can't handle it, toss it. Your family may be better off.

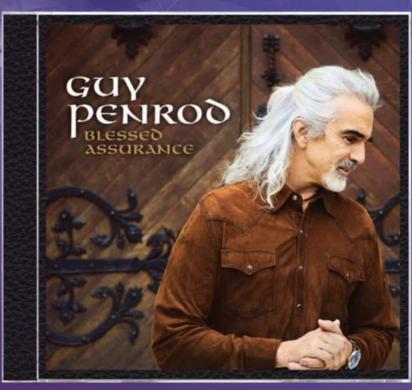
BJ FOSTER is the Director of Content Creation for All Pro Dad and a married father of two. Visit www.allprodad.com

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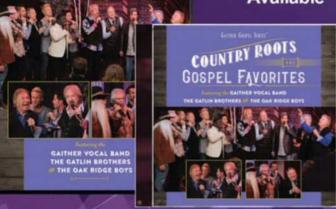




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Women Of Grace

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

- Col 2:6-7

Michelle Du Toit ROOTS BUILT ON CHRIST OUR ROCK





eing established starts deep inside us, our "inner being," referred to as 'the heart. In James 5:8 we are told to: "Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." To have an established heart is to put your heart in divine order and maintain that state. How do we get our heart established? To be well established, we need to work on the root system of our lives. Paul prays for in Eph 3:16-19, "that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." Paul's ultimate goal for established believers is that they reach the "measure of fullness." Therefore, he starts with our "inner being" being "rooted and established in love." Why? "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." – Eph 4:11-13. We are to mature in our experience of Jesus, each partaking in our service to the Body of Christ, until we all reach the "measure of the fullness of Christ." The focus is our roots, not our fruit, (or work for God). Not the expanse of our branches of influence, or the strength of our stem (stature). It starts at the 'inner being', our heart: Roots built on Christ our rock.

MICHELLE DU TOIT is passionate about bringing people into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. She runs cedars mentorship ministry, shares biblical treasures on her blog hearttreasure.net and jointly organised the annual Beauty for Ashes Conference. She speaks, facilitates retreats and presents workshops. michelledt@global.co.za | www.hearttreasure.net



"Then the Lord God said 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

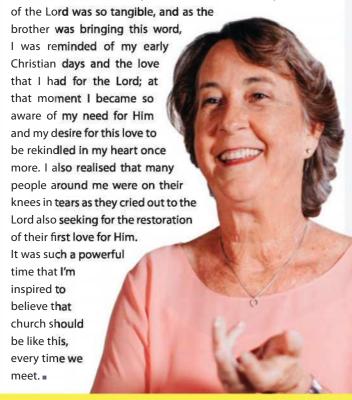
- Genesis 2:18

Bernadette Chiponda TRUSTING THE LORD FOR A HUSBAND

twenties, yet nothing prepared me for the long-wait I had to endure before getting married. I discovered during the time I was single that it wasn't just a matter of "waiting upon the Lord", but it was an era characterised by heartbreaks and peer / social pressures, as my sisters, friends, and most colleagues of my age group were getting married. It became frustrating attending weddings and bridal / baby showers, when clearly nothing was happening to me. My initial reaction was to take matters into my own hands by turning to the advice of secular magazines, the internet, books, and singles' seminars. I compromised my ideals and became more accommodating, but still, that didn't bring the marriage. I threw myself fully at my career for a season, but after a while I panicked because my biological clock was ticking. I started asking questions, "Where is the Lord, why He has not answered my prayer, or was I meant to be alone for the rest of my life?" When I decided to seek the Lord's will for my relationships, it was my turning point. I realised that I had started to pray for a spouse, but did not persist in prayer. I had often heard that in prayer there will be setbacks, but never retreat. Yet I stopped praying every time there was a setback; I had allowed discouragement, fear, and depression to take over. I readily tried the advice of friends, but never really asked the Holy Spirit to guide me concerning my individual situation – instead I rushed into relationships. Despite the odds, I got married at the age of 38 years, and I learnt many priceless lessons that I share in my new book to be released this winter, Sick & Tired of being single. ■



hen we gathered as a church this past Sunday, we had such a wonderful time praising and worshipping the Lord. At one stage, one of the pastors brought a word from the Lord. We were reminded that Jesus gave His life on the Cross to express His love for the Father and for us. His purpose was to create in us a new heart. A heart that would not look to please man, but rather serve the Father to the point that we would be despised and even rejected. But we would have nothing to fear, as His grace would be there for us. He spoke of how the Lord wanted to remove things that still have importance in our lives and to separate us from the world. Time is short and He wants to use us like never before with hearts that are tender and open to Him. The Lord was encouraging us to seek His face and not to lose time running after vain things, but to be concerned by His kingdom. How He wanted to restore our first love so that all we do for Him is an expression of that love. The presence



AUDREY HARDY is an international speaker and songwriter. She's married to Miki Hardy and co-founded ctmi. For more information: audrey@ctmi.org



PEARL KUPE

Do you want to do business, God's way?

esus tells us in Luke 19:13 to "occupy and do business until He comes." In this parable, the worker who opted to do nothing with the money that he was given was described as "wicked", and greater authority was given to those who appreciated their resources effectively. God expects an ROI, a return on His investments. One of the best ways to do Kingdom business is to join a network that is committed to do business that reaps Kingdom benefits. I'd like to extend a special invitation to all women to join the Global Forum for Women Entrepreneurs, a network that encourages women to occupy the business gate and to trade with one another in a Kingdom manner, with ethics and integrity. The network is building a presence in all nations around the world and offers opportunities and platforms to do business on a global level. The network also gathers women to be taught and equipped in 'KINGDOM-NOMICS', and to learn how to do business according to the original blueprint of heaven. The Network subscribes to the "Tzedakah" principle of charitable giving and encourages women to allow God to use them to help the vulnerable and the needy, according to Matthew 25:35-45. Don't strive to do business alone, join a network of Kingdom women and make a difference. Get a chance to be a part of an Ubuntu-led network that has a mandate to help grow your busi-

ness and build entrepreneurs who can facilitate Kingdom expansion and fulfil Kingdom mandates. If you are led to be a part of this network, contact us on info@gfwe.co.za. If you are in South Africa or London, we will connect you to the chapter nearest you. Connect on Facebook – Global Forum for Women Entrepreneurs. Twitter and links to the pages can be found through @RevPearl, and on Facebook and on Instagram as 'Pearl Kupe'.

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Email pearl.kupe@qmail.com



JOY! MAGAZINE 69



A SHIELDING LOTION AND HOW IT JUST MAY CHANGE YOUR LIFE

f you are one of many who are just plain sick and tired of your everyday dry, cracked, red itchy or flaky skin, then now might just be the time to toss out your old conventional artificial moisturiser and try the latest in **shielding lotion technology, Glo**ves In A Bottle.

An invisible barrier that protects your skin

The difference between a shielding lotion and a general artificial conventional moisturiser is that artificial conventional moisturisers are designed to flood the external surface of the

skin with artificial moisture. By contrast, Gloves in A Bottle is designed to achieve 2 key requirements when trying to maintain or establish a healthy vital skin. These are

- Lock in natural moisture, lipids and oils of the skin for deep rooted nourishment through all 7 layers of the skin, from the inside out
- Lock out moisture depleting irritants that our skin comes into contact with on a daily basis such as solvents, chemicals, soaps, dirt etc

In essence, Gloves in A Bottle affords the user the opportunity to "keep the good stuff in and the bad stuff out". Dry skin is inevitably the end result of the loss of the natural moisture, oils and lipids of the skin.

Nourishment from the inside out

Gloves In A Bottle has been specifically designed to prevent the above and has been scientifically proven

to be 6 times more effective than artificial conventional moisturisers. Once applied, it creates a totally invisible and undetectable layer on the outer most layer of the skins surface whilst still allowing for your skin to breathe and perspire optimally.

Unlike artificial moisturisers, Gloves in A Bottle does not wash off and comes off through natural exfoliation. A single application will last 4-12 hours allowing for maximum benefit ie protection and nourishment from the inside out.

