

The Christian Courier



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Oh Happy Day!*

by Bob Conklin, Jr.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND Merry Christmas!



Soon to be President-Elect Donald Trump with his and JD Vance's family together on stage at the wrap-up of the RNC Convention in Milwaukee this summer. Kudos to Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson for all he did to make Milwaukee shine!

After Election Day in America this year the world breathed a sigh of relief. Some also sang. To quote brother Roy Bell in his 2024 Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast message, "We are people of the Book (as Roy held up his Bible). We love Israel. We stand with Israel." This year, the people of the Book

prayed hard for an honest election, speedy results and for God to place His candidate into the White House. Church people and especially believers in the Lord Jesus Christ have seen that Donald J. Trump has been a friend of the church and a friend of Israel (Ge. 12:3).

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The Story of a Good Soldier in Lebanon

By Pastor Elie Hasbani & Jack Roper, freelance writer and photographer



Pain has its ways of bringing a man or a woman to their knees. It strikes the heart to realize that life is more precious and the human can pass on into eternity at any time in life. War accelerates the moment of death. Earth's human body is mortal, the soul and spirit are immortal.

Elie Hasbani was a good soldier in old Lebanon fighting Islamic terrorist groups Hezbollah and Hamas to protect his own family, and his Christian community. He had his military training with Israel Defense Forces. Lebanon is located on the North of Israel and dates back to over 5,000 years where the Phoenicians and Canaanites, a Semitic people lived.

Today, Lebanon is a country in war, where Hezbollah terrorist groups are trained by Iranian regime, to fight against Israel, the Jewish country in the Middle East. Their ideologies seek to destroy Israel in order to control the Middle East.

Elie Hasbani was an anti-terrorist soldier in Lebanon. In war, pain can occur anytime. During his military mission to destroy Hezbollah's missiles that was aimed

to his community and Israel. In his words "I had been standing on a land mine the whole time I was defusing the rockets and when I lifted my foot, it exploded.



ed. Suddenly, the thought came to me- I am going to die. This time, I'm dying for real. I was so scared. What would happen if I died? I was sure I was going straight to hell! I started to pray to Jesus, and told him, If you save me and keep me alive, I will be yours forever. I will serve you, follow you, and tell everyone about you." As soon as I finished my prayer, I heard a voice like a wind coming from heaven. It came on me,

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Commentary



Oh Happy Day, continued from page 1

A famous line from the presidential debates this year was “It’s time to turn the page.” That turned out to be in-fact just what the nation wanted. The voters had had enough of the last five years of ordered chaos. Yes, five years including 2020 and the Covid-19 debacle, the lies and breakdown of law and order and the fallout that has ensued since. “For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.” (2 Sa. 12:12). Bible prophecy reminds us this has been a precursor of things to come, but for now, God is being so gracious to all people everywhere that America may live. (v. 22)

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America came on a Tuesday morning in New York City and Washington DC. The attack on America for the last five years came daily, coast to coast, from within and without, painfully and using many means. We haven’t known just who was friend and who was foe, but we know Satan the devil is behind every act of evil that seeks to dethrone God and

silence his people. The fervent prayers of the righteous moved the hand of God and for this outcome, we give thanks.

Let us keep praying, for still our freedoms, our safety, our liberties and our future hang in the balance. The enemies of God, of America and of order are on notice, “Get thee behind us Satan.” In his message entitled Some Reasons God Permits Evil given at the Midwest Men’s Retreat in Lake Geneva two weeks after 9/11, Pastor Julius Malone said, “The security of a nation is not in its walls, not in its wisdom, not in its wealth, not in its warriors, not in its weapons, but in the God who made Heaven and earth.”

May the new administration put God first as we the people continue to pray for our leaders and our nation to make a 180° turn in every area that displeases God.

*Wednesday morning after Election Day, my Mom and Dad answered the phone singing, O Happy Day as the vote totals were “red.”

Once Again, the Sacred Fire of Liberty Is Preserved

By Tony Perkins



Last Tuesday, Americans spoke loudly and clearly to keep the American experiment alive.

A few years back, I visited the National Archives here in Washington, D.C., with a Member of Congress. We had the rare privilege of seeing some of our nation’s founding documents — papers not typically on public display. It wasn’t a “National Treasure” adventure, but it was an unforgettable moment for a student of history like me. One of these documents was the original U.S. Senate’s markup of the Bill of Rights, sent over from the House in 1789.

Another was a simple but profound page: George Washington’s inaugural address, delivered on April 30, 1789. His speech was brief — only about 10 minutes — but the words were powerful. As he took his first steps as the leader of a new nation, Washington said:

“Since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of Heaven, can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained: And since the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the Republican model of Government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people.”

From the very beginning, our republican form of government — placing the power to govern into the hands of the people — was viewed as an “experiment.” Why? Because nothing like it had ever been tried before. Self-government, grounded in the rule of law and crafted for a nation this vast and diverse, was unprecedented. The Constitution was new, untested, and the Founders knew that true power now rested with the people, not a monarchy or ruling elite. They also understood that this experiment depended not only on good laws but on a bedrock of virtue and morality, rooted in timeless truth.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING! Gratitude is a constant attitude of thankfulness and appreciation for life as it unfolds. Living in the moment, we are open to the abundance around us and within us. We express appreciation freely. We contemplate the richness of our life. In life’s trials, we seek to understand, to accept, to learn. Gratitude is a continual celebration of life. - Unknown

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News & More



Liberty is Preserved, continued from page 2

John Adams captured this reality in 1798. "Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people," he insisted. "It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Washington had previously stated this point in his Farewell Address in 1796. This grand experiment of ours, he reminded us, could not survive if truth and morality were ignored or discarded.

And thank God, there are still Americans who understand that reality today — who saw that what Kamala Harris offered was an agenda that would have aborted this experiment and snuffed out our hard-won freedoms.

But we can't be lulled into complacency. The American experiment isn't on autopi-

lot; it is not "safe and secure." Our work is far from over. Right now, we have an opportunity, a window, to fortify the moral foundation of this experiment — to restore, promote, and protect what Washington called the two great pillars of our political prosperity: religion and morality.

If America is to thrive, if we are to pass this precious experiment down to future generations, we must remember this: political and economic greatness cannot survive without moral goodness.

As the scriptures declare: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

Tony Perkins is president of Family Research Council and executive editor of The Washington Stand.



A Good Soldier, continued from page 1

and I felt peaceful and joy both in my body and in my soul. A strange power filled my body, and I started to laugh and praise God out loud. What was happening to me? I had changed in an instant! Elie kept his promise before the Lord."

We descended the mountain with my troops trying to hold my leg in place while carrying me. The severe pain was growing by the minute. Every step down was treacherous; one wrong step could cost us our lives...I could have easily died from all the bleeding but I didn't and despite all the pain, a strange peace filled my soul and I remained very calm. An ambulance was awaiting. Hasbani had an operation and the left leg had to be cut off below the knee. His face was burned from the explosion plus dirt and blood covered his face. His family was with him at the time. He was given painkillers but sorrow about his lost left leg lead to deep moods. Elie was in the hospital for over two months. During the whole incident, the Holy Spirit was his Comforter.

In June 1986; after Elie had drenched his pillow with tears, Jesus appeared to him in a dream at night, and lit up his room with a bright light. He saw himself in heaven, his leg growing until it became perfect. It was an incredible dream that filled him with an indescribable joy. He was flying in heaven and stepping on the long grass that had life. Every time he stepped on it, it didn't break or die; instead it grew back instantly and took its former shape. He woke up with a

strange feeling that his leg was still there. He opened his Bible and a verse lit up before eyes, which said: "follow me". He closed the Bible and opened it again. More verses appeared to him confirming his call to follow Christ, as Matthew 5:30 asserted, "It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go to hell."

Elie knew that it was Jesus calling him into ministry. He renewed the decision he had made when he was lying on the ground dying from the land mine explosion: Psalm 117:17-18: "I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord chastened me severely but he has not given me over to death."

He went on to follow the Lord and proclaim the work of God. He became a servant and missionary to the Nations, especially to Muslim culture. In the past he was a pastor, church planter, and evangelist in Beirut, Lebanon and the Middle East for ten years. Dr. Elie Hasbani realized that, although Islam is an anti-Christ ideology, Muslims are people living in darkness and under the influence of Satan. God revealed, through the Cross, his love for the Muslim people and His desire that they be saved. Dr. Hasbani saw this coming to pass once he started his ministry in the Middle East and moved to Milwaukee.

In 2007, he founded "Running For Hope, Inc", a non-profit organization dedicated to providing aid to victims of conflict in

developing countries and He is the author of two books: The Good Soldier, which is in English, French, and Arabic. His second book Cross Over To The Cross: Bringing the Hope of the Cross to Shia Muslims in Your Community. Elie's source of strength is The Word of God. As a former soldier, Pastor Elie knows personally of the hatred that Hamas and Hezbollah have for Israel, but the power of love and forgiveness of the Lord can over power hatred.

Today and through all the years, God has been faithful to Elie as He promised. He has never forsaken or left him, and guides Elie in all situations and circumstances.

Elie is currently the pastor of Ethnos church, www.ethnoschurchmke.org. He serves as an executive director of Antioch International Institute in the USA and the world, www.antiochii.com and a co-founder of Ethnos-unlimited missions center to train, disciple, and equip the church for mission, evangelism, and ordaining leaders for service in the kingdom of God.

Dr. Rev. Elie Hasbani can be reached at the following:

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Visit websites to learn more:

www.ethnoschurchmke.org

www.antiochii.com

www.runningforhope.org

Phone: 414-374-3457



Music artist Cheryl McCrary in her Mary Bible character costume pictured with Rita Bertolas longtime Editor of the Christian Courier Newspaper



It was a busy year of painting and outside improvements at 24th & State at the Clark House Boarding House a ministry of ProBuColls Association www.probuolls.org.



The Staff at Evangelical Child and Family Agency hosts a fundraising event at Pizza Ranch in Waukesha. Visit www.evancfa.org for more information.



News & More



Alistair Begg Warns Rise Of 'Consumer' Worship Eroding Biblical Engagement in Congregational Life

By Leah MarieAnn Klett

In a message delivered at the annual Sing! Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, Begg, the senior pastor of Cleveland's Parkside Church, said that in churches around the world, the pulpit once stood as a monumental symbol of spiritual authority. Yet, over time, this symbol has all but faded, making way for a more casual and consumer-friendly approach to worship spaces.

That change, the 72-year-old Scottish pastor said, represents more than just a design preference — it reflects a deeper shift in how churches engage with the Bible itself.

"Traditionally, the pulpit was central and visually dominant, not as an expression of the preacher's authority, but as a reminder of the authority of Scripture," Begg said, recalling the awe he felt as a child when the church "beadle" carried the Bible to the pulpit before the service began.

But today, in many churches, that centrality has been lost, he said.

"Plexiglass, bar stools — why? Well, you've got to please the consumers," Begg said, referring to the modern trend of trying to make worship spaces feel less formal and more accessible. "It's a noble prospect, but there's an unfortunate symbolism to it."

For Begg, the decline of the raised pulpit is emblematic of a broader issue: the diminishing role of Scripture in congregational life. He contended that modern churchgoers often arrive not with an expectation to encounter God's Word, but with a more casual mindset.

