

NOVEMBER 2018



COLOCIUMUL

ROMANS 12:2

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FROM THE EDITOR



WALDO MALAN

The mind is a wonderful machine, if I can call it that. It is capable of the most astonishing feats, performing millions of computations every second that we breathe. While medical science has assisted us in identifying brain activity related to various stimuli, we are no closer to understanding the complexities it contains.

It is also amazing to think that our entire relationship with God is all *"in the mind!"* We interact with people and our surroundings more in our minds than out of it. The physical reality of our experiences is a mere surface, ripple effect of something much deeper and more intricate.

No wonder God is so concerned with our *'heart'*, which really is speaking about the contents of what is in our mind; and by extension speaks about the physical manifestation of a thought. It is easy to understand the concept of *"what the heart is full of the mouth will flow over."* Our actions are determined in our mind a long time before we are confronted with that. Joyce Meyer's bestseller is title *"The Battlefield of the Mind,"* and that is what we face every day.

So, when we start to consider the strategies we implement to ensure we experience the lifestyle we desire, we have to go back to the beginning or examine the root issues. We find ourselves confronted with habits (what the Bible calls strongholds), both good and bad. Scientists tell us that the pathways that are formed in the brain are in fact these habits. It stands to reason then, that it would be as easy to get into a habit, as it would be to get out it. When we find ourselves in a situation we dislike we have the power to change it around!

The apostle Paul writes in his letter to his friend Timothy that God has given each person the power of a sound mind, which is strong enough to counteract any negativity or fear! We could deduce then that every person is powerful enough to use their mind to live the life that they are able to envisage. What makes this discovery all the more wonderful is that Christ promises to give us more that what we are even able to think up, hope for or think!

A critical point in all our lives is then to ensure that our minds are powerfully functioning to the glory of the Creator. This means we must be extremely cautious of what we allow to enter into our minds, by way of sight, sound, touch and smell. Principally we should guard what we look at and what we listen to. Having become sensitive to the input we set ourselves up to make choices that will be for our benefit and not our harm. When we benefit in this way, we can be a benefit to those round us; and when this happens we live in the fashion that was designed for us by God. In this perfect circle, we find ourselves in a place where we can demonstrate our love towards God and our fellow man, even as we have learned to love ourselves.

All of us have certain pathways (strongholds) embedded in our mind that needs to change for us to live the life God saw at creation. It calls us to a constant renewing of the mind that will help us to live in that place that is acceptable to our Creator. So, what exactly is implied with *'acceptable?'* Well, I think it is that place where we can experience the fullness of our purpose, which is what really makes God smile. How about that? **Are you ready to live in a way that will make God smile?** ROLLOW.MYFAITHTV

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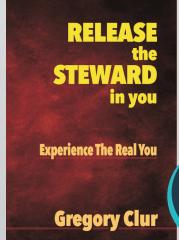
The Greatest Spiritual Law

In this teaching we will learn how our thoughts; words; attitudes and actions all play a vital role in establishing God's blessing in our lives. May this message inspire you to take God's word to heart and actively apply His kingdom principles to your every day life.

Stand Strong

In this compelling message, Pastor Jenny encourages us to Stand Strong in the Lord and the power of His might! You will learn about the explosive, supernatural power that is inside every believer to withstand any attack from the enemy.





Release the Steward in You

For the most part, humanity is preoccupied with "self-service" as opposed to "selflessly serving"..... reflects a mindset influenced by society, politics, education and peer pressure, is fundamentally ignorant to the purposes of God. The truth is that there is an extraordinary life experience literally moments away, accessed by a decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour of your life, characterized by a life of stewardship over everything that He has made available. It is about kingdom living, it is a journey where the experience is breathtaking. The best news of all is that you are exactly the right person for the position, are you interested?

Gregory Clur is a qualified Chartered Accountant (B.Com CA (S.A.)). He has practiced for 13 years as a public accountant and tax practitioner and joined the River Group in 2003. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer of the group and oversees the group's financial and administrative affairs, which comprises 7 major divisions.

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In The Beginning God... In this inspiring teaching, you will learn through the scriptures not only what the name God means, but you will discover His will and His ways.



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Pave Your Path of Life & Peace

ANDRÉ & JENNY ROEBERT

Did you know that the way you think directly affects the way you live? If you are a child of God who has chosen to live by the truth of His Word, you probably know all about this. It is, after all, a basic foundational truth of faith. But knowing about a truth and experiencing its reality in our lives are two completely different things. I want to talk to you today about how this truth really does affect our everyday lives and paves a sure way for our future!

I have realised that when my mind is kept full of the Word of God, I begin to see things and think about things from His perspective. I find myself continuously in the Word, out of necessity. It keeps me in a place where I must have my mind prepared and saturated with the Word of God. The magnificent result was the flow of life and peace that Word produced inside of me!