Recommended by dermatologists

Gloves In A Bottle is manufactured in the USA by the leaders in Shielding lotion technology and is recommended and used internationally by more than 9500 Dermatlogists and medical practitioners. It is gentle enough to used on a baby's bum to lock out the uric acid, yet robust enough that it is used to by some of the largest industrial organisations that include the fuel, manufacturing, hospital, agriculture, chemical & construction industries to mention but a few. Once applied, it leaves your skin with a smooth satin feel and is suitable for use on your hands, face, body and feet.

Ensure a healthy skin

With more than 10 000 000 bottles sold and the fact that a single 240ml bottle will last 6-12 months (more than 400 applications per bottle) at an average cost of R20 per month, can you afford not to give it a try? Take a step out of the box, try Gloves In A Bottle and give your body the platform to utilise its own natural moisture, lipids and oils for what they were designed for – creating a healthy vital skin. The results are truly amazing.

breastlight



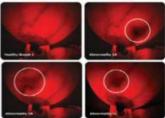
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For more info, visit www.glovesinabottle.co.za













ZOLTAN ERDEY

AN EXAMPLE OF GOD'S LOVE AND PROVISION

he story of Joseph provides many nuggets of truth and pragmatic lessons to believers who are willing to study the passage in depth. As a Christian investor into precious metals, the story of Joseph is particularly relevant to me.

Joseph's story

After an incredible journey that began at the bottom of a pit (Gen 37:24), Joseph becomes the grand steward of all of Egypt (Gen 41:41). In Genesis 41:57, we read that '...all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth.' Through his wisdom, obedience, and integrity, Joseph was an example of God's provision and love not only to his own people, but to many nations around the world. God's Name reigned high amongst the foreign nations in the days of Joseph.

A wise investor invests in the real thing

In past articles, I have tried to clarify that silver and gold are the most honest type of money in existence. What we think is money is merely currency that is declared to have value by the state. History is replete with examples of money becoming worthless. Think of the photos of kids in Germany during World War 2 playing on the streets with wheel-barrows full of worthless paper currency. I certainly do not remember children or adults playing with worthless silver and gold coins on the streets. Why? Because it is real money, not merely a derivative of the real thing.

How does this story apply to those who invest in precious metals?

The lesson for Christians is simply this: be wise in how you invest and save, for if you do so wisely, you too may become God's instrument of blessing others during times of famine and economic turmoil; just like Joseph! Through our wisdom and obedience, God's Name as a provider to all his children may reign high in our street, neighbourhood, country, and perhaps like in the case of Joseph, throughout the whole world.



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Silver-sphere is your hassle-free South African silver bullion supplier. We sell investment quality silver bullion in the form of legal tender coins, rounds, and bars from North and South America, Australia, and Europe. We strive to be Christ honouring in our business, unparalleled in our service, and always available for advice and guidance about any of our stocked silver bullion products.



WHAT DOES THE WORD OF GOD SAY ABOUT DEBT?

- PART 3

have learnt that the Word of God does not teach us that it is a sin to have debt. He warns us against the slavery characteristics and risks thereof, such as draining your wealth, but does not say that it is a sin in itself. There is an important fact from the Word of Abba Father that we need to consider before incurring debt – God never used debt as method of provision for His children in the Bible. He promises to provide for His children in many ways, but never used loans as a method to do so. Interesting isn't it?

Let's look to the Bible

Let us study a promise from the Word of Abba Father concerning the provision for His children from the following verse: "The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its

season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow." – Deuteronomy 28:12. The Hebrew language "paints" pictures in two of the words included is this verse. The Hebrew word translated as the words "lend" and "borrow" are the same word in Hebrew, namely "la'vah". Because of the context in which "la'vah" is used in this verse however, it has different pictures that it paints. The "la'vah" translated as "lend" in this verse has the meaning "to unite" or to "weave together". The

context of "la'vah" translated as "borrow" however has the meaning of "being placed under an obligation".

God's amazing promises

Looking at this you see a deeper meaning in this promise from Abba Father in this verse: He promises to bless His children and bless the work of their hands in such way that the fruit generated from this will be sufficient to bind together or unite nations – yet His children will be free from the obligation of needing to enter

into a debt that enslaves you. How incredible is the Word of Abba Father? There is however a prerequisite for this blessing listed in Deuteronomy 28:1 – the promise is made to those who "diligently obey the Lord your God."

What is God's Will for us?

God's dream for us, His children, is to live our lives free from the obligation of debt. He provides for us, but it remains our responsibility to manage this provision. We can save, spend, or give it away – but He warns that when we spend more than what was given to us, debt will "gladly" enter the arena to put us under the weight of its obligation. There is something we have remember: It doesn't matter how much God provides – if we spend more than we have, we will always be bound in debt!

God's dream for us is to live our lives free from the obligation of debt.





Born with a Dream

—by Lindelwe Moyo

ne million Rand – to many high level entrepreneurs, one million Rand may not sound like very much. But to a young man in the township of Kwadabeka, Durban, it was a dream that he intended to reach, and beyond. Andile was born into a country in which one in four of his young adult peers were unemployed. Not only that, but South Africa has one of the largest disparities between the wealthy and the poor, in the entire world. His odds were not in his favour. Everyone was looking for work—any job to help put food on the table— making the competition in the job market high; but Andile had a different plan.

Humble beginnings

Armed with a camera rather than a CV, Andile had an eye for photography and a creative mind. He searched for whatever he could get his hands on that would sharpen his business skills as he dreamed to build his own media company. From a young age, he spent many of his days playing with his father's Nikon film camera and Sony video camera. But like many, he gained the technical knowledge, but didn't quite know how to turn those skills into a thriving business. He knew how to shoot photos, record videos, and edit footage, but how does one market a business, manage cash flow, keep proper records, and budget

successfully? These were the vital skills he needed in order to launch his one million Rand dream.

The hard work began

After registering his company in 2011, Andile finally found what he was looking for—an entrepreneur development programme that would give him the foundation he needed.

South Africa has one of the largest disparities between the wealthy and the poor.

Not only that, but he was able to benefit from having a mentor through the programme – a local businessman with a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with Andile. He also received a micro-loan through the programme, which gave him a jump start in his business, and he was able to pay back the loan in full. After completing his 18-week Paradigm Shift training experience, Andile was armed with the practical business knowledge that he needed in order to really see his business grow. He knew the next step was to find a proper office to work from, and through hard work and diligence, he managed to get

accepted into a local entrepreneur incubation programme.

From dream to reality

From his one little cubicle space that he was able to rent, Andile and his one employee made *Nyachengos Video Productions* a reality. Although their revenue remained small, they sought out more funding and loan opportunities, as well as more mentors to glean knowledge from. In fact, having mentors has been a key component to Andile's success.

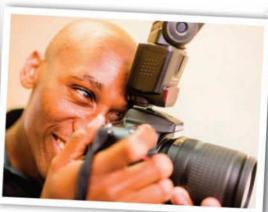
"Having a background of no one supporting you, and now you have to pursue this dream from really nothing, from nothing at all, having a mentor really helped me. Mentors keep you on your toes; I tell you, it's quite hectic, but they are really helping me," says Andile. Andile's sharp mind has helped him continue to take his business to the next level. He received funding to purchase all new equipment for his company, including a drone. His company now rents out equipment, in addition to their other services, and Andile has film and production companies now approaching him to join ventures.

Watching it grow

Nyachengos Video Productions was able to eventually rent out two cubicles, and today







STORIES OF HOPE

Paradigm Shift equips churches to offer business training, discipleship, mentoring, and microcredit to launch entrepreneurs like Andile into seeing their businesses thrive and grow. These key components combined have the power to transform the future of an entrepreneur, giving them hope for tomorrow.

they have an entire office space of their own, with five full-time employees, and five contractors they employ. They even won a "Best Information and Communication Technology" award. Since 2012, Andile's business revenue has steadily increased, and he has even bigger plans for the future of his company:

"I actually have a much bigger vision than this. In fact, I see myself having a media training school that will help people develop their skills in video production and photography. But mostly, my main focus is video production. I'd like to see more people getting these skills, opening their own businesses, and also working for other companies within this sector. I would also really love to see our company operating without the owner, so I can look into other ventures."