"Instead of coming into worship with the express understanding that all of this begins with God in His glory, people come with coffee in hand, saying, 'Let's see if he's got something good for us today,'" he said.

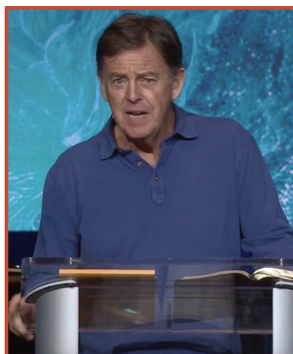
"Expositional preaching gives way to inspirational talks, which gives way to therapeutical endeavors," he continued. "I'm not sure that America understands just how deep the problem is, in relationship to biblical illiteracy. You cannot continue to make your journey through life without your Bible, not as a talisman, not as something just to be revered in a corner, but without the Bible as our daily source of knowledge and encounter with God."

Begg called for a return to what he calls "serious engagement with the Bible," where the focus is less on inspirational talks and more on expositional preaching — preaching that seeks to unfold the meaning of the text, not just offer uplifting or therapeutic messages.

"There is a correlation between a collapse in our understanding of God and the expressions that are represented in the pulpit," he emphasized. "You see, the task of the pastor in coming to the scriptures is not simply to provide information about what the Bible says with a few pointers to take home, fill in the blanks kind of stuff. That's not the primary objective in the unfolding of Scripture. The desire, the longing of the pastor and the preacher and the people is that we might have a divine encounter with the living God through His Word, that we might meet God, that we might hear from God. ... We don't need to hear what Alistair knows about this or that. We need to hear from God."

"Congregational worship is not just a get-together. It begins with God, not with myself in my need," he told the audience, adding that when the focus shifts from God's Word to personal experience or entertainment, something vital is lost.

"Why it is so hard, in many cases, to get people to sing? The poor people up here, they've got to be here one hour early in order to get themselves all jazzed up, so in the hope that they can get us all jazzed up. And if we don't get jazzed up immediately, then we're



going to sing it again, and we'll keep singing it until you're jazzed up. And we'll repeat the chorus 14 times, and we'll make sure that you're finally there. What's the problem? Spiritual deadness is the problem," he lamented.

Begg referenced the Reformer Martin Luther, who, in *The Bondage of the Will*, declared that without the Spirit of God, no one can truly understand Scripture.

"Even if we can quote it, discuss it, or memorize it, we don't know it apart from the work of the Spirit," Begg said, echoing Luther's sentiment. This, he explained, is why so much of modern worship feels hollow — because it is disconnected from the Spirit-driven engagement with the Bible.

Begg also stressed the importance of worshiping "in spirit and in truth," explaining that true worship requires the work of the Holy Spirit. "Dead men and women don't sing," Begg said, pointing to the necessity of spiritual life to engage in genuine worship.

The pastor added that the real leader of Christian worship is not the preacher, the musician or the choir director — it is Christ Himself.

"Jesus is the worship leader," Begg said, citing the book of Hebrews. "He is the one who makes worship possible, and He is the one who leads us in praise."

"Don't sacrifice the exposition of Scripture for the exuberance of praise," he concluded.

The annual Sing! conference, organized by Christian musicians Keith and Kristyn Getty, focuses on deepening theological understanding in church worship.

The theme of this year's conference, held Sept. 4-6, was "The Songs of the Bible" and featured keynote speakers, worship leaders, theologians and artists from around the world.

In a previous interview with *The Christian Post*, Keith Getty said he and his wife launched the conference because of their belief in the pivotal role of music in biblical teachings and the need for Christians to stay rooted in their faith amid societal changes.

"The New Testament says we're letting the Word of Christ dwell in us richly when we meet together singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs," the Grammy-nominated songwriter said.

"We live in such a transformative generation informationally, in terms of everything from artificial intelligence to gender to globalization to financial inequality. All of these things are going to reach whole new levels in the next generation."

Getty noted that many commentators predict that by 2050, nominal Christianity might disappear due to the increasing challenges posed by Western culture.

"You're either going to be a very serious Christian grappling with these things, or you'll not survive," the Irish songwriter said.

"So much of modern Christian behavior is, 'I don't want to be on the wrong side of history,' or 'I'm worried this is going to not go down too well.' I think we've got to stop being such cowards. If we believe in Christ, His death and resurrection, the Gospel story and the authority of the Word of God, then we want that to be coming into every part of our minds, our emotions, in our families and in our homes. Fill our homes with songs of the Lord. Start where you are, fill your own mind with songs of the Lord and fill your family's minds with songs of the Lord. If you have a role in your church, help your church sing songs of the Lord."



News & More



The Heart of God vs The Heart of Man

by Jack Roper

Taking a journey into the heart of GOD? Is that possible to try to understand the depth of God and who He is and what He has done? It will be difficult to assess an infinite divine Creator in comparison to a

limited creature called man. To start out we need to look at who our Creator is. God has no birth date because He is infinite. He always was and He will always BE. Man was born with a birth date. God is self-sufficient, Man is selfish. God is pure humility. Man is often proud of his humility. God is immutable. He does not change. His reasoning is absolute Man's reasoning is relative and changes for its needs and will lie at times when necessary.

God will never lie because He is unable to do this because of His holiness. Man at times will lie to cover up a cause or situation for its ease to white lie. God's wisdom knows the end from the beginning. Man can never know this because of his many cognitive limitations. God is omnipresent, everywhere at once. Man is contained in a body that is restricted to where he is at that time. God is transcendent. Transcendence means to go beyond ordinary limitations. Man cannot go beyond his limitations because he is confined to his body. He cannot fly. God in heaven cannot die with one exception, the Cross. Man is made to die for when the heart stops, man stops. God is faithful to its cause and can do no wrong. Man is not always faithful to others or to his or her God. God cannot fall into temptation. Man is able to be tempted to a covert or overt opportunity or a selfish cause. God is omnipotent- all powerful. Man can corrupt honest power. The EGO loves power and when it has power to do, it will do what it wants! God is All know-omniscience- The grains of sand in number on Earth

is unknown to man, but only to God, He knows when the wind moves one grain of sand. Man may see the sand move but it means nothing, but God knows its movement to where it goes. God's mercy was present when His Son died on the Cross for our sins. Man often has no mercy when he kills to cover up a problem. God has no secrets. In the Scriptures-The Word of God is an Open Book. Man at time will keep secret sins in his heart, but God knew them before that man was born. God is holy for righteousness and truth.

God can never sin Man was born a sinner for sins are often covert and or overt. Sin can only be forgiven upon repentance and forgiveness.

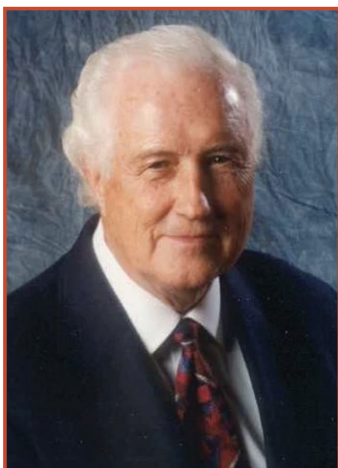
God's love is far beyond what man can imagine. The attributes of God's love are patience, kindness, it does not envy, it does not keep wrongs, it is sincere, gentle, peaceful and faithful. Man's love is view often differently than from God's love. Man's love can be sincere, binding, faithful and true to the one that he or she loves. But man's love can also be a tool that can emotionally be manipulated to do wrong. God's love transcience man's love.

Proverbs Chapter 4:23



GEORGE SWEETING, EVANGELIST WHO LED MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE FOR DECADES, DIES AT 99

By Anugrah Kumar



Moody Bible Institute has announced that George Sweeting, who served the institution for nearly 30 years between his time as president and later as chancellor, died Tuesday at the age of 99. He was "at heart an evangelist and soul winner," the institute said.

"An indelible mark has been placed on this world as well as Moody through the incredible life and ministry of George Sweeting," said Moody Bible Institute President Mark Jobe in a statement shared with The Christian Post.

"His legacy is marked by a deep love for his family, the Church, and the transformative power of the Gospel," Jobe added. "While we mourn with his family and those whose lives were touched by him, we echo the

Apostle Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 4 that we do so with hope, knowing he is in the presence of the Lord and we will be reunited with him one day."

Sweeting's tenure at the Chicago-based Moody Bible Institute spanned several decades, beginning in 1971 as president and concluding as chancellor at the end of 1999. A Moody alumnus from the class of 1945, Sweeting's leadership and legacy have helped shape the institution's direction and impact, according to an obituary.

Sweeting is survived by his wife, Hilda, and their sons George, James, Donald and Robert, as well as multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sweeting's journey began in a robust Christian family environment, which he credited as foundational to his spiritual development. His leadership qualities emerged early and were shaped significantly during his teenage years at the Hawthorne Gospel Church in New Jersey. The church's youth ministry, known for its dynamic outreach, was a crucible that honed his Evangelical zeal.

Sweeting's narrative took a dramatic turn in 1940 when he fully committed to Christian service. His ministry began in earnest at Hawthorne Gospel, where he was ordained and later served as an associate pastor.

His academic and pastoral journey was marked by a brief but intense battle with testicular cancer during his senior year at Moody.

After school, Sweeting's evangelistic call led him across America and beyond as an itinerant preacher for nine years, conducting re-

vival meetings and Evangelical campaigns. With colleagues, Sweeting preached almost daily and traveled nationwide in a large semi-truck carrying the tent for the evangelistic outreaches.

His return to pastoral ministry saw him revitalizing dying churches, notably the Madison Avenue Baptist Church in New Jersey and later The Moody Church in Chicago.

His dynamic leadership at The Moody Church eventually transitioned to a larger role within the Moody Bible Institute.

Under Sweeting's presidency, the institute saw significant expansion and innovation, launching new programs and extending its educational and Evangelical reach globally, including through the Moody Pastor's Conference and the expansion of Moody Radio.

Sweeting's latter years were marked by a return to local church ministry, focusing on senior adult ministry until his retirement in 2018.

His final years culminated in the publication of his last book, Full Circle: A Pictorial Autobiography of George and Hilda Sweeting.

In one of his last public addresses at Moody Bible Institute's President's Chapel in 2012, the then-88-year-old Sweeting reflected on D.L. Moody's legacy. He shared Henry Varley's influential words — that the world had yet to see what God can do with a person fully devoted to Jesus Christ — and challenged the students, asking, "Will you be that man? Will you be that woman? I pray so. Hallelujah, amen and amen."



News & More



ARE YOU HEAVEN BOUND?

By Clifford L. Patz

If you know Jesus as your personal Savior, you, like me, are heaven bound.

If you do not know Jesus as your personal Savior or are not sure where you are headed after you die, please let me share how YOU CAN BE SURE.

All of us are destined to die a physical death. But that isn't the end of our lives. We have a soul/spirit, that will separate from our body upon death that will live forever, for eternity, either in Heaven or Hell.