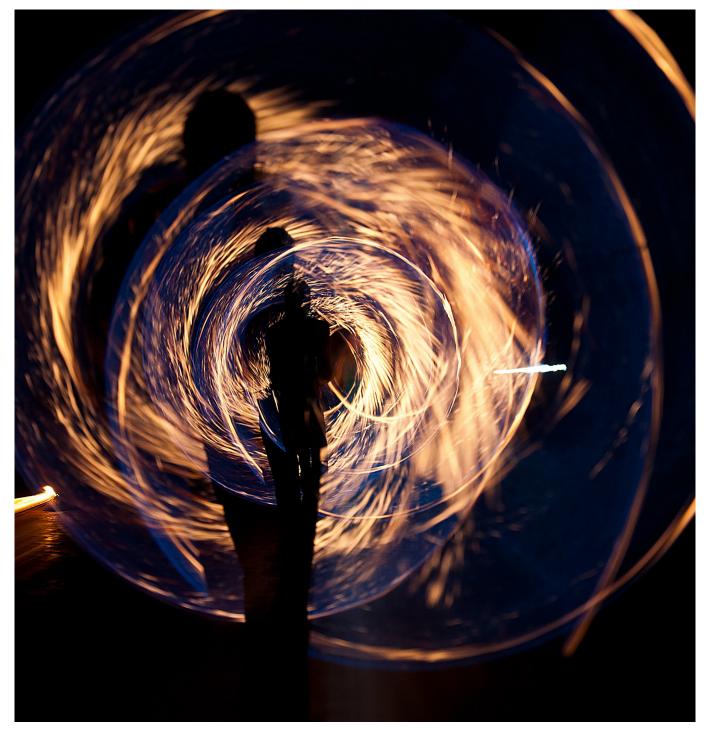
Romans 8:6 **"Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death** [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever]."

Did you know that a healthy mind that is filled with God's supernatural life and peace, supernaturally influences every other part of our lives and produces an atmosphere of favour and blessing in and around us? This is a miracle I absolutely love and delight in! To think that having my soul, which is my intellect, my emotions and my will, filled with the truth of God's Word, is what will start a ripple effect of God's blessing and favour to flow into all that concerns me, is wonderful!

Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."

And that is exactly what I began to experience. I felt worry and fear break off of me and peace and joy make a victorious path for me. Everything I did had God's touch of blessing and favour all over it. I slept better than I had in months and my level of physical and mental strength amazed me. I could fit in and do all that I needed to do by a supernatural grace and strength that didn't just astound me, but it astounded those who know me too.

When we deliberately choose to think, and meditate on the thoughts God thinks about us, from His Word, we pave a way for that truth to become our reality. What we think influences the words we speak and the way we operate in life. Whether we realise it or not, each action we take in life, causes some reaction. So, if God's life and peace are actively at work inside us, and that same life and peace



begins to radiate out of us and influences the way we live. We can expect a supernatural reaction to follow.

Proverbs 12:14 **"From the fruit of his words a man shall be satisfied with good, and the work of a man's hands shall come back to him [as a harvest]."**

I want to encourage you to deliberately step up your level of commitment to spending time in God's Word. I have no doubt that your experience will be as life giving as mine!

Mark 4:24 **"And He said to them, Be careful what you** are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you and more [besides] will be given to you who hear." a healthy mind that is filled with God's supernatural life and peace, supernaturally influences every other part of our lives

Choose Bold Faith & Demolish Your Doubts!

JOYCE MEYER

In Acts 27 (AMP), there's a great story about the apostle Paul. He was travelling by ship with some people when *"…a violent wind [a northeaster, a tempestuous windstorm like a typhoon], came rushing down from the island"* (v. 14). For days they were caught in the storm, and at one point it was so fierce they were *"violently tossed about by the storm"* (v. 18) and had to throw the ship's equipment overboard. They ended up without food, hungry, stranded – seemingly without hope.

In that moment, Paul stood in the midst of the survivors and said to them, **"I urge you to keep up your courage** and be in good spirits, because there will be no loss of life among you..." (v. 22). He then shared that an angel of God told him this, and said in verse 25, **"So** keep up your courage, men, for I believe God and have complete confidence in Him that it will turn out exactly as I have been told." How could Paul, in the middle of a horrible storm, ask the people to "*be in good spirits*" and have a good attitude? Because he believed in his heart – without a doubt – **"that** *it will turn out exactly as I have been told.*"

I love that! It's a great picture of the power of faith in God when all hope seems lost. And we can have the very same faith that Paul had if we will overcome doubt.

We all face storms in life, and some are more difficult than others. That's why we have the gift of faith. Ephesians 6:16 (ESV) calls it **"the shield of faith, with which you** *can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one."* Doubt is a type of *"flaming dart"* that the enemy uses to attack our faith.

We usually experience doubt after we've made a decision. In James 1:6, the Bible says having doubt is like being tossed about like the wind, which feels like you're trying to go in two different directions at the same time. And it's miserable to be torn between two places, not able to decide what you really believe.



It's in those moments we have to choose whether we are going to believe God or the enemy...God or our feelings...God or what people tell us...God or our circumstances.

When doubt comes against us, we have to lift up the shield of faith. We do this when we open our mouth and say what God's Word says, rather than grumbling and complaining about the problem. Our faith is released as we say, pray and do the Word. So in those times, open your mouth and say, *"I believe that everything God has told me will come to pass!"*

Maybe you're doubting whether you can hear God's voice or not. This happens because we usually doubt ourselves more than we doubt God. Now I'm not talking about actually hearing a voice; I'm talking about that knowing we have inside our hearts about what is right or wrong. That's the still, small voice of God. Believers in Jesus Christ all have it, but many don't have the confidence to trust it.

The Bible says in James 1:5 that when we need wisdom, we can go to God, *"who gives generously to all without reproach"* (ESV). This means that even with our imperfections, God will be faithful to us and give us what we need if we will ask Him for help. He loves us, blesses us and uses us in spite of us, because He is faithful! And we never have to doubt that.

I've learned through my own relationship with God that He's not expecting me to be perfect; He wants me to do my best to be in His will and take steps of faith as He leads me, through His Word and the promptings He speaks to my heart. Remember, He wants us to put our confidence in Him. God really does want to speak to you personally and lead you in His great plan for your life. So don't be afraid to step out and do what's in your heart. If you make a mistake, you'll learn from it and go on. That's how we **"step out and find out."** And we all have to do it.