Hard work pays off

Andile sometimes passes by the little cubicle that he used to rent, the humble beginnings of his aspiring business, and is reminded that the

possibility to himself and his family, as well as to the families of the people he employs. Today, five years later, due to Andile's hard work, perseverance, sharp mind, and patience, Nyachengos Video Productions has reached their one million Rand goal. If his journey thus far tells us anything, it's that Andile is just getting started. There are even greater things ahead for Andile and his business.

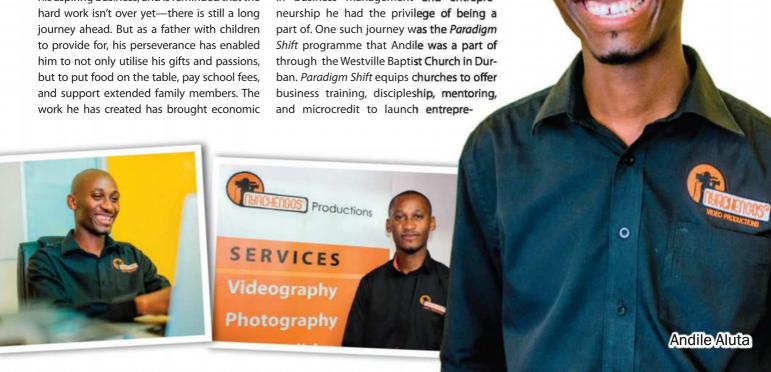
"Having a mentor really helped me. Mentors keep you on your toes."

Hope for the future

Andile not only credits his journey to firstly the grace of God, his long standing passion for digital equipment and technology and his background in Business Management, but also to the development programmes in business management and entreprebusiness training, discipleship, mentoring,

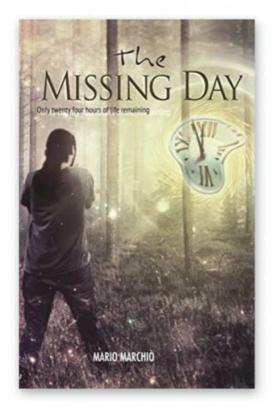
neurs like Andile into seeing their businesses thrive and grow. These key components combined have the power to transform the future of an entrepreneur, giving them hope for tomorrow. If you would like to see a similar programme launch at your local church, or support a programme financially, please check out: shiftingparadigms.org •

LINDELWE MOYO is the Executive Director of Paradiam Shift, an oranisation that seeks to address poverty in South Africa and other developing countries. Visit www.shiftingparadigms.org for more information.





TRENDING BOOKS & AUTHORS



THE MISSING DAY Only twenty-four hours of life remaining

—by Mario Marchio

n this fast-paced Christian novel, Italian pastor Marco Montorsi crosses the International Date Line on a flight from Los Angeles to New Zealand and finds himself face-to-face with 24 hours that are not supposed to be there, in a world that doesn't really exist. Seated next to Marco on the flight is a young man who is running from a crime. During this strange lapse in time, Marco is commissioned by divinity to enter another dimension to unfasten eight locks that have kept this young man prisoner for most of his life. Mountains need to be climbed, monsters need to be slain, combinations need to be deciphered, doubts need to be conquered, and locks have to be opened. All this in 24 short, unforgiving hours, or the young man's heart will not be touched, it will literally stop beating and his eternal destiny will not be changed. The race is on! Will Marco succeed in saving this young man's heart and life? Mixed with the gripping narrative of this fictional adventure, are the author's nuggets of revelation and teachings that he uses so readily to reveal the merciful, gracious, generous, and loving heart of the Father.

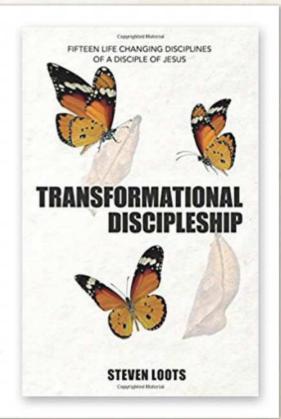
MARIO MARCHIO is an Italian pastor and author, based in South Africa. He has authored many powerful books. The Missing Day is available for purchase online via Amazon. Alternatively, contact the author directly on mario@ilsuovillaggio.com

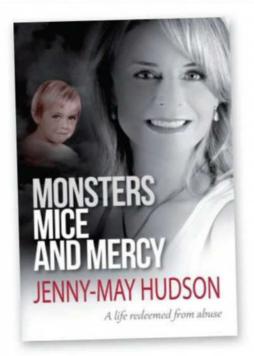
TRANSFORMATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP 15 life-changing disciplines of a disciple of Jesus

—by Steven Loots

very Christian needs to experience transformation. This book starts you off on the right track. It deals with salvation and discipleship and the need for discipline in our spiritual walk with God. The spiritual disciplines do not bring about transformation, but they put us in a place where we can be transformed by the Lord. These disciplines need to be learnt, practiced, and taught. The disciplines discussed include: discovering who the Master is, abiding in Christ, prayer, witnessing, disciple making, studying the Word, practicing the presence of God, worship, stewardship, servanthood, renewal of the mind, fasting, forgiveness, love, and obedience. Jesus never intended that some would be mere believers or converts and others would be disciples. He simply said: "Follow me". Being a disciple, a follower of Jesus, and making other people His disciples too is the fulfilling of the Great Commission. This is not an event; it is an exciting, life-changing journey. This book is for everyone longing for more; for new Christians and those who have known the Lord a lifetime.

STEVEN 'FANIE' LOOTS is the founder of Harvesters Ministries, a church-planting ministry that has seen over 40 000 churches worldwide in the last 16 years. Transformational Discipleship is available for purchase online via Amazon. Alternatively, contact Harvesters Ministries directly on info@harvestersministries.com





MONSTERS, MICE, AND **MFRCY**

Life may seem unfair, for now

—by Jenny-May Hudson

t was on a normal school day that Dedda came home early from work. I walked back from school as I always did when we moved to Lynnwood, and on my arrival at ten past two, he was waiting for me, pacing, longing for confrontation. "You are late." "No, Dedda, I am not." The muscle on his temple sprang into action as he launched at me, his big hands gripping my thirteen-year-old frame. "Are you calling me a liar, Jeanette?" "No, Dedda, I am not." "So then, you are late from school." "Yes, Dedda." "Get to your room!" He pointed towards the passage and bent down to my level while doing so. I waited and waited. With Dedda, a mandatory catch-22 situation was in operation. If the answer or confession that he demanded was not forthcoming, or was denied, he would ask me if I was calling him a liar. This was not an option. Ever! So I would wait for the hiding. The wait was worse than the physical pain, and the rejection after the hiding was worse still."

The Bible says we must consider it pure joy whenever we face trials of many kinds, because the testing of our faith produces perseverance, which finishes a work in us, so that we may be mature and complete, not lacking

anything. At the time when Jenny-May experienced her childhood trials, she certainly did not jump for joy, but sometimes felt frustration, exasperation, and confusion. Perseverance and hope in James's promise is what brought her to the finish line of maturity. Every trial offered an advantage, which showed up in her adult life as Kingdom tools. Tools Jenny-May now uses to defeat the kingdom of darkness. What a joyous victory these trials produced!

Request Jenny-May as a speaker, or for conferences on: jenny-may@optusnet.com.au. .

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JENNY-MAY HUDSON, teacher, public speaker and author of Monsters, Mice, and Mercy. Available in stores and on Amazon.com. Follower of Jesus. Dedicated to

encourage, edify, motivate, restore.



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Ot Die Foundation NPC

he Do Not Die Foundation NPC is the brainchild of visionary Christian businessman, attorney, and author, Nadan Naidoo. The Do Not Die Foundation is a Non-Profit company that was birthed with the vision of developing the resilience of our people, by enabling them to deal with the unresolved issues that might be hindering their achievements, success, and inner peace. One must not die in the middle of your plans, goals, or ambitions - we must finish it. Our first priority is the schools in the Northern Areas of Nelson Mandela Metro. We are blessed to have various professionals from our community – legal professionals, medical professionals, educators, entrepreneurs, etc., - associated with our foundation, who would be available to do short motivational talks to learners during school assemblies; and to be available in certain instances, for one-on-one interventions.