The Bible clearly states in Hebrews 9:27, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Each of us will face the judgement seat of Christ and will be held accountable for what we did and didn't do. II Corinthians 5:10 tells us, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

And, if we accepted the Lord as our Savior, our name will be written in Lamb's Book of

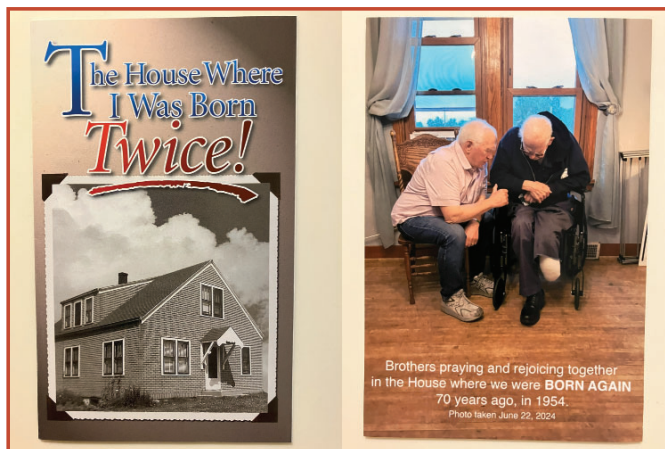
Life. If our name isn't written in this Book, the Lord will tell us to depart from him and we'll be cast into the lake of fire, a tormented life for eternity. Revelations 20:15 tell us, "Whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

heartfelt prayer. You can pray this simple prayer. "Lord, I surrender my life to you. Thank you for dying on the cross making the ultimate sacrificial payment for all my sins. Please forgive me of my sins. Come into my heart. Be my Lord and my Savior. By faith

I receive your free gift of eternal life. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Here you will see two pictures of Howard and myself at our family's farm house. The first is in front of our family's house. The second is the "exact place" in our home where we both knelt and asked God to forgive us of our sins and asked Him into our hearts 70 years ago.

I will continue to trust God with my life for the remaining days He allows me to be here. It is difficult to know that very soon we too will be separated by my death. My prayer is that if you haven't received the Lord as your Savior that you will soon, so when the Lord does come back you too will be welcomed into Heaven by our Savior – what a family reunion that will be!!



You can have the same assurance of salvation and the promise of eternal life in Heaven by accepting Jesus as your Savior now. You can do this by following the simple steps as Howard outlined in his tract or those listed in "The Roman's Road" tract. God isn't looking for a fancy prayer, he's looking for your

KATE FORBES TELLS SCOTLAND'S CHRISTIANS NOT TO 'FEAR,' CHURCH IS PIVOTAL TO FIXING NATION'S PROBLEMS

By Christian Today

Scotland's deputy first minister has sought to reassure Christians that they have a role to play in helping the country address its challenges.

Speaking at an event at the Scottish Parliament hosted by the Evangelical Alliance, Kate Forbes encouraged Christians to be confident in seeking to serve the nation and their communities in love.

"We know the big changes that have been delivered over generations in this country because of the work of Christians in the country," said Forbes, who is a committed Christian.

"And we have a choice right now as to whether that will continue to be the case. And I want to be part of it, and I hope you do too."

The event was held on Wednesday to mark the publication of the Evangelical Alliance's new report, What Kind of Nation?, which sets out a number of priority areas for Christian engagement, including the economy, education, drug addiction, depopulation and poverty reduction.

Commending the report, Forbes said: "I often talk to people and there's an element of fear, there's an element of worry, there are



questions of whether we should get involved or not, and my response is to have that confidence to get involved.

"Because we know that the need is great, and as a Church, as faith communities, there is an opportunity for us to do something that demonstrates that love."

What Kind of Nation? was published 10 years after the referendum on Scottish independence in 2014. It says more attention needs to be paid to the challenges of depopulation, and calls on the Scottish government to make improvements to how faith is taught in schools. The report also features examples of the work that Evangelical Alliance member organizations are already doing in these areas.

Addressing Wednesday's report launch at Holyrood, Conservative MSP Jeremy Balfour said: "Many of us have experience of

what the churches, what the faith communities are doing, the impact that they have on vulnerable people across our society, but also other sectors as well.

"I often say to people, it would be interesting if we all went on strike for 48 hours. What would Scotland look like?"

"I think that's a real challenge for us, as politicians, to take the work that is done seriously and to recognize the importance of it and the need to be able to fund it and to support it in different ways."

Lynne Paterson, head of the Evangelical Alliance in Scotland, asked policymakers to pay attention to the work the Church is doing.

"We want to encourage policymakers that the Church has got something really important to contribute and to encourage churches to be that good news within their communities," she said.

"The member organizations that are featured in the report represent just a fraction of the value that Christians are contributing to Scotland, and they're all involved in this liberating good news mission.

"They're motivated by God's love and God's mercy; they've experienced it themselves, and they want to give it out. And they're compelled by the kind of vision that Jesus came to proclaim, that we read about in the Bible, the vision that He (God) had for a different kind of society."



News & More



“I NEVER KNEW YOU”

by Jack M Roper, Freelance writer and photographer



Jack Roper is a professional photographer, longtime RN and former Navy Corpsman.

How can an Infinite Being, our Creator, say such words for there are almost 8 billion people on Earth. There will be a soul transition for every person living on this planet. Our time to meet our Creator can occur anytime you are a movie star, an electrician, a teacher or a doctor. The human eye cannot see literal sin, but it can see the results of sin. Just look at where the world is today. America is falling off the solid ground of morality. Man's wisdom is unable to see the dangerous cliff of sin that is before him. Man walks along the cliff of sin unafraid of falling into the

bottomless pit because he or she thinks that they are on solid ground, but it is pure sand. In the Scriptures Matthew chapter 7:24-27 it compares the wisdom of building a house on a rock verses building a house on sand. The erosion's wind of sin is causing the sandy soil to dissipate towards the cliff's edge. When God said in His Word “I Never Knew You,” He is able to pronounce those words. God is omniscience which means that He is All Knowing; That He is Omnipresence, “God is everywhere here, close to everything, next to everyone” and God is Omnipotence, All powerful. #1 The imperfect, all humans shall fall before the Perfect. On our day of departure from Earth our lifestyle on this planet shall DETERMINE our future destiny in eternity.

Having lived on a farm in Rubicon, Wisconsin, plowing helps to prevent weeds, also disease prevention by reducing pests and weed seeds are pushed deep in the soil to prevent germination. Deep tillage of the soil # 2 for mankind (Biblical Scripture) is an important factor in reducing immoral weeds that attempt to grow in man's soul. The weeds of sin leads to a happy life style when not tilling of a field. This occurs when ignoring plowing when ignoring Scripture, when building up dust on a Bible shelf, when playing with sin (Romans 6:12-13) and when living a lifestyle by parading with the sin of pride (Proverbs 11:2). Sin waits for every opportunity to have the soul play with deadly sin. Satan loves sin!

Forgiveness is a spiritual tool that ONLY Christianity offers to mankind. Sure, other religious lifestyles offer this spiritual concept, but this false truth, outside of Christianity, will fall through on the Day of Judgment for the lost. Forgiveness is built on Mercy and Grace.



Without these two valuable spiritual instruments, tears would fall from the Cross of Christ. The byproduct of forgiveness is joy, knowing that the sin debt is forgiven. The thief on his death tree, was forgiven for his sins by Jesus when the Lord was on the Cross. Jesus said to the thief “Verily I say to you, today you shall be with Me in paradise.” See Matthew 6:14-15 and Matthew 23:43. Paradise has no grave sites in Heaven, no death, no crime, no anxiety, no sadness and no sin to corrupt the saved soul. When the Lord said “I Never Knew You”, eternal Hell will be a place of no comfort for the lost soul. It is a place of misery forever and ever. Jesus Christ came down to Earth to let man know that there is Heaven that waits for them upon their repentances. Pride brought Satan and his co-helper fallen angels to their irreversible state of doom. Jesus brought salvation for those that surrender their pride for the opposite of pride is humility. For it is mercy and grace that lifts the saved soul up to Heaven and the Lord's love for human souls is illustrated on the Cross and by the Cross.

FOOTNOTES:

1. THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY by A.W.Tozer. Publisher Harper.
2. www.farmersfootprints.us (Plowing reference)

PACKING PARTIES AROUND SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN:



Hartford Packing Party held again at Schubert's Theatre



Oconomowoc Packing Party held again this year at the YMCA



Rise MKE Church Packing Party in Brown Deer

Operation Christmas Child 2024



Karen Wimmer and the team from Wimmer Communities dropping off a record number of OCC “GO” (Gospel Opportunity) Shoeboxes this year at the ProBuColls Bookstore Central Dropoff location.



Books & More



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES



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Romans: I am not ashamed

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RiverGlen Christian Church, Pewaukee Campus
W229 N1400 Westwood Dr., Pewaukee, WI

Thursday Mornings: 9:00-10:30 AM
RiverGlen Christian Church, Pewaukee Campus
W229 N1400 Westwood Dr., Pewaukee, WI

Wednesday Evenings: 6:30-8:00 PM
Waukesha State Bank
1227 Corporate Center Drive, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066

Contact Karen@margofieseler.com with any questions.

margo fieseler
ministries

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES



MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

7 am City Wide Men's Fellowship
Tuesdays - Pallas Restaurant 1657 S. 108th St, Milwaukee
Bob Conklin - 414-342-1550

8:30 am Breakfast of Champions
Tuesdays - 10201 W. Bradley Rd, Milwaukee
Derrick Johnson - 414-588-8064

7 am CBMC Bible Study
Thursdays- Meyers Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th St, Milwaukee
Bob Pratt - 262-385-3203

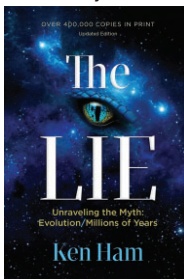
8 am CBMC Bible Study
Fridays - Hamilton House, W76.N629 N. Wauwatosa Rd., Cedarburg
Howard Honett - 262-421-8384

7:30 AM Saturday Men's Bible Study
Brookside Baptist Church, 4470 Pilgrim Rd, Brookfield, WI
Pastor Wade Kuhlwind - 262-783-6180

8 am Faithwalkers
Saturdays - CrossWay NorthShore Church
2500 W. Brown Deer Rd, Milwaukee
Stan Lind - 414-305-8383

Christian Book Reviews

The Lie by Ken Ham

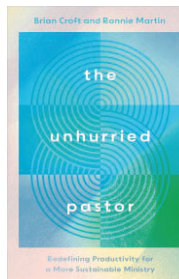


It's the lie that's captured generations, eroding a belief in the Creator God and the truth and authority of His Word: Evolution and millions of years.

Discover why this issue is key to understanding our modern era and the worldview issues of our day such as gender and sexuality, abortion, racism, mass exodus from the church, and more.

Originally written nearly 40 years ago, this updated work is even more relevant today. Our foundation has been destroyed—so what will the righteous do?
Master Books \$19.99

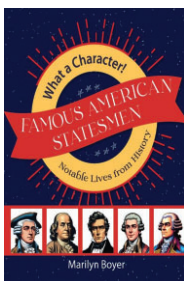
The Unhurried Pastor by Brian Croft and Ronnie Martin



Many pastors fell stuck on a hamster wheel; hurtling from one meeting to another, constantly behind on their to-do list, drowning in a deluge of demands on their time. And another Sunday is only ever just around the corner.