I want to encourage you to begin making confessions every day that will help you grow in your faith and confidence in God. We need to make declarations like, **"God loves me.** *He wants to speak to my heart. I can hear from God. He is faithful to me and will lead me in His will for my life. And I believe it will be exactly as God has told me!"*

By God's grace, we can be bold in faith and overcome every attack of doubt during the storms of life.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's five-CD series Bold, Confident & Courageous. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times best selling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and HEALING THE SOUL OF A WOMAN(FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer. org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

The Importance of Prayer

ANGUS BUCHAN

As I am writing this column, my complete focus is on the power of prayer. I have never heard of a revival starting, anywhere in the world, that did not start with prayer.

One of the renowned preachers that I esteem greatly is Charles Haddon Spurgeon. At the age of 21 years, they built the London Tabernacle Church for him, which seated 10 000 people. The Baptists regarded him as the prince of preachers. Yet Spurgeon said *"I would rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach"*, that is how important prayer was to this man of God.

I will never attend any rally, campaign, or event if there is no intercessory prayer taking place beforehand. When people invite me to minister overseas, the first question I ask them is **"How is the prayer doing?"** If they respond along "We have got the budget and the facility, but we will start praying later", I let them know that they have invited the wrong man and they must rather invite someone else.

Andrew Murray, who was instrumental in one of the greatest revivals ever seen in South Africa, said: **"The man who mobilizes the Christian church to pray will make the greatest contribution to world evangelization in history."**

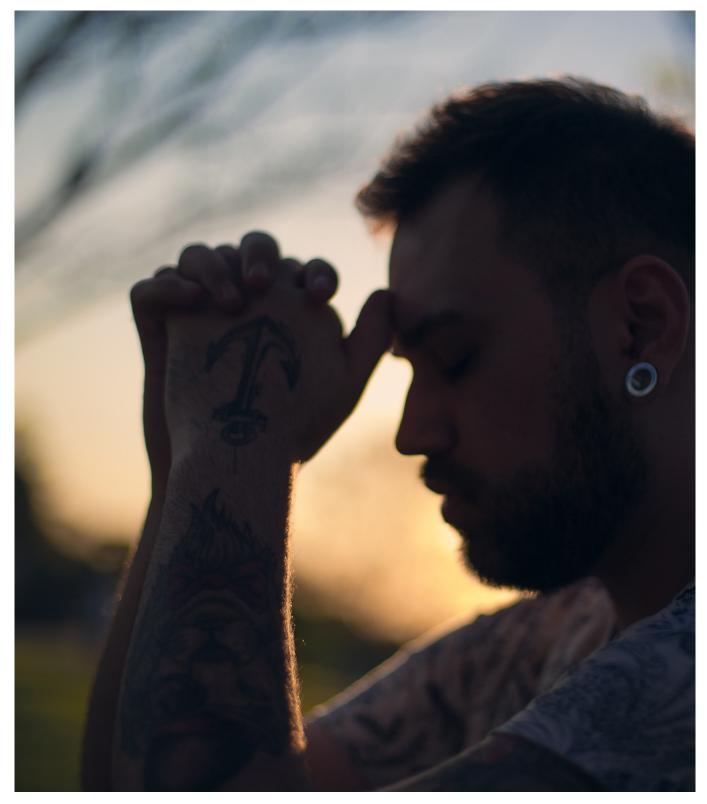
When men work they work; but when men pray, God works.

We need to get back on our knees - it is the safest place to be, because we cannot fall far from there. M.E. Andross said, **"There is no other activity in life so important as that of prayer. Every other activity depends upon prayer for its best efficiency."**

My dear friend, many of us are not having long enough quiet times; our prayer life is weak and it is poor. John Bunyan, author of 'The Pilgrim's Progress', said *"He who runs from God in the morning will scarcely find Him the rest of the day."* When we skimp and forfeit our quite time in the morning, we may never find time during the day to catch up. We have got to get up in the morning and pray. It is a discipline that we have to establish.

E.M. Bounds was a great intercessor from the 1800s and lived in the Wild West, USA. He said, **"Prayer is not** *learned in a classroom but in the closet.*" Rick Warren also said, **"The more you pray, the less you'll panic.**" I can say amen to that! I find the more time I spend in prayer with the Lord Jesus Christ, the more peaceful I become.

The scripture for our "*It's Time*" prayer event is found in Mark 14:38 (NKJV) which says, **"Watch and pray,** *lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*" When we walk in the



there is no other activity in life so important as that of prayer flesh, we start to panic; but when we walk in the Spirit, we are confident that Jesus Christ can do anything. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)tells us, "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

May God bless you as you continue to pray for our beloved nation, your loved ones, your family, your church, your business, and for the second coming of the Lord. We cannot wait!

Remember: Jesus is an intercessor and He is praying on our behalf at the moment.



THE MOST EXTREME LEADERSHIP GAP YEAR OF YOUR LIFE

FULL & HALF YEAR OPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE ! JANUARY - JUNE | JULY - NOVEMBER

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

What makes your programme extreme and adventurous?

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

What is the value of a gap year programme?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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When You Look, What Do You See?

PHIL COOKE

We all look at the same things, but a smaller number of people see those things differently. All of my life, I've been fascinated with people who see things no one else can, and then act on it. As Pablo Picasso put it, **"Others have seen what is and asked why. I have seen what could be and asked why not."** In a similar way, Arthur Schopenhauer said, **"Talent hits a target no one else can hit; genius hits a target no one else can see."** But we're all looking at the same things, so what is it that clicks with some people?

For example, Spencer Lanoue writes that:

One Saturday morning, Joan Ganz Cooney walked downstairs and saw her daughter staring at the television, waiting for programs to come on. From that observation, came Sesame Street.