Building skills

Secondly, we have developed a range of life skills modules, including Time Management;

and Self Esteem, which we have available to present to learners at these schools. Amanda Centerobi, in her online article, Hiding in plain sight: Tips to spot an under the radar student... mentions how difficult it is to identify the under-the-radar learners who are neither top achievers, nor do their grades warrant intervention. Very often, those students have the ability to realise their potential, with the right motivation and support. These life skills modules are

> Do Not Die equips the youth with necessary education and skills.

aimed at creating an opportunity for these learners to be introduced to additional skills that could enhance their academic and emotional wellbeing.

Purchasing a centre to assist the youth

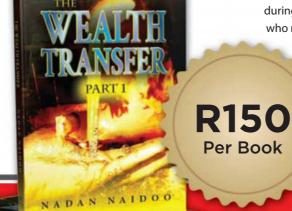
Our third approach is to have an onsite youth worker available to consult with learners on challenges or issues arising from interactions during life skills workshops or those learners who respond to issues raised by our motivators during school assemblies.

> Mr Naidoo purchased a piece of land in the historically relevant area of Fairview, and envisions the development of a multi-functional facility that will house a life-skills centre.

dorm-style accommodation for camps, sport and recreational facilities, and an enterprise development hub. Young people will be able to sleep over at the facility, for specially developed camps, over weekends, and on holidays. This facility will house the foundation and it will enable the foundation as well as the facility to be self-sufficient. The first phase of this development will kick off soon. Mr Nadan Naidoo has donated all proceeds from the sales of his books: Do not die in the middle of your Destiny and The Wealth Transfer: Part 1, of which 2000 copies per book are being printed, towards the operations of the foundation. 4000 copies of Do not die in the middle of your Destiny have been sold since 2010.

The main objectives of *The Do Not* **Die Foundation NPC are:**

- •To educate and empower families and individuals with the necessary skills to resist the deferment of their ambitions. towards resolving unsettled matters that can negatively affect the emotional, financial, and spiritual well-being of the family structure.
- •To empower families and individuals, through awareness and educational programmes, towards control of their personal debt, ultimately facilitating the attainment of financial dignity.
- •To expand the capacity of youth, women, and fathers within the community, through skills development.
- To expedite the development of youth who show potential academically, technically, artistically or in business.



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Is tithing legalism and to be avoided? My home fellowship leader is adamant about that.

A. A careful study of the Bible reveals tithing was practised before Moses wrote it into the Law. Before the Law (e.g. Abraham), during the Law, and after the Law, God's people obeyed the principle of proportionate giving. Believers were taught to give "in keeping with your income" - 1 Corinthians 16:2, and "according to your means" - 2 Corinthians 8:12-15. It is a magnificent plan demonstrating the wisdom of God in providing for His work and His people, so everyone can participate. Tithing has two immediate benefits. (1) It protects us from excessive giving advocated by manipulative greed. (2) It encourages disciplined giving and ensures we understand we are stewards of His resources. Let the Lord Jesus Christ have the last word. "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill, and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy, and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former" - Matthew 23:23.

I don't understand the Book of Revelation – the four beasts, the angels pouring things into the world – could you explain it to me?

A. The Book of Revelation takes some advanced studying to understand it in context. Those are "word pictures" that the Apostle John uses to describe events that will take place in the final years of this world's history. My best advice is to read the Bible and live out what you do understand, rather than dwell on what you don't understand. The Lord will reveal those things to you in His time as you mature in the faith and in His Word.

Someone from a well-known cult contacted me today. Would it be wrong to allow her into my home, as I know she is coming to try and teach another Gospel?

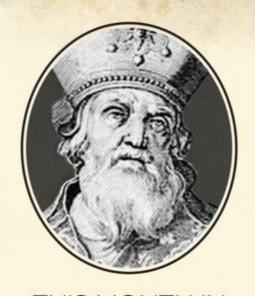
A. Unless the Holy Spirit directs otherwise, it is best not to enter into any further discussion with them. Hear what the Bible says: "Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist ... Anyone who runs

ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them" – 2 John 1:7-10.

How can one trust God when you try your best at something, but still fail, even though you prayed? School is meaningless for me.

A. Answers to prayer are "the children's bread", Jesus said. This means you must be sure you are not just religious, but a genuine Christian. If you are not sure, ask the Lord Jesus Christ to come into your heart, forgive your sins, and make you His own born-again child. The Holy Spirit cannot bring back to your memory what is not there already. Be sure to diligently study and trust Him to embed that knowledge and understanding into your mind. If you have not studied as hard as you should, repent and ask His forgiveness. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take" -Proverbs 3:5-6.

Val Waldeck is an author, kindle publishing consultant, and Bible teacher. If you need help writing, or with your book, see www.valwaldeck.com



THIS MONTH IN HRISTIAN ISTORY

SAINT BONIFACE

THE GREATEST MISSIONARY OF THE DARK AGES

—by Robert J. Morgan



e is called the apostle to the Germans and was perhaps the greatest missionary of

the Dark Ages. Boniface was an Englishman, born in 680 AD. He entered a monastery and, at the age of thirty, was ordained. His abilities guaranteed a rising career in the English Church, but Boniface had a missionary call on his life that would not be denied.

His boldness knew no bounds

About 716, he sailed to Holland on his first missionary endeavour, but he met strong political opposition and returned to England discouraged. He recovered and left again for the continent, going to Rome in 718, then, with the pope's sanction, to Germany. For the next twelve years he worked there (with occasional forays back to Holland), and he soon began seeing great numbers of pagans converted. His boldness knew no bounds.

Smashing false idols

In one village, he couldn't win any converts because the local populace was convinced that their massive tree, the sacred oak of the thunder god, held supernatural powers over them. Boniface took an axe and felled it in full view of the horrified citizens. He then proceeded to build a church with the wood. News spread across central Europe and thousands confessed Christ as Lord.

He travelled from village to village, smashing idols and preaching the Gospel.

He reconsidered his methods

Boniface travelled from village to village, smashing idols, destroying temples, and preaching the Gospel. But he soon reconsidered his smash-and-burn evangelism and began building churches, training and organising an indigenous clergy. Women became actively involved in his work. In 744, he established the important monastery of Fulda, to this day the centre of Roman Catholicism in Germany. Boniface's converts fanned out as missionaries throughout central Europe.

One of the most powerful churchmen

Everywhere he went, it was with papal sanction and authority, and he became one of the most powerful churchmen of the eighth century. Some have criticised him for emphasising the Church over the Gospel. He was back in Holland for a preaching tour, and thousands of converts were baptised. On June 5th, 755, a band of hostile pagans fell upon him as he camped by the river Borne. He was slain while clutching a Bible in his hand.

Are you shining the light?

"The Lord has given us this command, 'I have placed you here as a light for the Gentiles. You are to take the saving power of God to people everywhere on earth.' . . . Everyone who had been chosen for eternal life then put their faith in the Lord." – Acts 13:47-48.

*This article has been extracted from On This Day In Christian History, written by Robert J. Morgan and published by Thomas Nelson Publishers. Visit: www.thomasnelson.com for more information.



The work is astounding in the light of the odds, which would have seemed insurmountable without the Lord by your side. The tumult of the 1970s – when, in five short years, the Khmer Rouge regime put around one quarter of Cambodia's population to death – still reverberates through the generations.

The Word rekindled the fire in Pastor Boran's heart. He realised why his churches had largely not grown in three decades and why they had not multiplied. He realised that he had been making converts and not disciple-makers.







Reinvigorated, he jumped at the opportunity to sign up as a Hub Leader, wanting to be part of what God is doing across the globe. Harvesters Ministries, which is currently active in 62 countries worldwide, believes that multiplication discipleship and church planting is the most effective way to reach the world for Christ. Thousands of new churches are being planted and pastors are being trained for each of them. Glory to God, Boran was not the only pastor to sign up. An amazing total of 38 church leaders joined him in this new church planting stream.

Excited by holy leadership

The turnout speaks volumes in a country where the government deliberately discourages any religion. Yet more evidence of God's glory was to come. During the first training session where an evangelism tool was introduced and taught, the group headed out to share the Gospel in their village with their neighbours – even

Harvesters Ministries is currently active in 62 countries. Thousands of new churches are being planted and pastors are being trained.

though door-to-door evangelism is prohibited. After 90 minutes, they returned bursting with excitement. Pastor Boran stepped up first, reporting commitments by four new disciples.