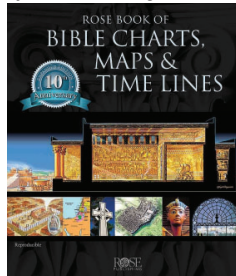
Brian Croft and Ronnie Martin...cast the vision for a more unhurried approach to ministry — one that attends to the pastor's heart before the to-do and redefines what it means to truly be productive. **The GoodBook Company \$14.44**

Famous American Statesmen by Marilyn Boyer



What a Character! Notable lives from history. Juvenile nonfiction to help young folks fill in information about some of our early leaders. Parents will enjoy interesting facts they may not have heard before. Covering Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, John Hancock, Alexander Hamilton, Henry Clay, Francis Scott Key, Daniel Webster, Sam Houston and William Jennings Bryan, this book offers a range of commitments and strength these men had. **Master Books \$12.99**

Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps & Time Lines by Rose Publishing



10-Year Anniversary Edition of the Bestselling Book of Reproducible Bible Charts, Maps, and Time Lines. New in this edition: Genealogy of Jesus, 52 Key Bible Stories, The 12 Tribes of Israel, Psalm 23, The Lord's Prayer, Heroes of the Faith: Hebrews 11, Essential Christian Doctrines. Also includes Favorite Bible Topics, Maps, Full-Color Illustrations, Comparison Charts and other Overviews.
Rose Publishing \$34.99 (ProBuColls Special Price: \$24.99)

Books reviewed here are available at ProBuColls Books and Gifts at 98th & Greenfield!

Veterans Like Me Face Struggles After Service. What Saved Me

By Brandon Olson

I took many different paths in my life that eventually became my book. Remaining steadfast on the straight and narrow became difficult. With my senses dulled and intuition inundated with static, my active thinking deferred. I often wondered in my adolescent years, "Who am I, where do I go?"

At 18, I did not believe my life would ever involve a college degree. With two failed tours at community college and an embarrassing discharge from the baseball team, I did not fare well as a young adult. My circumstanc-

es dehydrated my purpose, and I needed to invigorate my spirit with life. I needed to test myself as a man and see if I could stand on my own two feet. That's when I came to the conclusion that God called me to join the Army.

I did not foresee myself becoming an infantry paratrooper. Honestly, I lived a pretty sheltered life. I was the kid playing sports, video games and eating cheeseburgers. But still, I found myself in the Army and I literally jumped in. Although mild and quiet,

I worked hard and excelled physically. I jumped out of airplanes, shot heavy weapons, directed my battalion through military communication — but also confronted my bullies, spoke truth in the face of adversity, and generally failed a lot.

The military attempts to prepare transitioning soldiers for the civilian world through TAP (Transition Assistance Program), yet most military transitioned civilians struggle to cement themselves as a member of the ci-

Continued on page 9



News & More



WINNING SPIRITUAL WARFARE



PJ Glavey
Email: glaveypj@gmail.com

If the cross says one thing to a Christian, it should at least say this: God is done with your flesh. He's not trying to spruce it up. He's not trying to make it better and better. He's nailed it to the cross. And when it comes to spiritual warfare – when it comes to dealing with Satan and His devices, we ought to reckon ourselves as God does...dead in the flesh.

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.” (Romans 6:6-7).

Deliver yourself, therefore, over unto Jesus.

“I'd love to say that I love you like I should, Jesus. My religious flesh, my fleshly zeal, would love to say that I'm righteous. I'd love to say that I'm good. I'd love to say that I love you.... that I keep your commandments...that I'm righteous on my own. But according to your standards, my righteousness is just filthy rags. I am condemned. My life is condemned. My efforts are condemned, and my righteousness has been nailed to your Cross. You are done with me, and You want Christ instead. And so, to you, my God, I offer Christ. With open arms and a humble heart – I bring you Christ. Christ for my works. Christ for my strength. Christ for my deeds, my rewards, my future and my past. Oh Lord, my God, I offer Jesus and nothing else. And I thank you.”

And this, brothers and sisters, is how we conquer Satan and His devices. This is how we rule the day. For let us always remember, that peace and rest are the inheritance of God. Let us, therefore, as the writer of Hebrews states, “labor therefore to enter into that rest” (Hebrews 4:11) and never again toil in unbelief. For it is Christ that carries the day...never of ourselves and nothing of ours.

Amen.

Veteran Struggles, continued from page 8

vilian community. Needless to say, veterans face tough transitions — no roadmap exists.

VA.org states that 35,574 veterans remain homeless in the United States. That is truly a travesty. I knew many veterans addicted to alcohol, pills, and sadness. I was one of them. Funny, I did not know I walked knee deep in self-destruction until I shook on the floor with hallucinations after an intense weekend bender.

I moved from three meals a day, a detailed work schedule, and a uniform to a scruffy looking hippy within three months. I did not have any structure and could indulge in some vices not allowed in the military. I also felt on top of the world.

But as they say, with great pride comes a great fall. Yet I remained resilient, picking myself back up with the help of prayer and reflection. My faith bloomed and I began to think of my life as an adventure once again — working odd jobs, cooking, cleaning houses and doing manual labor. Anything to keep busy and rebuild upon my foundation of hard work and grit.

I moved out of my parent's home and finished community college. With newfound vigor in my academic career, I set my sights on Pep-

perdine and found a home through the university's message — “servant leadership.” I finally found belonging at Pepperdine.

I found Christ when I was a child. I randomly read the Gospels. I did not understand the magnitude of reading the Gospels, but



God works in mysterious ways. I fell off for a bit but rekindled my curiosity when I encountered Jordan Peterson's biblical series. I searched for God and had a prodigal son moment. This reminded me that God wants a personal relationship with me and will never leave.

Many veterans do not have parents to go back to. Some come from broken families. Some from abuse or neglect. And almost no veterans have guidance on the path forward

after service. That is why so few even consider college as an option.

When veterans finish their service, there is a sudden move from structure to chaos that demands a giant leap of faith. Personally, I had no idea what to do so I made plenty of mistakes along the way. But what veterans need is not shame and disgrace. They, we, need to be cared for and loved.

Everyone needs to remember that veterans are people. People with unique struggles and stories that deserve care. That is why I serve within Pepperdine's Veterans Club to provide a sense of purpose and community for veterans at Pepperdine and in our surrounding communities.

On campus this Veterans Day, we are sending a clear message: Veterans are not alone. We see and we care and we will do all we can to honor and remember the sacrifices they have made. We remember that the brave men and women we honor on Veterans Day are the reason we can celebrate our freedom and together we will do all we can to support veterans as they come back home.

Brandon Olson is a U.S. Army Veteran and is the student president of the Pepperdine Veterans Council at Pepperdine University.

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News & More



A New Identity: The Decorated Middle-Distance Runner on Her Faith Journey in Her Own Words

By Chanelle Price

As I stood on the starting line for the 800m final at the 2021 Olympic Trials, I felt so much joy, peace and gratitude. Such a stark contrast to the overwhelming emotions of fear, anxiety, worry and doubt I experienced at the 2008, 2012, and 2016 Trials.

MY FALSE IDENTITY

In 2008, I was a senior in high school garnering a ton of attention for my success on the track. This was exhilarating for 17-year-old me whose entire identity had become “Chanelle Price, The Track Star.” The pressure to uphold this title, though, became too much to bear throughout my college years at the University of Tennessee (2008-2012).

I felt like I was running with the weight of the world on my shoulders, and it wasn't fun anymore. It wasn't until I hit rock bottom in my first post-collegiate season (2013) that things changed, and that change was God.

I laid in my hotel room in complete darkness (literally and figuratively) at the 2013 USA Track and Field Championships. After failing to make it to the final round, I was contemplating if life was worth living anymore. Who was I if I wasn't “Chanelle Price, The Track Star?”

That's when I heard God speak to me. It wasn't like the windows of heaven opened up and He shouted in a loud, scary voice. It was more like a gentle whisper, words I knew weren't from me because I would never say anything of this nature: “Chanelle, if you just chase after Me like you chase after track, just watch what I do in your life.”

Huh?! Chase after You, God?! What does that even mean?!

I knew of God, and I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior in high school, but I didn't have a personal relationship with Him. In that moment, though, I was willing to try ANYTHING.

A NEW WAY TO RUN

At every USA Track and Field Outdoor Championship, there are chapels held for athletes, coaches and support staff. I reached out to one of the individuals leading the chapels in 2013, Jodi Hasbrouck, and basically told her that I needed help. Shortly after, we began a weekly Bible study with two other USA track and field women.

I was committed to forming a relationship with God through studying His Word, going to church and surrounding myself with a community of believers. Embarking on this new faith walk was life-changing. I was introduced to God's immense love, and it was explained to me that God loved me despite my performance on the track.

All He wants is for me to use my gift of running as a form of worship to Him. This was so freeing! Running became fun again. The heaviness was lifted off of my shoulders, and in 2014 I went on to win the Indoor World Championships, becoming the first and only American woman to win gold in a world championship 800m.

BROKEN DREAMS

A few months after winning that title, though, I broke a bone in my foot.

“Was God mad at me?” I asked myself. “What's the point of faithfully following God if bad things are still going to happen to me?” This began a two-and-a-half-year streak of me chasing after God but also chasing after the things of this world.

By the end of 2016, I felt so empty inside. Nothing satisfied me. Not running. Not money. Not success. Not fame. Not guys. Not family. Not friends. Not social media.

I knew the problem was that I had drifted away from God, and I can remember praying something like this: “Lord, I know nothing else in this world can satisfy me other than my relationship with Jesus. Here I am. Do whatever it is You need to do to deepen my relationship with You.”



What came after that prayer

was four of the hardest years of my life. In January 2017, I was diagnosed with pulmonary embolism (blood clots in my lungs) followed by mononucleosis in June 2017 and a fractured foot in October 2017. In January 2018, I lost my Nike contract.

In February 2018, I fractured my foot for the second time and had surgery. And in April 2018, I lost my nephew at birth to preeclampsia. I spent the second half of 2018 and all of 2019 trying to make a return from foot surgery, and in 2020 we were all hit with a pandemic.

Then, in November 2020, I fractured my foot FOR THE THIRD TIME.

During those times, I felt despair, confusion, fear, worry, doubt, anger and discouragement. Faith doesn't stop those emotions from coming, but faith does allow you to overcome them. Through prayer, worship and God's Word, I was able to get out of that pit of darkness.

On the days when I didn't feel like getting out of bed, the days when I didn't have it in me to keep fighting, the days when I just wanted to give up, I would cry out to God and tell Him exactly how I felt. I would blast my worship music in order to take my focus from my circumstances to my Almighty God.

I would recite Scripture over and over and over again until I believed it. Some of my key verses were Proverbs 3:5,6, Philippians 4:6,7, Isaiah 40:31, Isaiah 41:10, James 1:2-4, Romans 5:3-5 and Romans 8:28.

Romans 8:28 (New Living Translation) says: “And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.”

Was everything I went through good? Absolutely not. But good has certainly come from it. My relationship with God has gone to such a deeper level, which is exactly what I prayed for back in 2016.