George de Mestral took his dog for a walk in a field, and when he got home his socks and shoes were covered in little prickly burrs. From that experience he invented Velcro. When Percy Shaw was driving home one night he saw a cat's eyes on the side of the road. After noticing that he invented the reflective road studs that you see on most highways and roads today.

Malcolm McLean was moving from one country to another, and he noticed it was taking a really long time to load all of his stuff. From that observation, came the shipping container.

Starting today, become intentional about the things around you. Stop looking at the surface and begin thinking more deeply. At the same time, think about the projects you're working on, the clients you serve, and the ideas rolling around in your head.

The 20th century created consumers, but the digital tools of the 21st century are creating creators. Start putting things together, and begin with ideas.

Once you start connecting things, you never know where it might end...



How to Give Constructive Feedback to Your Creative Team

PHIL COOKE

Far too many creative ideas are undermined long before they see the light of day. That usually happens because the leader sees a rough version, and through his or her inept criticism, it completely deflates the designer, writer, producer, or other creative person. If you lead creative people, one of your most important jobs is to give them constructive feedback on their projects. If you struggle with how to do it, start with these six important steps:

Before you respond, re-read the objective. No matter how off-base you think the work is, before you speak, re-read the creative brief, project notes, or original proposal. Even when you think you know the goal; in the heat of the moment, it never hurts to review it again. I've seen multiple cases where a leader ripped into a designer or writer for not delivering, only to find out it was the leader who was confused. Save the embarrassment and double check the original goal.

Ask why. Very often, when you don't understand something about the end result, the creative person may have had a unique take, unusual perspective, or idea. Before you slam it, simply ask what he or she was thinking and give them space to explain. Chances are: it may be a brilliant idea that could take the project to a new level.

Bon't pass it around. You're the boss, not everyone else in the office. If you need to get other people's opinion, then maybe you shouldn't be the leader of the creative team.

Be specific. Vague statements don't help creative people. "It's too dark." "It doesn't feel right." "It's not what I expected." All those answers are completely unhelpful and will only make things worse. Be detailed so the creative person knows exactly what you don't like, what's missing the target, or what's not working. You'll be much happier with the result.

Be respectful. Never talk down to any member of your team – especially creative people. Creatives are putting themselves out there in a big way; so being condescending, rude, or a jerk will feel like a personal attack. Learn to separate criticism of the project from criticism of them – and make sure you stay focused on the project. If you want your creative team to give it their best, nothing helps more than respect.

Finally, find something to praise. Nobody likes to be criticized, and it's always easier to take when a little positive news comes along with it. Early in my career, I wrote a set of scripts for a major Hollywood network TV producer. I put them on his desk. He slowly looked them over and said, *"This is rubbish. This is absolute rubbish. These are the worst scripts I've ever seen."* Then he paused for a moment and said, *"But I've heard about you, and I've heard you're better than this. I'll tell you what...I have to go to a recording session for an hour, and when I get back, I want to see new scripts. Show me what you're really capable of writing."*

I spent that hour writing harder than I'd ever written in my life. And when he returned, he read them over and said *"Now this is what I'm talking about."*

I've never forgotten that lesson.

Obstacle Ilusion

GLEN MCQUIRK

What is an obstacle? Some might say it is something that is in your way that you need to get around. Glen Mcquirk says that obstacles are stepping-stones in disguise.

Every obstacle contains within itself ingredients for personal growth.

Avoiding obstacles is like digging out gold to make way for a tunnel. Few people recognize the treasure within the trials that they face in life until many years after the trial has passed. If obstacles are used to strengthen the gymnast, prepare the soldier, and improve the skill of the driver, why then do we want to avoid them? Obstacles are often the greatest and perhaps the only source of learning. It is through obstacles that civilizations have moved forward, innovations been developed, accolades awarded. Let us change the way we view obstacles. Instead of seeing them as our worst enemy, let's begin to view them as our greatest friend. Let us begin to seek out the rich and lasting lessons we can learn so that we can raise our performance and tackle new and exciting challenges with more experience and endurance.

Unused stepping-stones are often referred to as stumbling blocks.

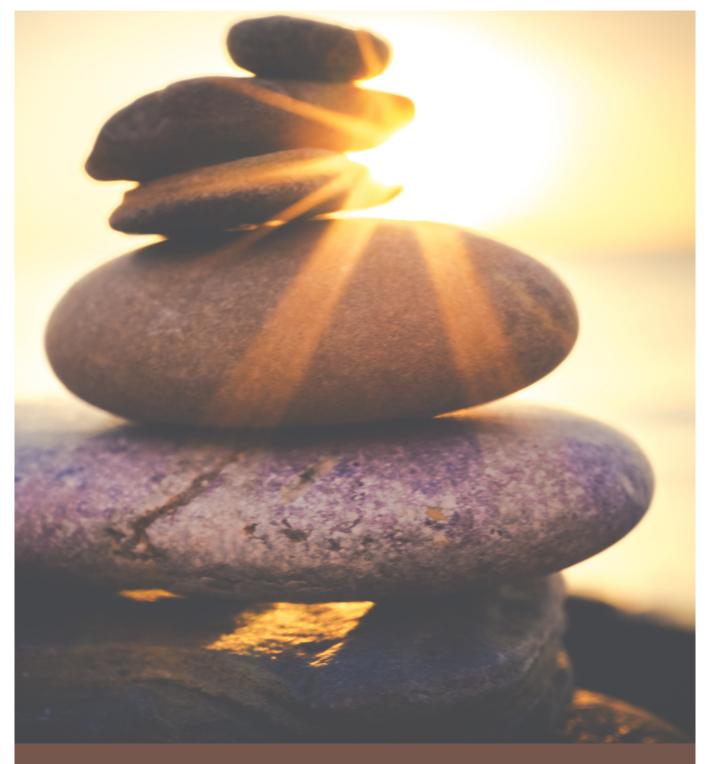
Something has to lie between you and your goal so that it appears beyond your immediate grasp. You just need to observe the process that must be followed to extract precious metals or gems from rock: the more valuable, the greater the effort or obstacles that must be overcome to complete the extraction. So why do so many expect to achieve large and exciting goals without being faced with obstacles? After all, having some steps to climb along the way can take us to a great elevation. Every goal has its price. Those who negotiate a lower price will always be disappointed. The bigger your goal, the greater the obstacles you will be given to learn from. Expect obstacles. Be prepared for them. Are your obstacles going to be an elevator to your success or a pathetic excuse to justify your downfall?