He was emotional when he recalled the story. Pastor Boran is excited by the Harvesters Hub Model, says he remains constantly aware of the potential of the programme. One of its most important requirements, he says, is that everyone who participates honours a holy commitment in not only bringing the Word to new believers, but encouraging these disciples to make disciples of others. It is the key to spreading the Good News to all.

Now, you can help

Behind every initiative that advances the work of God are millions of supporters – and by His Spirit, you can be part of them. Perhaps you are led to make a financial contribution, donate a Bible, plant a church, or simply led to sign up for our newsletter. Each small action is a mustard seed waiting to grow. Visit www.harvestersministries.com to learn more.

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The importance of African Bible Translations

—by Gillian Fraser

frica is home to many of the world's most unreached tribes and civilisations. Here in South Africa, we are living in a Third World country, with access to the majority of First World facilities. The Gospel is only one click away on our computers or our smartphones. This luxury is unfortunately not the norm for the majority of native Africans, who have never heard about Jesus, and have no access to the Bible in their own languages.

As Christians, our lives are focused on the Great Commission, as outlined in Matthew 28: 16-20, to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel". It is our duty here on earth to share the Good News of Christ with as many different people as we possibly can, and to lead those who have no knowledge of our Lord to salvation.

A distortion of the Bible

The Bible is unfortunately not yet freely available in every language in the world, despite ardent efforts from Bible translators. Many peoples in Africa have potentially heard of the Gospel, heard of God's goodness, and could even have been led to salvation previously – yet they have no solid base for their theology.

This lack of Scripture in native languages has set the scene here for the countless reports of distorted theology, with 'pastors' spraying doom on congregants, bringing witchcraft into ceremonies, and leading churches further and further away from God's truths. Bible translations into African languages is the key to fulfilling the Great Commission in this na-

Bible translations into African languages is vital in fulfilling the Great Commission.

tion. What is the value of translating the Bible into the heart language of a people?

1. It makes the Word of God accessible to many, not just a few

The Great Commission requires us to reach every creature. The average missionary has the potential to reach 5000 people in his lifetime. At this rate, it would require over 600 000 missionaries just to reach the unreached half of the world. The Bible in the heart language of the people would accelerate our obedience to Matthew 28.

2. It conveys to the people that they are of value to God

Many years ago a missionary reached an African native for Christ and eventually translated the Scriptures into his heart language. After receiving his first copy of the Scriptures, the native referred to what it was like to only hear the spoken Word. "To me," he said, "it was like God was coming every Sunday to visit us dressed in another culture and language. As soon as He went away, the rest of the week we had no God." The written word in their language becomes more than just words on a page, it speaks to the heart and communicates to them their value to God. Even reading the Bible in a second language or trade language does not have this effect. There is no substitute for reading the words of God in your own heart language.

3. It plants the Gospel in the culture

In order for the Gospel to reach the multitudes and the Church to multiply effectively, it must become more than the religion brought from across the seas. It must be born out of their own culture. God must become more than a weekend visitor; He must become part of the fabric of their lives through His ever-present translated Word.

Give someone a Bible in their mother tongue











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Shona Zambia, Zimbabwe

Russian South Africa

Chinese (New Testament) South Africa

Spanish *Equatorial Guinea*



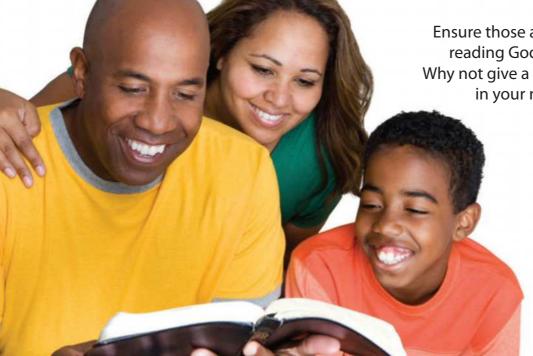


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"A Bible in one's mother tongue not only personalises the relationship one has with God, but symbolises the Christian principle of God loving us all – irrespective of our race, culture, background, and sosial status."

George Pabi – Canadian Bible Society

Ensure those around you have the pleasure of reading God's Word in their mother tongue.
Why not give a Bible to someone in your home, in your neighbourhood, at work, in your church, or as an outreach?







Sammy's DISCOVERY



-by Eva Pretorius

EBC, the Far East Broadcasting Company, aired their very first broadcast from Shanghai, China in the 1940's. The dream, inspired by the Lord, was to launch a ministry that would focus on the extreme spiritual needs of the people of Asia following World War II. In 1948 China closed its doors to foreign missionaries, causing FEBC to move its Asian base of operations to the Philippines. FEBC's first

sistent poverty, sharp rise in the sex-trade industry, and corruption. There are thousands of people living in poor conditions, unable to access health care and other basic needs. Many are living in a void of hopelessness.

The Philippines is an archipelago that comprises of about 7641 islands of which only 2000 are inhabited. FEBC broadcasts the Gospel in 11 languages through a variety of programs including: Bible teachings, children's

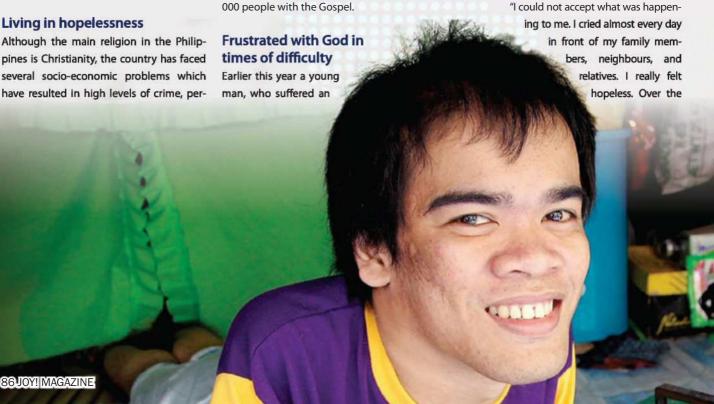
There still remain millions of people like Sammy, suffering from the consequences of disintegrated societies and misfortune, who have not yet heard the Gospel.

broadcasts over the local station, KZAS, went on air on June 4, 1948 in Manila. Today God is using FEBC Philippines to minister healing to the hearts of millions across the country and abroad.

pines is Christianity, the country has faced several socio-economic problems which have resulted in high levels of crime, per-

programs, medical information, discipleship training, evangelism, and music programs. On average, FEBC Philippines distributes up to 2000 radios per annum to unreached minority groups around the country, reaching up to 50 000 people with the Gospel.

unexpected injury, shared his story of how Christ brought restoration through FEBC's broadcasts: Sammy grew up in Quezon, a farming district in the Philippines. It is a place surrounded by picturesque mountains and lush farmlands. As the eldest child, in accordance with the Filipino culture, he had to work to provide for the rest of the family. During those times, despite not owning land of their own, they lived a simple, yet abundant life. One day, he played a volleyball game with his friends. After the game, while he was on his way home, he felt a sudden jolt of pain in the right side of his neck. Soon after, he was unable to feel any sensation in his arms and legs. On seeing a doctor, he was diagnosed with a severe and incurable spinal cord injury that would leave him paralysed and bedridden for life. Many thoughts ran through his mind and he became frustrated and angry with God for what had happened to him. He recalls how he felt helpless in those moments:





period of one and a half years my parents did everything they could to try and help me get better. They sought help from faith healers, doctors, physical therapists, but nothing was able to cure me. I became desperate and hopeless. I blamed God for everything. It was at this point where my character took a turn for the worst. I was mad at the world and everyone in it."

Reading the Bible brought joy

As his condition worsened, Sammy's miserable state-of-mind started to affect his family, as he withdrew from them. Like his body, his relationship with them also grew weaker. At the same time his father was having an

It is our universal responsibility to make sure that they get the chance to hear the Good News.

extra-marital affair and the family gradually fell apart. Unable to bare the strain, his mother decided to relocate the family to another city. Sammy explains how difficult it was to transition from being an active young man into someone who could no longer walk or work with his hands:

"There is nothing I could do except for watching television and listening to FEBC radio. One day I realised that everything I did to try and fill my void of loneliness was worthless. I began reading the Bible and confessed all my sins to God. This brought me joy, I could not help but share all I've learnt with my family and friends."