There's something about hardships that make you so desperately dependent on God, and as you cling to Him, He's able to reveal things about Himself you've never seen before.

As you abide in Him (John 15:4) and seek Him first (Matthew 6:33) and love Him with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30), the Holy Spirit is able to do a work in you and produce the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22,23) in your life.

MY NEW IDENTITY

In the 2020 Olympic Trials 800m final, I left my all out there on the track. I stood on the line just so grateful for everything God had brought me through. If it wasn't for my faith in Him, I would've no doubt given up.

Although I ran a personal best time, I did not qualify for the Olympics. My dream of becoming an Olympian has come to an end. But perhaps, in God's eyes, it was never about the end goal. Perhaps it's always been about the journey and the transformation from a girl who once defined herself as “Chanelle Price, The Track Star” to a woman who now identifies as “Chanelle Price, The Child Of God.”



News & More



REMEMBER TO PRAY



Please Pray for:

Protection
Churches to be involved
in the growth of the
ministry
Outreach to the Muslim
Community
Receptive hearts for our
Muslim friends

**Equipping
Christians
Reaching
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The Straight Way of Grace Ministry, Inc.
Usama and Vicki Dakdok
PO Box 1144
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The
STRAIGHT
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And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ~ Luke 2:8-11



In the Kitchen With Diane

Diane Fechter, Author



CRANBERRY WALNUT PIE

1 c. flour
1 c. sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
2 eggs
6 Tbsp. butter, melted and cooled slightly
1 tsp. almond extract
2 c. cranberries, halved (fresh or frozen)
1/2 c. chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 9-inch pie pan. Combine flour, sugar and salt. Set aside. In another bowl, whisk together eggs, butter and almond extract. Stir in cranberries and walnuts. Add to dry ingredients, and stir only until mixed. Mixture will be very thick. Spread batter into pie pan. Bake at 350° about 40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near center comes out clean. If needed, cover outside of pan with foil to prevent excess browning. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream if desired.

For more recipes and tips see www.recipesforfull-filledlife.blogspot.com

City-Wide Good Friday Service

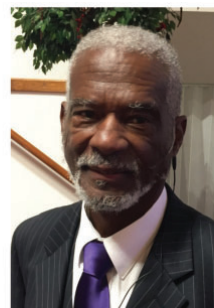
FREE and Open to the Public ~ Great Parking

Friday, April 18, 2025

12:15 to 2:00 p.m.

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Message by **Julius Malone**
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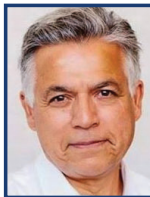


News & More



AI: A POWERFUL TOOL, BUT DO NOT LET IT BECOME ANOTHER IDOL – A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON TECHNOLOGY

As Christians, we are called to discern the times and navigate the complexities of modern life with wisdom. Today, one of the most pressing issues is the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how we should view and use this powerful technology. Some express concerns about AI, fearing it may lead us down a path of spiritual and moral confusion. However, rather than rejecting AI outright, we must find a balance, understanding its potential as a tool while avoiding the trap of attributing human-like qualities to it.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT: LEARNING FROM THE PAST

We do not want to be like the Luddites of old, who, in fear of the unknown, rejected technological progress by destroying machines during the Industrial Revolution. Their fear stemmed from a belief that new machinery would displace their livelihoods and bring ruin. Instead, as Christians, we should approach AI with wisdom and discernment—recognizing its benefits while guarding against potential misuse.

AI AS A TOOL: CONCRETE EXAMPLES

AI is a remarkable tool that has the potential to transform various aspects of our lives:

1. **Healthcare:** AI can analyze medical images to detect diseases earlier and more accurately than human doctors alone.
2. **Education:** Adaptive learning systems can personalize education, helping students learn at their own pace.
3. **Environmental Conservation:** AI models can predict climate patterns and help in developing sustainable solutions.
4. **Accessibility:** AI-powered voice assistants and text-to-speech technologies can greatly improve life for people with disabilities.

While these applications show great promise, we must remember that AI is just that: a tool. It is created by humans, designed to serve human purposes. It lacks the body, soul, and spirit that God breathed into mankind.

THE UNIQUE NATURE OF HUMAN BEINGS

As the Apostle Paul reminded the early church, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works” (Ephesians 2:10). God created us in His image, giving us the capacity for reason, creativity, and moral responsibility. AI, on the other hand, operates based on algorithms, programming, and data—it does not have free will or the capacity for true understanding, love, or spiritual connection.

THE DANGER OF IDOLATRY IN A TECHNOLOGICAL AGE

Scripture warns us against the dangers of idolatry. In ancient times, idols were crafted from wood or stone. Today, the danger of idolatry is more subtle but no less real. We live in a world that increasingly values technology and innovation, sometimes to the point of worshipping human achievement. AI can easily become an idol, an “image” created in the likeness of fallen, sinful man.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

As we embrace AI technology, we must be mindful of several ethical challenges:

1. **Privacy:** AI systems often require vast amounts of personal data. How do we balance technological advancement with the right to privacy?
2. **Job Displacement:** As AI automates more tasks, how do we ensure that people are not left behind economically?

3. **Bias:** AI systems can perpetuate and amplify human biases. How do we ensure fairness and equality?
4. **Autonomy:** As AI becomes more advanced, how do we maintain human agency in decision-making?

As Christians, we should approach these issues guided by principles of human dignity, justice, and love for our neighbors.

BALANCING BENEFITS AND SPIRITUAL RISKS

As Christians embrace the benefits of AI, we must also be aware of potential spiritual risks, including the possibility of demonic deception. Here’s how we can maintain this delicate balance:

1. **Grounding in Faith:** Regular Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship provide spiritual grounding. This helps Christians discern AI’s outputs against biblical truths and maintain focus on their faith. As Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”
2. **Ethical Use of AI:** We should recognize AI as a tool that can enhance productivity and potentially aid in spreading the gospel. However, we must remain vigilant about its potential misuse for deception and manipulation. As Jesus warned in Matthew 24:24, “For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”
3. **Community and Accountability:** Engage in discussions within faith communities to navigate AI’s complexities. This ensures its use aligns with Christian values and promotes genuine human connections. The author of Hebrews advises in Hebrews 10:24-25, “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.”
4. **Spirit-Guided Wisdom:** Approach AI with caution, using it to complement rather than replace spiritual practices. Remain alert to its ability to propagate misinformation. James 1:5 offers guidance: “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”
5. **Discernment in Information:** As AI becomes more sophisticated in generating human-like responses, including on spiritual matters, it’s crucial to test everything against Scripture. 1 John 4:1 advises, “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

PRACTICAL APPLICATION: AN ELDER’S THREE PRINCIPLES

Now that I am considered an Elder by my age of 68, I can share with you my three principles for experiencing God’s grace while navigating the complexities of modern technology, including AI:

1. **Solitary Study of God’s Word:** Spend time alone with God, studying His Word as your primary source of wisdom and instruction. This practice helps build discernment and a strong biblical foundation, crucial for navigating the complexities of AI and modern technology.
2. **Prayer in Solitude and Community:** Engage in both personal prayer time and prayer with others in real-life settings. This balanced approach to prayer nurtures your individual relationship with God while fostering spiritual connections within your community.
3. **Real Fellowship with Believers:** Participate in physical, interactive meetings with other believers, such as Bible studies or group discussions. This face-to-face interaction is irreplaceable and serves as a counterbalance to the virtual nature of AI and online communications.



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These principles emphasize the irreplaceable nature of genuine spiritual practices and human connections. While we can use AI as a tool, it should never substitute for these essential aspects of our faith journey.

STRIKING THE BALANCE

As an elder who has witnessed significant technological changes, I can attest that we shouldn't reject technology outright like the Luddites of old. We all use various forms of technology in our daily lives, from cell phones to computers. The question is how to approach AI specifically.

The key is to use AI as a tool while being acutely aware of its potential for deception. Here are some practical tips:

1. **Set Boundaries:** Establish clear limits on your AI usage, ensuring it doesn't encroach on your time for prayer, Bible study, and fellowship.
2. **Verify Information:** Always cross-reference AI-generated information with trusted spiritual sources, primarily the Bible and respected Christian literature.
3. **Maintain Real-World Connections:** Prioritize face-to-face interactions and real-world spiritual practices over virtual or AI-assisted alternatives.
4. **Use AI to Enhance, Not Replace:** Leverage AI for tasks like scheduling prayer times or finding relevant Bible verses, but never as a substitute for personal spiritual disciplines.
5. **Stay Accountable:** Share your AI usage habits with trusted fellow believers, allowing them to provide feedback and keep you accountable.

CONCLUSION

AI holds tremendous potential, but we must remember that it is not a replacement for humanity, nor should it become an idol. We are called to engage with it wisely, using AI as a tool to serve God's purposes and improve human life, while avoiding the spiritual dangers of idolatry and over-reliance.

Ultimately, AI, like all human inventions, is a reflection of our ability to innovate and create. But we must always remember that we are God's creation, uniquely designed with a soul and spirit that no machine can replicate. AI is powerful, but it is not human, and it certainly is not divine. Let's keep AI in its proper place—beneath the authority of God and in service to His will.

By implementing these practices and remaining grounded in our faith, we can harness the benefits of AI while safeguarding our spiritual well-being. Remember, no matter how advanced AI becomes, it cannot replace the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the truth found in God's Word, or the irreplaceable value of genuine human and divine connections.

By Bob Roman, Bible Teacher, assisted by Anthropic Claude, Otter.ai, Copilot, and Perplexity.ai

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'God Is in Control' Is A 'Cop-Out': Pastor Rafael Cruz Urges Christians To Get Politically Involved

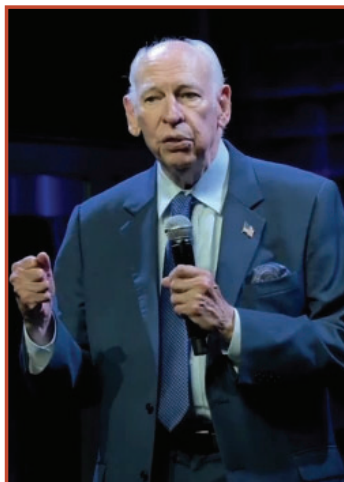
By Michael Gryboski

Pastor Rafael Cruz, the father of U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, urged Christians to be more politically involved, declaring that the popular phrase "God is in control" is a "cop-out."

During a speech last Friday at the Christians Engaged Conference at Sojourn Church in Carrollton, Texas, Cruz argued that "the Church has failed America" by not being more outspoken.

"Unfortunately, we have many pastors that are a bunch of wimps," said Cruz. "The pastor has a responsibility to lead the sheep in every area of life. Most pastors are not doing that."

"Most pastors are afraid to say anything controversial. To say anything that may offend somebody. Because if they offend somebody and they leave, their money leaves with them. Jesus called them 'hirelings.' They are no longer pastors."



Cruz went on to explain how he has often heard the phrase "God is in control," and how he believes that such a statement is counterproductive to a politically engaged faith life.

"I want to tell you, 'God is in control' is a cop-out," he said. "'God is in control' is an excuse that Christians give to justify sitting on their rear ends doing nothing, while the country is going to Hell in a handbasket."