Every battle leaves its mark, every wrinkle tells a story.

The best person to take into battle with you is the one with the most battle scars. They are tough. They know from personal experience what it takes to win the war. They are not afraid of the challenges that come their way; they have bounced back before and will bounce back again. Battle hardened, they can go without for longer, endure greater adversity, and they can smell the victory that lies beyond the obstacle. This drives them forward with greater determination. When you aim to pursue a goal that is big, overwhelming and that will take a lot of perseverance; surround yourself with people who don't know when to quit. People who buy into the vision 200%, and who have the attitude that there is no turning back. Make sure that you are this person.

The essence of an obstacle is the sweet smell of victory.

Every obstacle you overcome, every obstacle that you learn from, is a necessary victory that catapults you to the next viewing platform like the successful passing of an exam opens the door to the next grade. Fail the test and you will be presented with the same obstacle (disguised perhaps) over and over again until you capture its essence



use your obstacles as stepping-stones to success

and can move forward victorious. The obstacles behind are often referred to as experience and people are willing to pay good money for this commodity. Obstacles ahead are just going to increase what you can charge. They will raise your value and increase demand for what you have. Never see an obstacle as anything other than an opportunity. Irrespective of how ugly it might look - to the trained and experienced eagle eye there is a beauty within that the wise will uncover. Stop avoiding the obstacles that come your way – embrace them. Make the decision today that you will no longer run away from your obstacles but instead use them as stepping-stones to success!

This article is based on the topic that will be discussed at this month's MAP Café meetings. To join a MAP Café or find out more about them, please visit www.MAP4LIFE.com or send an email to info@MAP4LIFE.com.

10 Quotable Quotes on **Mothers**

- The moment a child is born, the mother is also born. She never existed before. The woman existed, but the mother, never. A mother is something absolutely new. Rajneesh
- I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life. Abraham Lincoln
 - Sweater, n.: garment worn by child when its mother is feeling chilly. Ambrose Bierce
- If evolution really works, how come mothers only have two hands? Milton Berle
- Motherhood is priced of God, at price no man may dare to lessen or misunderstand. Helen Hunt Jackson
- 6 A little girl, asked where her home was, replied, "where mother is." Keith L. Brooks

- 7 "A mother's love for her child is like nothing else in the world. It knows no law, no pity, it dares all things and crushes down remorselessly all that stands in its path." Agatha Christie
- "You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother." Albert Einstein
- "By and large, mothers and housewives are the only workers who do not have regular time off. They are the great vacationless class."

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

"What the mother sings to the cradle goes all the way down to the coffin." Henry Ward Beecher



Letters from a Messenger

BEING ONE FOR CHRIST How do we break free from Hate and Anger?

Hatred might seem to have many forms but there's only one way to forgive. And for some, this 'hatred' becomes 'visible' from any distance. Whether it moves as a stray bullet, or slithering snake. We can't have one without the other. It is like rain and snow. Although it's evident we live in a devastating era where many are aware of Christ, and sadly not attracted to Him. People we need to draw closer to Jesus, we'll always be slaves to anger and hatred if we don't! We have to repent and seek Jesus every day. Only so, would we be able to see Jesus in everyone. And the first step in doing so is acknowledging we're sinners. If we don't do this, then who are we? What are we?

LOVE IS THE ANTIDOTE FOR HATE Be led by the spirit

God loved both the world and His Son, Jesus Christ so much that He had to sacrifice the one, for the other one to survive. And since God loved the world so much, don't you think we are expected to love this world and take care of it? We are also taught personally by Jesus that we should love one another. He didn't teach hatred. Nor did He allow His anger to lead the way. You see Jesus knew we'd struggle with this, so He sent the 'Comforter' and that's really what the Holy Spirit does. He comforts. But do we ever call upon Him?

Our bodies and minds are fueled by hatred, lust and greed and through this we're led away from the Spirit, and not drawn to it. Not led by it.

We grow envious of one another and that shouldn't be. Honestly

'We should be like remote controlled cars, where the Holy Spirit is the only one in control. For just as the car cannot function without the controller...so we too are lost without the Holy Spirit.' speaking we're ought to encourage and love one another. We should be like remote controlled cars, where the Holy Spirit is the only one in control. For just as the car cannot function without the controller...so we too are lost without the Holy Spirit.

MURDER BEGINS IN THE HEART

At times you'll find people who assume instantly that you hate them, either by the look on your face or the choice of your words. And although at times hatred are seen through the facial expression of a person, but bear in mind that hatred forms in the heart. (Matthew 5: 22)

> 'But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgement.'



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Speaking of spades

CILNETTE PIENAAR

Persistent suggesting thoughts and pervasive secret fantasies sometimes tend to worm their way into the un-renewed crevices of the mind. Cilnette Pienaar finds out that, when left to sprout, these thoughts can grow into full-blown idols guarded by strongholds of insecurity, pride and shame.

Let's just say that I've quite recently become rather aggressive about brutal honesty and truthful accountability.