God can always use you!

God transformed Sammy's bitterness into praise and thanksgiving. Through reading the Bible and listening to FEBC's broadcasts, Sammy was restored and received strength to put the past behind him. Today, Sammy shares his hope by managing 11 Facebook pages that offer enlightening and positive messages from the Bible. Even though his feet cannot take him to places where he can preach the Gospel, God is using his active mind to bring His Word to those around him!

FEBA can reach the unreached

There still remain millions of people like Sammy, suffering from the consequences of disintegrated societies and misfortune, who have not yet heard the Gospel. It is our universal responsibility to make sure that they get the chance to hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ. One radio has the power to impact 50 people's lives. For further information visit www.febaradio.co.za or contact us on 012 335 5708.



Contact us at

info@febaradio.co.za

or +27 12 335 5708

Adapted from an article from FEBC Philippines



THE LEGACY OF A **GOD-FEARING DAD**

on the frontlines of the faith

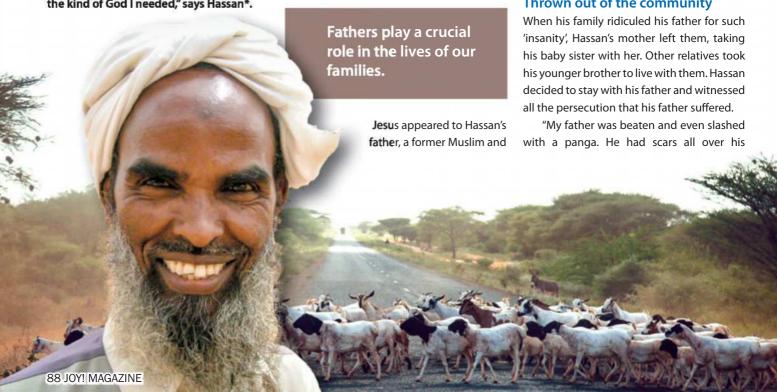
—by Open Doors SA

od enabled an illiterate herder to cling to Him amid persecution. No matter how hard the situation was, how rejected he felt, my father still clung to Christ. And that was the life I wanted. That was the God I wanted to believe in. That is the kind of God I needed," says Hassan*.

"When I was a young boy, I never knew what Christianity was," the 24-year-old Somali believer, Hassan, shares. Most Somalis in the Horn of Africa are people who pride themselves in the fact that there are hardly any Christians among them.

herdsman, while he was out herding and said, "It is Me, Jesus. Do not be afraid, for I am with you." Hassan's father chose to follow Christ, and this marked the start of intense persecution.

Thrown out of the community





STRENGTHEN ISOLATED CHRISTIANS FACING PERSECUTION

body. When the attacks did not work, the community offered him money to return to Islam. He never gave in to the pressure. This is when our family and the community rejected him. Nobody wanted to talk to him and when they did, all he got was verbal abuse. Eventually we were thrown out of our community," Hassan remembers.

A journey to faith

After his father was thrown out, Hassan received a sponsorship from a well-wisher to attend a good school far from home. It is here that his own journey towards Christ began, "I did not realise that the Lord was

This Fathers' Day, remember persecuted fathers around the world.

using my father to [draw] me to Himself.

"At the end of my eighth grade, I had a desire towards God in my heart and I started comparing Islam and Christianity. I saw that Islam is more about rules – it's about dos and don'ts, whereas Christianity is about a Person who came and gave His life so that I could have life.

"My father used to be illiterate. No one preached Christianity to him. No person convinced him to become a Christian. For him, as a Somali, to become a believer in a place where there is not a single church, is significant. This is what Jesus did. And when

I compared his life to what it was before, I knew that he had seen the Light."

A lonely walk

Hassan's own faith journey is also a lonely one, "Although I want to tell the world that I am a Christian, I don't, because I fear for my life. But God makes it possible for me to survive this isolation. When Jesus died for human kind, He also died for me. I know that God will fulfil His purpose for me. That is the one thing that keeps me strong."

Effective ways of sharing the Gospel

One of the ways in which Open Doors supports isolated believers, like Hassan, is through radio, which offers exciting opportunities. In partnership with other ministries, Open Doors makes Gospel programmes available in the Somali language in the Horn of Africa, and through Internet technology, also as far afield as Europe and the USA. The airwaves are one of the most effective ways of reaching both believers and non-believers. Anyone can access it via shortwave (in the Horn) and via the Internet everywhere else.

Pray with Open Doors

Pray with us that many in closed countries, such as Somalia, will continue to hear the message of Christ and come to faith in Him. Also pray that we will be able to provide content that helps strengthen the faith of those who have already placed their trust in God.

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SOUTH AFRICAN EVANGELISTS



PIERRE OOSTHUIZEN Palaces vs temples

f anyone's work which he has built on endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" – 1 Corinthians 3:14-16.

"Lord, what's their problem?" – I was getting frustrated. The crusades were in an area with about 30 villages. We worked with wonderful pastors with a well-established fraternal. I kept encouraging them to reach out to other pastors in the area so we could involve as many churches as possible – but it was as if they were held back. I prayed for guidance and was shocked by God's reply: "Their problem is that they're building palaces, not temples". A temple economy is all about the deity, and operates on freewill offerings from the worshippers distributed by the priests for the benefit of all (Acts 4:32,33). As a result, temples serving the same deity are not a threat to one another. A palace economy is similar, with some exceptions. It's about the king, his family, and close followers. Especially in the distributions. Freewill offerings become mandatory and the kingdom operates as a business – bringing all subjects, their talents, and abilities under the will of the king. Surrounding kingdoms are a threat. What are we building? In Revelation we read the throne and the altar in the Temple of God – not in a palace.

PIERRE OOSTHUIZEN started Sons of Abraham Ministries (SoAM) in 2016 in response to the call to win multitudes for Christ through preaching salvation, healing, and deliverance. For him it's the culmination of more than 30 years of preparation as a pastor, teacher, motivator, and business leader. You can reach him on pletre.oosthuizen@sonsofabraham.co.za



GEBHARDT BERNDTWhen was God at His best?

would like to believe that God was at His best in the beginning. Not that He changed in any way in-between (Hebrews 13:8), but in the beginning, everything was in chaos. As Scripture presages, "The earth was without form and void." – Genesis 1:2. It was complete chaos until God stepped in. With three words "let light be", creation occurred; galaxies, and animals, the earth and the sea, mountain ranges and human kind. All by the breath of His Voice. Nothing much has changed; people are still facing chaos daily. Chaos in the workplace, chaos in finances, chaos in relationships. Chaos.

But there is a Voice that penetrates the darkness. There is a Voice that finds you in the darkest, loneliest of places. There is a Voice that does not walk out and does not quit. This Voice seeks high and low until He finds you. If we only understood our worth, how much of our hearts would not be sold off? If we can awake our value, change the disposition of our speech, and change the way we think, how much will not change from death to life? As people, we have to believe what He says is true! I am loved. I am favoured. I am blessed. I am strong. I am His! Satan knows that if he can swing your worth away from your Kingdom birth, victory can be obtained! But His Voice, tender still, is calling us away from the darkness, away from the chaos, away from the scoundrel steeplechases, into His glorious life (John 14:6). Whatever you're facing, it's not the end; He is still Creator. Your chaos is a spoken Word away from beauty! We are a result of what we believe

to be true. Time to believe beloved. ■

GEBHARDT BERNDT is the Senior Pastor of Hatfield Christian Church Email: sp@hccnorth.co.za / Website: www.hccnorth.co.za

SERVING THE CHURCH

TAMRYN KLINTWORTH Fire Nights

have exciting news to announce! While *In His Name* continues winning thousands for Jesus across Africa through Gospel Crusades, the Lord has stirred an initiative in the hearts of myself and two dear fellow evangelists that will see us impacting those closer to home. Myself and two other Cape Town based soul-winners, namely Ev. Edward Ackerman (Lightlife Evangelistic Ministries) and Ev. Herman Snell (Revive all Nations Ministries), are going to hold unbranded, one night crusades across the Cape Flats on a regular basis. When I say "unbranded" I mean that the events will not carry the name of any one ministry. Rather, we will share the platform together as a show of unity, declaring that if the Body of Christ pull together, Cape Town shall be saved! On these evenings, the Gospel will be preached in a tag team fashion and an altar call for salvation made. Healing and deliverance will be prayed for. Also, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and how to be used mightily by Him will be taught on and prayed for. The evenings will be called *Fire Nights* and are both for the unbeliever and believer. If you would like to get involved in this initiative or have us come to your area, please do contact me directly on tamryn@inhisname.global or 021 556 0762. Africa for Jesus!