Cruz argued that the phrase "is not even biblical," calling it "the equivalent of hyper-Calvinism," believing that the phrase implies that "we are puppets and God is pulling the strings."

"It denies individual responsibility; it denies free will," Cruz continued. "If there is a fundamental principle of Scripture, it is the principle of stewardship. We are stewards of all of God's creation."

Cruz cited Genesis 1:26-28, in which God gives mankind "dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

"We have a stewardship responsibility over this country of ours," said Cruz. "We have a stewardship responsibility over America."

The pastor talked about various other issues, including concerns over trans ideology entering public schools, claiming that the United States government was based on the Bible, and stressed the importance of Christians running for local school boards.

Cruz briefly talked about his background in Cuba, where he languished under the authoritarian Communist government, noting that "when I lost my freedom in Cuba, I had a place to come to."

"If we lose our freedoms here, where are we going to go?" he asked.

Cruz's remarks were part of the annual conference held by the group Christians Engaged, which seeks to politically mobilize churches to support socially conservative causes.

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

~ John F. Kennedy



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He was created of a mother whom He created. He was carried by hands that He formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute."
~ Augustine

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John 3:16

Jesus Christ is Lord





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With great joy and hope, the Midwest Bible College Board of Directors is proud to introduce Dr. Nicole Bowen Purpura as the new President of our college. Dr. Bowen Purpura has long served in both the classroom and on the board. Her experience and wisdom make her the ideal candidate to steward Dr. Bowen's work as we enter a new chapter at Midwest Bible College.

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If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: "God with us." We tend to focus our attention at Christmas on the infancy of Christ. The greater truth of the holiday is His deity. More astonishing than a baby in the manger is the truth that this promised baby is the omnipotent Creator of the heavens and the earth! ~ John MacArthur

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IN GOD WE TRUST



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False Idols and a True God

By Scott Sander

Sometimes the smallest and most overlooked sections of Scripture contain important truths. Such is the case with Acts 12:20–25. The entire chapter of Acts 12 focuses on a classic New Testament villain, Herod Agrippa I. What we read about him, we don't like. He kills one of the Apostles (James) and arrests another (Peter), presumably intent on killing him as well. As we're reading through the book of Acts, in chapter 12, we learn all this stuff about this evil leader, and by the time we come to the end of the chapter, it's easy to just breeze through the final verses. Herod got what was coming to him, and then he was eaten by worms...gross! Well, what's next? Chapter 13, Barnabas and Saul, Great! Let's see what they're up to!

But by skipping Acts 12:20–25, we miss out on some incredible and timeless truths.

20 Now Herod had been very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon; but they came to him with one accord, and having made Blastus the king's personal aide their friend, they asked for peace, because their country was supplied with food by the king's country.

21 So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. 22 And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" 23 Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.

24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, and they also took with them John whose surname was Mark. -Acts 12:20–25 NKJV

THE FATALITY OF IDOLS (VV. 20–23)

The "Herods" were a family of Roman-appointed rulers over Israel during this time. The Herod of Acts 12 is Herod Agrippa I. He is the grandson of Herod the Great, the ruler of Israel at the time of Jesus' birth. He is the nephew of Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee at the time of Jesus' death. Agrippa was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. We aren't told why, but we shouldn't be surprised. It seems like many in this family line had the same evil tendencies; none of them were all that nice of people.

Tyre and Sidon were two coastal cities on the Mediterranean Sea in the province of Phoenicia, just north of Israel. They were prominent cities in Bible history. Being coastal cities, they were important centers of commerce, and they played a role in many Old Testament events, such as their people helping to build the first Temple. Much is written about them in Scripture, including a few prophecies of their destruction.

They were outside the jurisdiction of Herod Agrippa, but for whatever reason he seemed to be quarreling with his neighbors to the north. This presented a problem for the people in these two cities because they were dependent on Herod for food.

We know from the previous chapter of Acts, that there was a great famine in the land (Acts 11:27–28). This famine left the people of Tyre and Sidon unable to provide food for themselves and thus dependent on Herod. A detailed student of Bible history will know that people in these cities have been receiving food from Israel for centuries, since the time of King Solomon, who gave wheat and oil to the king of Tyre year by year. (1 Kings 5:11). Centuries later, they were given food and oil in exchange for the cedar trees they provided to help the Jewish exiles rebuild Jerusalem (Ezra 3:7).

Perhaps some people in these cities had come to expect food from Israel. Whatever the case, they needed food now, but they needed to get in better favor with Herod to get it. Luckily for them, they were able to persuade the king's aide, Blastus, to act as an intermediary and broker a peace deal. We can deduce that Herod accepted their



terms. First, though, he wanted to have them over for a celebration of sorts and deliver a speech.

We don't know much of the details of whatever this celebration and speech was about from what Scripture tells us. More details can be found in extrabiblical sources, such as the works of Josephus. According to Josephus, this was a feast held in honor of the Roman Emperor Claudius. Josephus writes that "[Herod] put on a garment made wholly of silver and of a contexture truly wonderful, and came into the theater early in the morning; at which time the silver of his garment being illuminated by the fresh reflection of the sun's rays upon it, shone out."

Picture a scene with great pomp and pageantry. Herod was laying it on thick for the people, with his sparkly silver robe, and the people responded. They began to shout, "the voice of a god, and not of a man." Herod did not rebuke them. He seemed quite willing to usurp God. Luke describes this from a theological point of view: "he did not give God the glory." For that, he paid the price. An angel of the Lord struck him down as punishment for blasphemy. We are told simply "he was eaten by worms and breathed his last," a common ancient expression.

Some scholars say that Herod lingered for days after this incident in terrible abdominal pain. Some have suggested this was a ruptured appendix, others a severe case of tapeworms. Whatever the medical diagnosis, I can sum up the spiritual diagnosis in one word – Idolatry!

The people set up Herod as their idol. They were offering up their worship to him to appease him and looking to him for provision. Instead, they should've been worshipping the true God and seeking him first for their needs.

For us in 21st-century America, we probably think of idols as some object. We think of Old Testament-type idols – the golden calf or a carved statue– stuff that doesn't apply to us. But idols exist in all forms and fashions even today. Pastor and Biblical Counselor Brad Bigney defines an idol as "anything or anyone that captures our hearts and minds and affections more than God."

Let that sink in for a moment. An idol can literally be anything – anything we worship, turn to or depend on more than God. The enemy would rather we worship anything other than God. That opens the door quite a bit for the potential of idols in our lives.

What could we be harboring as an idol? It still can certainly be an object, like your cell phone. This is especially true when we devote more time to our phones than to growing in our relationship with God.



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There are also things like money, fame, career, sex, stature, cars, houses, politicians, political parties, perfect health, our spouse, our kids – anything has the potential to become an idol in our lives. Some of these things in and of themselves aren't bad, many are good gifts given to us from God. But when we get our relationship with them out of balance, idolatry sets in, and we begin to worship the gift rather than the Giver.

We have to be honest with ourselves, we are all guilty of worshipping idols in some form. Not all of us struggle with the same idols. However, I'm going to go out on a limb and say I can guess the number one idol in your life – it's you! WE are our own biggest idol.

We desire prestige, so we buy that car, house, or new golf clubs to impress others with our supposed wealth and prominence. We desire comfort, so we justify coming home from work and spending the rest of the night mindlessly watching TV, all but ignoring our kids or other commitments. We desire pleasure and satisfaction, so we visit that webpage when no one is around. We desire applause, so we tell everyone how great a job we did at work, ignoring that it is God who gifted us with the talents and skills to do that job.

Herod was his own biggest idol, wanting the glory that is due only to God. But God will always get His glory. He will not share His glory with anyone or anything else (Isaiah 42:8)

Since no idol can compete with God, it is important to see that idols are not only futile – they are fatal. No idol could have created all that exists. No idol could send His son to die in our place. No idol can fully satisfy. No idol can lead to everlasting life. Worshipping them will ultimately lead to death.

THE VITALITY OF GOD (VV. 24–25)

Thankfully, after those four depressing verses, we encounter the word, “But.” Whenever there is a whole bunch of bad news in Scripture, followed by a “but” we know that whatever comes after the “but” is going to be really good news. Set against the fatality of idols, is the vitality of God. Idols lead to death, but only God leads to life. In Acts 12, the vitality of God was on display through two means – through His word and His church.

GOD'S WORD

Despite Herod's attempts to wipe it out, God's Word continued to be proclaimed. The Gospel continued to be preached, and the early church continued to grow. Herod couldn't stop the Gospel from spreading and people's lives from being changed. The word of God grew and multiplied – it brought life to more and more people as they heard the good news of the Powerful Gospel!

In this current year, everyone's eyes are on the political scene. We see increased division in our culture and rapid decline into depravity. Now I'm not saying, don't vote. We absolutely should be voting; the stakes seem to get higher with every election. I think it's pretty clear who we should be voting for, but what our country and our society need even more than a good outcome in an election is the Gospel. We need to turn back to Jesus Christ, and as believers, we need to be bold in sharing that Gospel.

In the Book of Acts, the Gospel was being preached throughout the world. People in pagan lands were hearing how the false idols they worshipped were of no value to them. Instead through the preaching of the Apostles, they heard of the one true God who created the heavens and the earth and the seas and all that is in them. The people were told how they inherited a sin nature from their first parent, Adam, leaving them in a state of separation from the Creator God. They were His enemies, and there was nothing they could do to pay off their sin debts. But, through His only son, Jesus Christ, God paid it for them. Jesus, being fully God also took on human flesh. He lived a sinless life, going to the cross and dying to pay the penalty for their sins. He rose on the third day, conquering sin and death. The people heard that for those who admit their guilt before God and

believe and trust in Christ for salvation, they are saved! No longer enemies of God, they are children adopted into His family.

Even in the darkest times of great idolatry and apostasy, God has had faithful people He has equipped to proclaim His word. Sometimes it's a small number. During the flood of Genesis, only eight people were saved. Sometimes it was a lone prophet, declaring God's Word to a rebellious people. But no human institution, no human ruler is powerful enough to stop God's Word from growing and multiplying. Even if they attempt to imprison or put to death those whom God has appointed to proclaim His Word, it will go forth.

GOD'S CHURCH

Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, which had to do with the great famine described in Acts 11. They had completed their mission of bringing aid to the people in Jerusalem affected by the famine (Acts 11:29–30), and now they have returned from Jerusalem.

There is a contrast to how God's church and human government both responded to this famine. The people of Tyre and Sidon depended on Herod for their food. Herod became angry with them, and we can infer he either withheld food or threatened to. But God's church sacrificially gave to help their fellow believers in need and freely took that food more than 300 miles from Antioch to Jerusalem.

The relationship between people who needed food and the government was one of fear, manipulation, and uncertainty. The relationship between people who needed food, and the church was one of love, generosity, and sacrifice. There are times when people need to rely on the government, but in His church, God has instituted a better way. God advances His Kingdom through the saints caring for one another.

Many churches have benevolence funds to help those struggling. A benevolence fund should not encourage financial irresponsibility, but we all know there are unexpected things that happen in our lives that take us by surprise. When you're faced with an unexpected expense, the tendency in our culture is to go into debt, rather than ask for help. The church, much more so than a government, is designed to help in situations like this, be it paying bills, buying groceries, giving rides, and more. God designed His church to care for one another.