Especially when it comes to persistent suggesting thoughts and pervasive secret fantasies that tend to worm their way into the un-renewed crevices of my mind that, when left to sprout, have previously grown into full-blown idols guarded by strongholds of insecurity, pride and shame in my life.

John 1:14 says that "... we have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Now, I have always been one for running into the grace revelation of Christ. Where I am accepted, no matter what. Time and again I stumble, fall, mess up, and miss it, but messing up now propels me to God. I'm over hiding naked behind trees in the garden. And He never chases me away. Ever. This revelation of immovable grace has been the key to victory over various struggles in my life, and has led me into ever-expanding freedom and security on so many levels. I am aggressively standing on grace in faith, and the Lord is continually showing me that nothing can separate me from His love ... this I do know, and I continue to walk it out.

Yet, despite my experience of His forgiveness and consistent love, there are areas of my life where I am still not walking in complete freedom the whole time. Where insecurity creeps in un-announced to hold me back from expressing who I am – the person that I have learnt to love and enjoy, actually. I keep digging at the same *"roots"*, getting rather discouraged that after a thousand confessions and a million *"I am so sorry, Lord's"* things still seem to show very little progress ... Thus, strongholds of wrong thinking about my true identity, leading to unhealthy actions, leading to various degrees of bondage. Or just plain stubborn disobedience. The age-old story.

The reason why I am so persistent about this is because I am completely convinced that Jesus paid the full price for our full freedom. Meaning ... I do not have to settle for just walking in victory over depression if I can also have victory over the shame that lust brings or the isolation and loneliness that self-centeredness results in. Or whatever your battles might be.

This struggle for complete freedom from insecurity was highlighted in my life recently when I was confronted again with the secret thoughts of my heart that were not aligning with my communicated intentions. Since we are calling spades what they are ... I was being a very religiously appropriate hypocrite about my intentions in a friendship with a guy. Jesus says in Luke 12:3 that "... what you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs." I sort of had an experience like that when someone (that I might

God is the giver of good gifts

perhaps also have a too high esteem of) told me in a brief conversation on the topic of Lordship, that the root of insecurity often is a false sense of security in something that might be an idol in one's life ... Enter irony. And hectic conviction.

The reason why I still feel insecure around certain people ... or guys, if we are calling spades what they are, is because I am harboring thoughts about them that are not in line with the Word of God. And because I have not aggressively dealt with those thoughts, secretly holding on to the idea of what someone represents, those meditated *"ideas"* have become *"idols"*, stemming from a false sense of security in a relationship in my head that does not exist in truth ... Great. Now what?

From my experience in worship teams and student ministry leadership I know that almost every girl at some stage in her church-journey falls in love with the youth pastor / worship leader / insert leadership position here ... it's just how it is, and not unnatural or even wrong, if the said brother is single. We should however stop thinking that our "secret" crushes are harmless if they grow into "soul – ties" where that person / idea actually then becomes an idol ... if we are calling spades what they are.

I think that an idol is anything that we lift up our souls to for fulfillment, even if it is for a legitimate need or want. Psalm 25:1 starts by saying **"To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul..."** Loving God and getting rid of idolatry is about looking to Jesus for the filling of our souls, and not to anything or anyone else.

There are too many instances where a spirit of manipulation and lust has gained entry into a church, especially attacking the leadership, through people who have stubbornly failed to recognize the idolatry in their hearts. This freaks me out. Because my own actions at some stage felt like they were partly governed by an unhealthy need to impress a specific person to the point of almost looking for any valid reason to have to get close to him, catapulting into the exact opposite where I spent so much effort in trying to avoid him because I was afraid that I might have wrong motives. This sucks. It is not the freedom of relational purity that I believe Christ wants in His body. And it is more prevalent, especially when it comes to worship leaders and pastors, than what we would like to acknowledge. If we are calling spades what they are ... ladies, he probably isn't your husband. "The mind will justify what the heart has chosen," I heard the other day. You are probably recognizing his anointing and possibly something of Jesus. Don't make it more than that, especially if you are not in a happy place with your own husband or if your relationship with your dad was broken. God is the giver of good gifts. He will

fulfill your relational needs with what He has for you, in His time. *"Turn your eyes upon Jesus,"* she says, more to herself than to anyone else. *"And speak to your truthful accountability friends,"* she adds emphatically.

The solution at this stage for me is just that: brutally honest accountability. Over the past few weeks I have been drawing my friends around me to have embarrassing conversations, only to find that most of them are battling the exact same thoughts, sometimes even over the exact same people or situations. We have now decided to, instead of harboring secret romantic thoughts about our brothers, pray for their protection. This is just one area where we need to be seriously truthful. There are many others.

In our communities of fellowship and spiritual families, let's just call a spade a spade so that we can learn to really love, appreciate and enjoy one another, without the additional agendas. This is now my mission.

The only way to walk in freedom is to walk in the sometimes brutally revealing and intensely embarrassing, but always healing, light of the Truth. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, but I think He might be more jealous of my affection than what I thought. I can only have His complete freedom if He has my complete affection.



Coaching Spiritual Abuse

BILL PRICE

Abuse: Affront, belittle, blaspheme, cruelty, curse, defame, defile, exploit, harm, hurt, injure, insult, manipulate, mistreat, misuse, violate, wrong.

The world of work and the world of church are not as different as we would hope. I think, most people think that working in a church team is so spiritual and ideal that there must just be no negativity at all. The fact of the matter is that research shows that the church world is led by the same kind of managers and leaders. There is as much politics, game playing and ego drive in action in a church, as there is anywhere else in the world system. The reason is that people will be people and their definitions of spirituality and Christian maturity are often limited to congregational times of worship. We all have to allow what happens in the services to be integrated by us, into our being and persona, in a proactive way.