TAMRYN KLINTWORTH, Evangelist - In His Name Ministries. The revised and expanded edition of Tamryn's book Spirit of Fire is now available from leading bookstores nationwide. Email: info@inhisname.org.za | PO Box 50015, West Beach, 7449



ast month we looked at answering the important question of, "What is my purpose in life?". We saw that the answer lies in following Christ. "Then Jesus said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." – Mark 1:17. This month the second part of that Scripture comes into focus. It is God's plan for our lives that we are made into "fishers of men". God makes us, and we act on what He has made us. Being a fisher of men is not only reflected in our words, but also in our lifestyles and our actions. Apostle Paul tells us that we are "our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men." – 2 Cor 3:1. Apostle Paul also writes in 1 Corinthians 10:31 and 16:13 that in everything we do let it be done to the glory of God and be done in love. People are looking at us to see Christ living in us. The conclusion is thus: Following Christ is our personal relationship with Him. Being a fisher of men is the result of that relationship. That is our purpose in life! •

GRANT AND THEUNISINA NEYT - Evangelism and Fire Ministries. Grant is passionate about reaching people for Christ. This stems from a deep seated and intimate relationship with God, through His Spirit and Word. The focus is to reach people of all walks of life with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, both spiritually and physically. Furthermore, he is passionate to see ordinary people in churches trained up and fired-up to reach those around them for Christ. Email: info@eandfm.org | P.O. Box 1622, Umhlanga Rocks, 4320





—by Reinhard Bonnke

he Bible's greatest illustration of fearful unbelief and fearless faith lasted forty years. It was like watching a forty-act drama on the stage, depicting the total bankruptcy of faith. We still see them in our mind's eye—those camping tribes of Israel. Many a time their wanderings took them close to the border of the Promised Land. The problem was not that they did not believe they could go over – they knew it was their right, for God had given the land to them. They were thoroughly convinced. Their faith that far was perfect, but their faith had a fatal flaw—the worm of fear was at the heart of it.

Faith is useless when we fear

Their faith was useless while they feared, which is why most of them never reached the Promised Land. They panicked. They murmured about their lot, but did not have enough faith to change it. They whined when they could have dined. The episode of the spies resulted in ten of them unbelieving

and two full of faith. This is probably a normal average—two out of twelve believe and get what God has for them. The rest wish and die. The Marxist communists used to mock religion saying, "Work and pray, live on hay, and you'll get pie in the sky when you die." They promised pie on earth, but it

With God, fear will not stop us. Faith removes the shackles from our ankles.

never came. Those who are promised pie in the sky and believe what Christ said are the ones who find that God gives them pie now, and then they do their best to make sure that other people get some pie as well. When Jesus said, "Do not be afraid; only believe" – Luke 8:50, it was a profound analysis of this emotion. Normally we say, "Do not be afraid, be brave, have courage!" Jesus did not say just, "Do not be afraid." He knew very well

that fear is part of man's make-up. He said, "Do not be afraid; only believe."

Faith is not a feeling

During periods of melancholy when, as Scripture says, "neither sun nor stars appeared" - Acts 27:20, trust in God is the anchor of the soul, "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You" - Psalm 56:3. That is the time to trust. Unfortunately, some are nervous by nature and prone to depression and even panic. We see this is many famous examples from history, such as Tchaikovsky; Thomas Carlisle, the eminent author; and William Cowper, the poet and author of the famous Olney Hymns. Even the prince of preachers, Charles Spurgeon, knew the grip of depression and would make his students laugh because otherwise he said he would weep. The writer of Psalm 42 may have been temperamentally afflicted in the same way, but again faith came to his aid. He said, "My tears have been my food day and night...why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are

When our bodily chemistry sets up a sense of impending disaster, or we suffer heavy blows and our circumstances are oppressive and dark, or when pain and illness sit with us at the fireside—fear and alarm come as a natural cause and effect. What then does faith do?

you disquieted within me?" He seems to have no rational explanation for his depression. However, he knew where to get strength. He spoke to himself, "Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him" – Psalm 42:5. This illustrates a major lesson—faith is not a feeling.

When danger comes, fear is inevitable

When our bodily chemistry sets up a sense of impending disaster, or we suffer heavy blows and our circumstances are oppressive and dark, or when pain and illness sit with us at the fireside—fear and alarm come as a natural cause and effect. What then does faith do? It takes the shackles from our ankles, and we challenge their paralysing grip and go ahead anyway. With God, fear will not stop us. We overcome. If we are believers, nothing can alter it, no matter what hammers and bruises us. Jesus said His followers were to give their lives for Him, but "not a hair of your head shall be lost" – Luke 21:18. You—the real you—believes God.

The sea's surface is ruffled, but the depths are still. Faith operates without emotional reactions. It secretly imparts strength of mind and peace of spirit, so you do not go under but over. Faith gets us off the hook of fear. Faith is not just for Sunday, but for life. Faith is not just for transplanting mountains

Do not panic, do not worry, do not murmur – for the Lord your God is with you.

(see Matthew 21:21), but for living. God gives us grace to live, if we believe, and the just will live by faith. Faith is the plus of life. ■

REINHARD BONNKE is a German Pentecostal evangelist, principally known for his Gospel missions throughout Africa. Bonnke has been an evangelist and missionary in Africa since 1967. Call 0861 232 672 or www.cfan.org.za



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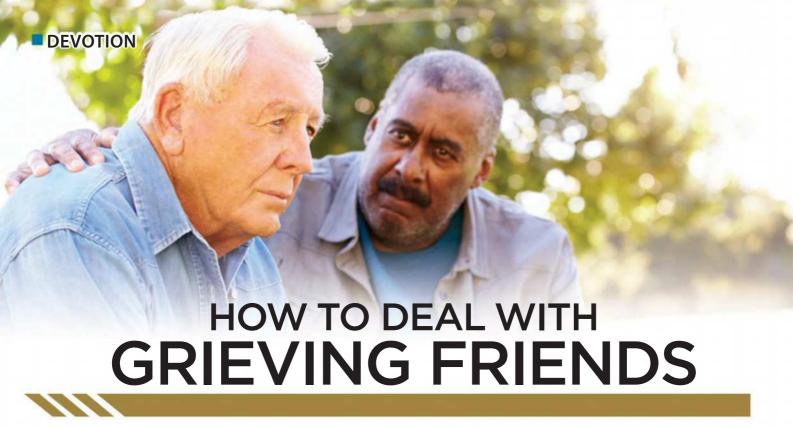
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SHARES HIS SECRET
TO A FIRE-FILLED MINISTRY!





—by Nico Bougas

any people really don't know what to say when dealing with grieving friends, and sometimes they blurt out things that don't help at all, but actually deepen the sorrowing person's pain.

"I know how you feel." No, you don't! So why say it? "There's a reason for everything." That may be true, but neither of you have any idea what that might be. "Well, cheer up. There's always someone worse off." This has zero comfort value, and sounds about as callous as you can get. "Don't worry. Be happy." – absolutely clueless. We have to give people—even fellow believers—time and room to grieve their loss.

Grieving with those who mourn

The Bible names three friends who came to Job to "sympathise with him and comfort him" -Job 2:11. As it turned out, Job would have been better off if these guys had just stayed home. These three counsellors apparently travelled a great distance, and when they arrived at Job's residence and caught sight of their old friend huddled out back on top of an ash heap, they were shocked right down to their sandals. When they saw Job from a distance, they scarcely recognised him. Wailing loudly, they tore their robes and threw dust into the air over their heads to demonstrate their grief. Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. And no one said a word, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words (Job 2:12-13). Believe it or not, that was the perfect thing to do. What Job needed right then was just someone to be with him. These friends started out with the right idea when "no one said a word."