The Book of Acts is the story of the Gospel spreading. God's Word and God's church advance, despite even the wicked intentions of evil rulers. One ruler set himself up as an idol. But idolatry is directly opposed to God, and therefore fatal. So, examine your hearts. What idols are lurking there? What idols are capturing your heart, mind, and affection more than God? Confess these idols and turn to the true and living God and worship Him. Demonstrate the love you have for Him by serving in your local church. Advance His kingdom by telling others about Him. Take the Gospel to the end of your street and if He calls you, to the end of the world.

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2 Timothy 3:14-17



News & More



Natural Disasters and the Local Church: An Opportunity for Evangelism and Growth

By Joshua Arnold

Natural disaster response needs Christians and churches on the front lines, urged Samaritan's Purse CEO Edward Graham on "Washington Watch" Monday. Helping others in their moment of desperate need is a tangible way Christians can show selfless love to others in their community, and that opens the way to gospel conversations. With hurricane season in full swing — Tropical Storm Helene is barreling toward the Gulf Coast as I write — this plea is particularly timely.

Hurricanes, fires, floods, tornadoes — such natural disasters can upend people's lives, destroying their homes and leaving them with nothing. In such desperate circumstances, people are jolted out of their comfortable routines and prompted to think about what really matters.

The book of Job illustrates this. Only amid his suffering did he reflect and grow in his understanding of God. In his suffering Job recognized his need for an intermediary (Job 9:33), placed unconditional hope in God (Job 13:15), called on God to justify him through faith (Job 16:19), and confessed belief in bodily resurrection (Job 19:25-26).

Samaritan's Purse strategically responds to natural disasters in a way that doesn't just address the physical needs of victims, but the emotional and spiritual needs as well. "For us, our volunteers can come and meet the immediate needs of those that are suf-



fering," Graham explained. "But they're going to ask you, 'Why are you here?' And we get to respond, 'Well, we love you. But more importantly, Jesus Christ loves you.' And it's just a neat way to bless those [who] are hurting and [who] think they've lost everything."

Samaritan's Purse teams go the extra mile to generate opportunities for gospel conversations. So, their teams not only replace torn-off roofs and refinish flood-damaged floors. They also sift through debris to find irreplaceable articles that may have survived. "When there's complete destruction, there's nothing ... it's hard to have a conversation with a homeowner about hope when they've lost everything," Graham added. "But just finding a ring — a wedding ring or engagement ring — will create a story and a conversation."

These conversations can lead to conversions, and that's where local churches come in. For all the evangelistic opportunities it generates, Samaritan's Purse is not competent to shepherd souls. The Lord Jesus gave the church shepherds and teachers who fill that

role (Ephesians 4:11). "We'll live [with] and work [through] the local church because, after we leave, these new believers ... we want that church discipling and following up with them," said Graham.

Since churches will eventually take over the task of discipling new believers, it makes sense for them to get involved as soon as possible. Doing so will make passing the baton go more smoothly. "Nothing responds like the church. Especially the local church and Samaritan's Purse," Graham reiterated. "We have the equipment. We have the tools and the resources. We just need able-bodied people. ... This is something for youth groups to do, of people 14 years or older, prayer groups, Bible studies, your church, your office."

"I think people need to realize the church grows stronger as a result of helping those in need," agreed Family Research Council President Tony Perkins. This is part of the counter-intuitive economy of the kingdom of God. When Christians sacrifice their own preferences and convenience to help and serve others, the Holy Spirit uses that to produce within them "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control," so that it might be said that "those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:22-24).

"There is nothing that will strengthen a local body than ministering to the needs of those in their community," said Perkins, "going hand-in-hand with Samaritan's Purse."

MINISTRIES DIRECTORY

MILWAUKEE (AREA 1)

Agape Harvest Fellowship **Ministries Church of Engle-** **burg**

4620 W North Avenue
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.449.2390

Apostolic Missionary Church

2686 S 12th Street
Milwaukee 53207
Call for times 414.645.7383

Berean Family Worship Cen- **ter, Inc.**

ONE CHURCH IN TWO CITIES
3920 N. 51st Blvd
Milwaukee, WI 53216
Sunday 8 am
Wednesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7
pm service

Blessed Deliverance M.B.C.

2215 N. 23rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53205
414-344-9645
Sunday School 8:45 am
Worship 10 am
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm
Blessdeliverance@aol.com

Christian Faith Fellowship **Church East**

724 S. Layton Blvd.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Sunday Worship Time: 10 a.m.
Sunday Night Ministry Training
6:00 p.m.
Wed Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
www.cffeast.org

Cornerstone Church Milwau- **kee**

2223 E. Kenwood Blvd
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Sunday Worship 10am
414.395.7777 or
cornerstonemilwaukee.com

Divine Shepherd Lutheran

9741 W Beloit Rd
Milwaukee 53227
Sunday Worship 9AM
414.321.0730

Eastbrook Church

5385 N Green Bay Ave
Milwaukee 53209
Sunday Worship 8, 9:30, 11AM
414.228.5220

The Embassy Center

3725 N Sherman Blvd
Milwaukee 53216
Sunday Worship 8, 11AM
414.442.7411

Greater St. Lukes

2741 N. 27th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210
11 am Sunday Worship
9 am Sunday School
414-264-8040

Holy Cathedral COGIC

2677 N 40th Street
Milwaukee 53210
Sunday School 10AM
Sunday Worship 8:30, 11AM, 6:45PM
414.447.1966

Hope Lutheran Church

1115 N 35th Street
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Sunday Bible Study 9:15AM
414.342.0471

Kingdom of Heaven Christian **Min.**

PO Box 18194
Milwaukee WI 53218
Sunday 10AM
414.393.1500

Lakeshore Church

1820 E. North Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-273-2850
Sunday 10:30 am
Friday- Bible Study 4 pm

Liberty COGIC

1811 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53206
Sunday School 8am
Sunday Worship 9am
Tuesday-Bible Study 6:30pm
414-264-0590

Life Church

5511 W Burtleigh St
Milwaukee 53210
Call for times 414.445.0755

New Beginnings Seed Faith **M.B.C.**

138 W North Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53215
Pastor Annie Smith
Service 1:00 p.m.
Sunday School 2:15 pm

New Hope Missionary Baptist **Church**

2433 West Roosevelt Drive;
Milwaukee, WI 53209
Sunday School: 8am
Sunday Worship: 9:30am
Wed. Bible Study: 6:30pm
414.871.0350
www.nhmbchurch.org/

Newport Missionary Baptist **Church**

2237 N. 11th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53205
Sunday School: 9:30am
Service: 11am
Wed Nite Bible Study: 7pm
414-265-5881
newportmissionarybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Restoration International Min- **istry, Inc.**

5017 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210
414-499-7961
Christian Educ Sunday 12:30 pm
Worship Service Sunday 1:30 pm

RISE MKE

9450 N 60th Street
Brown Deer 53223
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.354.6620

Souls Harbor Baptist Church

3800 S Howell Ave
Milwaukee 53207
Sunday School 10AM
Worship Services 11AM, 1PM
Thursday 7PM
414.342.1234 or SoulsHarborBaptist.org

Spiritual Healing & Restora- **tion Ministries**

2925 W Lincoln Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Pastor Patsy McNeely
First Service 12/04/2016 @
3:00 P.M.

Word is God Worship Center

3320 W Vliet St
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 11AM

Word of Grace Fellowship

4949 West Villard Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53218
Pastor Ernie Oby
Sunday Service: 10:30am
Wednesday Service: 6:30pm
414-464-9643
WOGFMke@gmail.com



Ministries



SOUTH SUBURBS (AREA 2)

Cornerstone Bible Church
11321 St. Martens Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132
Sunday Bible Study 9:30AM
Children's/Jr Church 10:30AM
414.232.3158 or
www.cbfranklinwi.com

Discovery Church
7311 S 13th Street
Oak Creek 53154
Worship Service 8, 9:30, 11AM
Sunday Evening 6PM

Harvest Community Church
6612 S Howell Ave
Oak Creek 53154
Worship Service 9AM, 10:45AM

Jubilee Christian Family Church
3639 W Ryan Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 10AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
Mon-Fri AM 1:30-12:45PM
414.423.0700 or Jubilee-Christian.org

Milwaukee Victory Church
2110 W National Ave
Milwaukee 53204
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.645.7496

Life Restoration Church
2422 W National Ave
Milwaukee 53204
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.383.2280

St John's Lutheran Church
4850 S Lake Dr
Cudahy 53110
Call for times 414.481.0520

Southbrook Church
11010 W. St. Martin's Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 8:45, 10:30AM
414.427.1929

WEST SUBURBS (AREA 3)

Anchor Falls Church
N84W16971 Menomonee Ave
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Sunday Worship 10:00AM
Wed. Youth Programs 7PM
414.464.9220

Banner Church
1500 S. West Lane
New Berlin 53146
Sundays 9am & 10:45am
weatherstonechurch.org

Beloit Road Baptist Church
8337 W Beloit Rd
West Allis 53219
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.395.0635
www.BRBCMike.org

Beth Messiah Congregation
N84W16971 Menomonee Ave
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Saturday Worship 10AM
414.395.3043

Body of Christ Ministries
KimSargentMinistries.org
Radio Ministry
Sundays 6-6:30 pm
Joy 1:30 AM and 98.7 FM
Prayerline: 414-587-9899

Brookfield Christian Reformed
14135 W Burleigh Rd
Brookfield 53005
Sunday Worship 9:30AM
262.784.1125

Calvary Bible Church
1459 S 81st Street
West Allis 53214
Call for times 414.778.2253

Elmbrook Church
777 S Barker Rd
Brookfield 53045
Worship Services
Sunday 9, 10:45AM
262.786.7051

Family Prayer & Worship Center
2370 S. 75th Street
West Allis, WI 53219
414.216.FPWC (3792)
Worship Sundays 10AM
Wednesday 7PM
www.fpwcenter.org

First Baptist Church-New Berlin
3800 S Casper Dr
New Berlin 53151
Sunday School 9:15AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
262.782.7775 or
www.fbnewberlin.org

Honey Creek Church
8200 W. Bluemond Rd.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 475-1234
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am
Honeycreekchurch.org

Life Church
3285 N Calhoun Road
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-783-2900
www.vifanline.org

New Beginnings Fellowship Intl.
8650 W National Ave
West Allis 53219
Sunday Prayer 8:45AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Sunday Praise 6PM
Wednesday 7PM
414.543.0603
NewBeginningsInternational.net

Faith Christian Church
4800 S. Calhoun Rd,
New Berlin
Worship Services
Sundays 11:15AM & 6:00PM
Wednesday 6:30PM
414-423-5241

Jesus Christ Is Lord Congregational Bible Church
2931 S Kinnickinnic Ave (Bay View)
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Sunday Worship 12:30PM
Wed. Bible Study: 7PM
414-210-6104
davidfann188@gmail.com

Layton Avenue Baptist Church
9600 W Layton Avenue
Greenfield, WI 53228
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:45am
414.425.1616
www.laytonavenuechurch.com