Many of the stories related in this article come from actual coaching sessions, so be warned that you are going to be faced with some shocking truths.

Story #1

A pastor asks the congregation to stand just before the end of the morning service, and asks them to make a vow with him. They are not pre-warned and he makes them vow that they will attend the evening service; then he gently reminds them that they have just made a vow to Almighty God! All he really wanted was a full church to satisfy his ego and to brag at the next minister's fraternal.

Story #2

An African minister and her security entourage tell a businessman that he has to make a *"love gift*" of R30,000 to the church; they also instruct him that he must not invoice the church for the work done in the gardens of four of their ministers and the church landscaping costing over R450,000! This would indeed offend God and would be deemed by God as an insult to the anointed of God.

Story #3

Arguing elders split a church and divide the church into two or three so that they can get their own way. Years later there is nothing left of that church and they are sitting in new church groups with not a care in the world of the damage done to lives and inner beings of people. They were right! God has been vindicated. Life goes on.

The Spirit of Truth

We all have been given the Spirit of truth and are empowered by God to live freely, fully and boldly who we are. We have been given the ability to think, ponder, extrapolate, analyse, integrate, grow and develop into our God-given destiny. Lets face it, the Church is one of the best examples of a place where people, throughout the ages, have been abused, hurt and manipulated. It is true that there are exceptions to the rule, so while we certainly don't want to paint the whole Church with the same brush, one must admit that people will be people! In some way we all are hurt and broken. We all are sojourners in Christ and have to work out our own salvation. The fact of the matter is that on that day we stand alone before the Father, no one will be there to defend or correct us. We will be responsible and be the sole owner of the story of our lives. So why do we put up with being manipulated and maligned and abused?

Many people do not check the consequences of ideas and thoughts and "truths" that have been woven into our own set of prejudices. Many convince themselves that they are chosen, special or spiritual and they then set others up to be criticized, persuaded that they are on the wrong path and so much more. The case of where recently some Christians wanted to burn the Koran at a commemoration of the 911 disaster in New York, is a case in point. I wonder what these same people would have said if other religious groups burned the Bible. What is our world coming to? Prejudice - who is right and who is wrong? "You must be one of them..." was a line heard in Peter's day!

I see abuse happening in churches when adults are treated like children, where the personal obsessions of leaders are promoted, and when the 'disciples' fail to believe the same things, then they are labelled as 'different' and 'having something wrong' with them! Most of us have heard leaders who make their own inner convictions sound like age old and tested theology from the safety of "their" pulpit.

The fact that we have over 2000 different denominations (and counting!) in South Africa is proof that we have had at least 2000 disagreeing people on matters of doctrine. These issues range from how many times they must be dunked under the water during a baptism, to the inconsequential thing of how much water to use! History has record disagreements such as these as a matter of fact. Those who propose a belief-system (interpretation and doctrine) expect their disciples to follow in quiet submission, never asking questions, and never daring to challenge the status quo. Those followers who do "step out of line" and ask questions are quickly blamed for "going against" God's anointed. What a shame! What a sad day has dawned on us!

"Take a moment," I tell the person opposite me in the coaching session, *"look at your life's storyline and plot the times that you have been expected by the ministry leadership to prove yourself right, where you had to come up with the answers that they wanted you to."* That is called dogma. Abuse is seen where people have been shamed or had to reduce their way of thinking to fall in line with the way the leadership thought on matters, supposedly given to them directly by God. How can one ever try and fight or come up against God?

Then there is the subtlety of authority. Most leaders have an ego - it is a fact of life. But then they play the "authority card" and you are expected to live by their rules that are made up as they go. It's all about power. Thomas told me he was visiting a minister in the East Rand once when he sat on the chair in the boardroom; he was told that he could not sit there as that was Dr Pastor's Chair. Even CEO's that I have been in consultation with over the past thirteen years in the corporate environment did not have a special chair in their boardroom. What a display of ego in action - special man, special chair!

Another ex-minster told me he was told, after having been fired in front of his family, that when he was bid farewell in

we all have been given the Spirit of truth

the church he was to fall *"under the power of the spirit"* when the new pastor lays hands on him. All in order for the main leader-pastor to look because he had power! Now that's abuse.

A lead pastor forcibly pushed Charles, a young youth pastor, one Sunday morning, as he was not doing what was expected of him. Church members were to register on that particular morning and Charles' mistake was that he did not comply fast enough to the pastor's liking - hence the *"man of God"* getting physical. The rest of the pastoral team stood by and watched. Some made comment to him later but were too afraid to make a career-limiting decision by challenging the lead pastor who was like a god up there somewhere in the eyes of the rest.

Peter, an associate pastor, told me that a disabled man looking for prayer to be healed, was instructed to tithe on his recently sold home, so that he could be in total obedience to God for his healing. When the lead pastor laid hands on him the question was asked yet again to ensure that his *"debt"* was paid to God. He was not healed but the church got the tithe. No refunds allowed. It was his faith that was wrong, he was told after he enquired.

Reading about all these "horror" stories one could easily be led to believe that all is bad. Fortunately that is not the case at all! There are churches in all denominations that do not use guilt or judgment as a measuring stick to abuse or coerce people to "give", "do", or "become." But abuse also includes the way the Church practises judgment on groups of people outside the ranks, such as prostitutes, same-sex orientated people and demands that they have to conform to the Bible because we say/think its right. The Church says, "This is what God says," but forget that He never condemned the prostitute before Him when He instructed those that never committed that sin to stone her. Abuse is how the Church treats poor people, discriminate against others, play games with rules and regulations, and misleading people through false teachings. Isaiah wrote, "My people are half healed because the pastors prophecy falsely "

Obviously, any kind of abuse influences the way we think and act after being emotionally, physically and spiritually battered and bruised. We need to arm ourselves with the right knowledge and as we mature, can identify abuse for what it is and protect one self from it. It seems to me that spiritual maturity is the one thing needed for us to effectively counter-act the abuse found in the Church. Let us, through making positive choices, even with the help of a coach, help to make the Church the refuge it was meant to be. Let us stand proud and say with Christ, **"This is a house of prayer!"** - a house of healthy, uplifting and encouraging communication. Let's work together to make abuse in the Church a thing of the past.