Learning from their example

When you spend time with someone who is suffering or grieving, don't feel that you need to necessarily say something "wise and profound," or try to explain the situation. To begin with, you don't know enough to explain anything, because that knowledge lies with God alone. And besides that, explanations

Many people really don't know what to say when dealing with grieving friends.

have never healed a broken heart. Sometimes the best thing to do is just be there. And say absolutely nothing. When someone is hurting, you just need to go to them. If you say, "I don't know what to say." Then take your own advice and don't say anything! If you do say something, keep it simple.

Don't act like nothing has happened

Most of the time, your words aren't all that important anyway. By simply showing up—showing love, and a readiness to listen—you

are able to bring comfort to these grieving ones. Sometimes, you ask the individual what he or she is facing, and then you just close your mouth and listen with both ears. Many times, simply because they don't want to be uncomfortable, rejected, or look silly, people keep their distance from those who grieve. Or if they do spend time with that individual, they will steer clear of mentioning the one who died. That's no comfort at all. The grieving spouse or parent wants that loved one to be remembered. Many times, we will say things don't help at all, but actually deepen the sorrowing person's pain.

Look to the Bible for advice

We have to give people—even fellow believers—time and room to grieve their loss. Job's comforters always get a bad rap, and deservedly so, but just remember something: At least they got it right in the beginning. They wept with their friend, kept their mouths closed, and sat with him on the ground for seven days before they said anything. We think we're being a martyr if we sit with someone for seven minutes. At least initially, Job's friends did the right thing. Scripture says to "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." – Romans 12:15.

NICO BOUGAS is the International Director of Development of Hellenic Ministries. Email him on Nico@bougas. info, or visit www.hellenicministries.com



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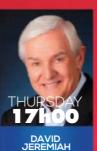


Channel 343















EY	GRAHAN

	MONDAY	TUTODAY	WEDNESDAY	THE POP AND	- DIDAY	CATLIDDAY	CLINDAY
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
00h00	Basil Tryon	Theo Wolmarans	Chuks Ozabor	Paul Adefarasin	Chuks Ozabor	Loyiso Bala	Angus Buchan
00h30	Rixi Roman	John Wasserman	Bert Pretorius	Sharon Venketiah	Bert Pretorius	Chris Mathebula	Wally Scholtz
01h00	Anaïs	D 15	Charles Ngobeni	Sipho Mseleku	John Roebert	Andre' Olivier	Siva Moodley
01h30	Joy Nicobo	Paul Enenche	Olusola Areogun		Biodun Fatoyinbo	Basil Tryon	Cjay, Janine & Johan
02h00	Jacob Msipha	A sa su va Du vala sua		ce Adeyemi		Sam Adeyemi	Jannie Pelser
02h30	Andrew Osakwe	Angus Buchan	Rhema Band	Ray McCauley	Partner Time	Biodun Fatoyinbo	Andrew Osakwe
03h00	Godman Akinlabi	Bertie Brits	Rhema Guests	Clive Gopaul	Godman Akinlabi	Errol Naidoo	Tamryn Klintworth
03h30	700 Club Nigeria	Modupe Ijisesan	700 Club Africa	Muyiwa Olarewaju	Refilwe Dzonzie		Clive Gopaul
04h00	Maurice Radebe Nicky vd Westhuizen Kakra Baiden Jennifer Dafwat					Rhema Hour	Wacih Abdelmassih
04h30			Matthew Ashimolowo				Emmanuel Ziga
05h00	John Gray	André Olivier	Partner Time	At Boshoff	Grea Laurie	TBN	Bruce Wilkinson
05h30			TD Jakes			Conference Hour	John Roebert
06h00			Brian Houston			3-2-1 Penguins!	Jesse Duplantis
06h30			Joel Osteen			Classic Superbook	Nicky vd Westhuizen
07h00	F		Joseph Prince	D . T	5 1416	Meet The Tunies	Moreleta Park
07h30	Enoch Phiri	Rhema Band	Ray McCauley	Partner Time	Paul Adefarasin	Paws & Tales	Siva Moodley
08h00			Creflo Dollar			RocKids TV	At Boshoff
08h30						iShine KNECT	Leon Fontaine
09h00		D. II. M	Allan Baco	7 14	NEL A L	Andre' Olivier	Robert Morris
09h30	Christine Caine	Beth Moore	Cynthia Garrett	Joyce Meyer	Nike Adeyemi	Wally Scholtz	Steven Furtick
10h00			TBN Play	6 6 11	A1 C 11 1	Andrew Owen	Joseph Prince
10h30	Ray Bevan	Partner Time	Emmanuel Ziga	Gregg Donaldson	Alan Scotland	Michael White	Creflo Dollar
11h00			lames & Betty Robisc	on		Maurice Radebe	Rhema Hour
11h30	700 Ch la Africa	F 700 Cl. Is	Andrew Wommack	F 700 CL I	700 Club Ni-amia	Tamryn Klintworth	The and Males are are
12h00	700 Club Africa	Euro 700 Club	Errol Naidoo	Euro 700 Club	700 Club Niceria	Wagih Abdelmassih	Theo Wolmarans
12h30	Muyiwa Olarewaju	700 Club Interactive	7	700 Club Interactive	Modupe Ijisesan	Richard Borgonon	Billy Graham
13h00	IZ adam at 1	Desire la ca	Joyce Meyer	Charala a Charala	Kint Calana ialan	Andrew Osakwe	Dortnor Time
13h30	Kakra E		Bertie Brits	Charles Stanley	Kirt Schneider	Charles Nobeni	Partner Time
14h00	Refilwe Dzonzie	James Merritt	Charles Stanley	TBN Play	John Wasserman	Jannie Pelser	Bethel Redding
14h30	Paul Enenche	Tony Evans	Frank Santora	Samuel Rodriguez	Toyin Abiola	James Aladiran	Olyppola Aroogyn
15h00	Andy Croft	Ctavan Khaumi	TBN Play	Cary Spayrall		Danny Gokey	Olusola Areogun
15h30	Andy Croft	Steven Khoury	Gavin & Ann Calver	Gary Snowzell	David Gilpin	Chuckie Perez Show	Chuks Ozabor
16h00						JUCE Live	Joyce Meyer John Gray
16h30	Angus Buchan	Masa Cana	TD Jakes	David Jeremiah	Loyiso Bala	Ciala Mandala	
17h00	Rhema Guests	Mosa Sono Sharon Venketiah	Angus Buchan			Sipho Mseleku	Joel Osteen TD Jakes
17h30		Sharon venketian	Joy Ngcobo Joseph Prince	Enoch Phiri	Dave Gilpin Cynthia Garrett	Divi Danasıa	
18h00 18h30	Jentezen Franklin	Chuka Ozabar		Beth Moore	Daniel Kolenda	Rixi Roman Anaïs	Errol Naidoo
	Partner Time	Chuks Ozabor	Ravi Zacharias	Detri Moore	Darlier Koleriaa		Mana Cana
19h00	N4 L	D 1	Steven Furtick	Charication of Carino	D 1)/	Mark Batterson	Mosa Sono
19h30	Max Lucado	Robert Morris	RT Kendall	Christine Caine	Paul Young	C.U.M. Artists	Chris Mathebula
20h00	C.U.M. Exclusives	Praise	TBN Play Worship	Praise	TBN Conforces Hour	Hillsong Church Cape Town	Movie Night
20h30	Loyiso Bala Cjay, Janine & Johan Conference Hour						
21h00	Joyce Meyer Perul Adeformation Rort Protorius Rort Protorius Rort Protorius Tafara Rutavi				Mike Huckabee		
21h30	Paul Adefarasin	Bert Pretorius	Bruce Wilkinson	Bert Pretorius	Tafara Butayi	Carlos au Alia Lata	Carles and Alich Li
22h00						Godman Akinlabi	Godman Akinlabi
22h30						Biodun Fatoyinbo	Biodun Fatoyinbo
23h00						Sonny Arquinzoni	Israel Daniels
23h30	Chris Kleinsmith	TBN Play	Jennifer Dafwat	TBN Play	Grace Lubega	TBN Play	Kay & Olu Taiwo



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