A Mighty River Ministries
5933 W National Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214
Sunday Prayer 4:30PM
Sunday Worship 5PM
Friday Bible Study 6:30PM
414-306-5672

New Song Church
2323 S 109th St.
West Allis, WI 53227
Sunday 10AM
414-546-1234

New Vintage Church
6626 W. Beloit Rd.
West Allis, WI 53219
Sunday 10AM
Wednesday 7PM
414.400.8320
www.newvintagewi.org

Northtown Church
A multi-ethnic church
7000 N 107th St
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Sunday Worship and Bible classes 10 am
414-353-5588
www.northtownchurch.org

Pipeline to Jesus Church
13400 W Beloit Rd
New Berlin 53151
Sunday Worship 10AM
Tuesday 7PM
414.525.0000 PipelineToJesus.org

Poplar Creek Church
17770 W Cleveland Ave
New Berlin 53146
Sunday Worship 8:30 Traditional,
9:00 and 10:45 Contemporary
Wednesday 6:45PM
262.782.1777
PoplarCreekChurch.org

Poplar Creek Church - Wauwatosa
201 N 121st St,
Wauwatosa 53226
Sunday Worship 10:00AM
262-782-1777

Reformation Hope Church
915 Adelmann Ave., Lower Level
Brookfield, WI 53045
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Family Bible Hour Sunday 1:00PM
www.reformationhopechurchministries.com

RightWay Church Ministries
POBox242232
Milwaukee, WI 53225
4016 W Silver Spring Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53209
(In the Trinity Miracle Church building)
Sunday School 9am
WorshipService 10am
414-376-1651
rightwaychurchministries@yahoo.com

Risen Savior Bible Church
8556 W National Ave
West Allis 53227
Sunday Worship 9AM
414-617-0347 or
RisenSaviorBibleChurch.org

Showers of Blessing
8544 W National Ave STE #28
West Allis, WI 53227
Sunday School 10:00AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
414.502.7584

Wauwatosa Bible Chapel
2200 N 67th Street
Wauwatosa 53213
Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM
Family Bible Hour 10:30AM
Wednesday 7PM
414.771.1030 or
WauwatosaBibleChapel.org

REGIONAL (AREA 4)

Berean Family Worship Center, Inc.
ON CHURCH IN TWO CITIES
N112 W17655 Mequon Rd
Germantown, WI 53022
Sunday 11 am
Tuesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7 pm service

Blessed Hope BIC Church
4949 State Highway 38
Franksville, WI 53126
Sunday at 9:00 am
(262) 822-HOPE (4673)
http://www.blessedhopebic.org

Christian Life Church
309 Lakeview Drive
Belgium, WI 53004
Sundays 10:30 AM
Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM
text: 936.488.0080
christianlifechurch.us

Cornerstone Church Lake Country
354 N. Oakwood Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Sunday Celebration 10am
Wed. Catalyst Youth Group 7pm
262-569-0001
cornerstonelakecountn.com

Covenant Connection Fellowship Church
(Ingliside Hotel; Upstairs, Rm 1)
2810 Gulf Rd
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Worship: Sunday at 10am
262-650-9433

Delavan Christian Reformed Church
850 Oak Street
Sunday Worship 9:30AM 6PM
262.728.6801

Eagles Wings Nazarene Fellowship
609 Sandy Acre Drive
West Bend, WI 53090
262-334-7124
www.wbnaz.com
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Monday Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am
Wednesday Service 6:30 pm for adults and children

Faith Christian Fellowship
1200 Racine St.
Racine 53403
262.637-6220 or RacineFCF.org

Faithlife Victory International Church
Sunday worship 10:00am
(Temporarily meeting at the Kenosha Woman's Club)
6028 8th Avenue & 60th Street
(use west entrance) Kenosha WI 53143
www.faithlifevictory.org

Foundational Biblical Baptist Church
6224 22nd Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143
Sunday School 10am
Morning Service 11 am
Main Service 6pm
262-654-4665 www.fbckkenosha.org

Family Chapel
N25 W23050 Paul Road
Pewaukee 53072
Sunday Worship 10AM
FamilyChapel.org

Grace Bible Chapel
3917 59th Street
Kenosha 53144
Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM
Family Bible Hour & Sunday School 10:30AM
Wednesday Prayer 7PM
262.654.9631 GBC-Kenosha.org

Hillside Community Church
593 W30580 County Rd NN
Mukwonago 53149
Sunday Worship 9AM
Call for Bible Studies
262.363.8025 or HillsideMuk.org

Journey Church Burlington
740 Center St.
Burlington, WI 53105
262-767-3649
Sun. 9 & 10:45
Wed. 6:30

Journey Church Kenosha
1000 75th St
Kenosha, WI 53142
262-694-3300
Sat. 6pm
Sun. 9 & 10:45
Wed. 6:30

Lake Country Bible Church
N45W32481 Watertown Plank Rd
Nashotah, WI 53058
Sunday Bible Study 9AM
Worship 10:15AM
262-369-8777 LakeCountryBible.org

Northbrook Church
4014 Hwy 167 West
Richfield 53076
Saturday 4:30PM
Sunday Worship 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM
262.628.3142

Oconomowoc Faith Bible Fellowship
25 McDowell Court
Oconomowoc 53066
Sunday Lord's Supper 10AM
Family Bible Hour 11AM
262.567.7234

Open Door Church
3420 County Road LL
Port Washington, WI 53074
Sat Worship Service 5:30pm
Sun Worship Services 8am & 10:45
Sun School/Adult Bible 9:30am
262-284-0711
www.ODBport.org

Orchard Hill Assembly of God
N9590 County Rd ES
Mukwonago WI 53149
Sunday Worship, 9:30am
Wednesday, Family Night & Youth Ministry, 6:30pm
(262) 363-5443
https://www.orchardhillag.com

Praise Fellowship Church
WI 195 S9912 Racine Avenue
Muskego, WI 53150
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 6:30 p.m.
www.praise-fellowship.org

Prayer House Assembly of God Church
1525 24th Avenue, Kenosha WI 53140
Sunday Worship: 10:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm
262.595.0500
www.prayerhouseag.org

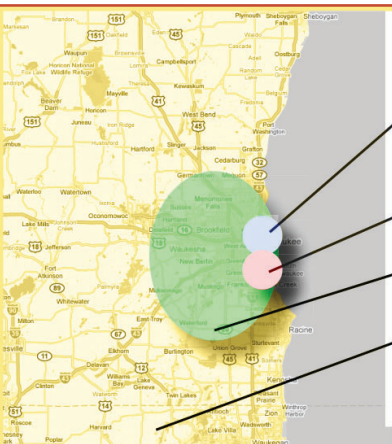
Summit Harvest Church
888 Thackerway Trail #209
Oconomowoc 53066
Sunday Worship 10AM
262.560.0765
SummitHarvestchurch.org

Terrace Shores Ev Free Church
W3278 County Road K
Markesan 53946
Sunday Worship 7:45, 9:15, 10:45AM
920.398.2734

Transformational Ministry
1123 Center St.
Racine, WI 53403
Sundays Worship: 2pm
224.656.1803

Watertown Community Church
106 E Madison St
Watertown 53094
Sunday Worship 10AM
Call for other meetings/studies
920.206.0599 or
WatertownCommunityChurch.org

Zion Christian Assembly
Zion Chapel 319 Cedar Street
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
Sunday Lord's Supper 9:30AM
Bible Ministry 11:00AM & 6:30PM
Wednesday 6:30PM
920.458.4137
920-889-7064
believers@ZionChristianAssembly.org



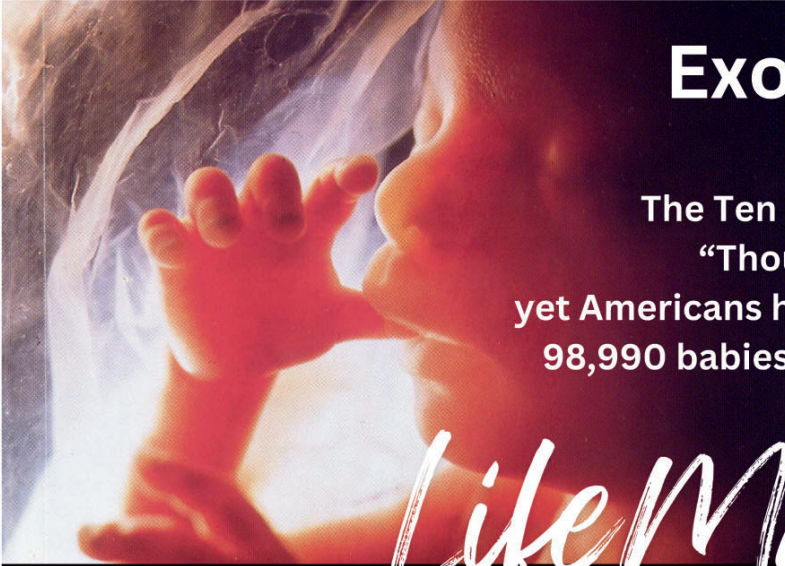
Color-coded Church Locations in Directory

- Area 1 - Metropolitan Milwaukee
- Area 2 - Southern Milwaukee County
- Area 3 - Western Suburbs
- Area 4 - Region Beyond Greater Milwaukee



Carry the Christian Courier in your church!
NO CHARGE for your church listing and get as many copies of the Christian Courier that your congregation needs!

You Shall Not Murder



Exodus 20:13

The Ten Commandments say
"Thou Shalt Not Murder,"
yet Americans have been murdering
98,990 babies every single month.

Life Matters

**96.5% OF ABORTIONS ARE FOR CONVENIENCE
1% RAPE, 1%-2% LIFE OF THE MOTHER, LESS THAN .5% INCEST**

Source CNN news, Guttmacher Institute

Trump 2024. The World After Trump - Pro-Life Movement

PATIENT DOB: 10-13-1990 BRYAN CLINIC MR L5 05-10-2020 11:34:12 AM
23.7cm
23.0cm
4.3cm
13.0cm
38 Hz

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you”
Jeremiah 1:5



Dr. Alveda King: Trump 2024 Film

“Ripping little babies apart out of the womb of the mother just prior to the birth of the baby, you can say that that's OK, but it's not OK with me.”
- Donald Trump

www.Trump2024.Film

Trump 2024. The World After Trump - Pro-Life Movement

PATIENT DOB: 10-13-1990 BRYAN CLINIC MR L5 05-10-2020 11:34:12 AM
23.7cm
23.0cm
4.3cm
13.0cm
38 Hz

“Rescue those being led away to death”
Proverbs 24:11

Trump 2024. The World After Trump - Pro-Life Movement

PATIENT DOB: 10-13-1990 BRYAN CLINIC MR L5 05-10-2020 11:34:12 AM
23.7cm
23.0cm
4.3cm
13.0cm
38 Hz

“Lord, I cry out to You”
Psalms 141:1-2

What is a Christian to do?
CRY OUT TO THE LORD!
Fast, Pray, Repent
Lord forgive us for the sins of our nation.
2 Chronicles 7:14, Jeremiah 18:8

PRAY FOR OUR NATION
32 million Christians likely **not** to vote - George Barna

Jesus said, “You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness.” **Matthew 19:18**