Where Are We Heading?

MELISSA ARNOLD

I look around me and see many people with a wealth of potential locked up inside of them, and the ability to reach far beyond the limits set by their circumstances. Society has begun to measure one's ability to succeed by looking at the things which, according to man, enables one to succeed. In my short lifetime of nearly twenty-three years I have learnt that this is not always the case. Everything we can touch, feel and see are all things which are perishable, whereas our dreams, goals and desires, the driving force for achieving success, lies far deeper than the eye can see.

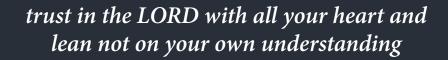
Sadly, we live in a world where people have lost faith in God, which is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. It seems that people rather place their faith in the visible and the proof of things they hope for. This results in the limiting of their imagination, their abilities, and ultimately their goals to what they can see around them. Today we are are sitting with a nation impregnated with a wealth of visions, some that can change communities, cities, and even the world, yet with inability to produce favourable results.

I believe God wants to liberate us into dreaming and reaching beyond these self-imposed limits through a genuine faith in Him. Having faith in God doesn't minimize our own frailties or incapability, but it does acknowledge that despite these God is able to fulfil the desires of our hearts. "Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this" (Psalm37:4-5).

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

To my understanding trust implies to follow God wholeheartedly, without reserve, and to channel His will into every decision and direction of one's life. So many of us have dreams and goals for our lives that does not line up with the will of God, and because we often don't seek out God's guidance we tend to become frustrated when these don't work out in the way we've imagined.

We need to reach a level of maturity where we are fully committed to the Lord to receive clear-cut direction in life. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). We need to serve Him in every aspect of our lives before we can experience the peace that comes with being aligned to the will of God. Everything we need is found in God, and when were not moving in Him we will never live a fulfilled life. We will probably never see our goals materialize or reach our full potential on earth. We were created to give glory to God, and nothing would give Him more pleasure than seeing the work of His hands succeed and flourishing, so why not trust Him? When we do we will certainly experience the pieces of our notso-figured-out-life and aspirations fall into place! We will experience the daily miracle of God turning mediocrity into an awesome display of His goodness.







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Battlefields

MICHELLE FROST

Our souls, it is said, are what make us human. Our souls are comprised of our minds, wills and emotions. Michelle Frost discovers that when our souls are in turmoil, we cannot be at peace.

It is for this very reason that our enemy will strive to keep our souls in turmoil. The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 5:8 that the **devil is a roaring lion, seeking someone he can devour**. He will not simply allow us to live victorious lives if he can cause havoc. This is why it is so important that we learn to arm ourselves in preparation for battle.

It would be foolish to stand in the front lines of a battle without ensuring that you are fully armed and prepared for the onslaught of the enemy. This is unfortunately how many Christians face each day-unprepared for the enemy's attacks.

It's vital to remember that we do not fight against flesh and blood: **"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"** (Ephesians 6:12). Now, this verse may cause fear to rise up within you but there are three things to remember:

God's word tells us that God has not given us a Spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind. It is God's will for us to live with a sound mind, free from all fear.

 $2^{\rm We}$ cannot fight the enemy in our own strength-Ephesians 6 also says that we must put on the full armour of God if we wish to stand against the devil's schemes.

Please note the word, stand. The passage doesn't say put on the full armour of God so that you can attack the devil. The word stand connotes a position of rest. Rest? I hear you ask. How can I rest in the middle of a battle? This leads me to a third point:

Svictory is already ours! That's the beauty of serving the Creator of the Universe! He does all the hard work on our behalf. He already defeated our enemy the devil when His son Jesus Christ took the sin of the world upon His shoulders on the cross and rose from the dead, three days later. So why should we fear an enemy that we have already defeated?

The problem is that the devil refuses to acknowledge that he is defeated and he wants to take as many unsuspecting casualties with him as he can. This is why it's imperative that we stand on the truth of God's word.

If we read a few verses on in Ephesians 6, we read about our role in the battle:

"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind

all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests" (Eph 6: 14-18).

Paul instructs us, in this letter, to put on the armour of God. Let's take a closer look at each piece of the armour:

The Belt of truth: Jesus said that He is the way, the TRUTH and the life. If we wish to find the truth, we need to look to Him. As we buckle the belt of truth around our waists, let us daily ask the Lord to reveal His truth to us.

The breastplate of righteousness: What an awesome piece of armour this is! The breastplate protects the heart. It is His righteousness that protects our hearts. Even when we mess up and the devil attempts to rub our failures in our faces we can remember that God's word says that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. This means that we have right standing with God. Jesus has paid the ultimate price on our behalf! *"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe"* (Rom 3:22) and 2 Corinthians 5:21 says it beautifully, *"God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God"*

Feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace: The gospel of Jesus Christ brings peace. When we have had a taste of this true peace, we will want to share it with others. As we place this part of God's armour on, let us pray and ask God for opportunities to touch the lives of those around us with His gospel and peace.

The shield of faith: Shields are used for protection. The shield of faith is invaluable to us. This passage tells us that this shield will protect us from the flaming arrows of the evil one. It is unshakable conviction in the goodness of God that will disarm every lie of the enemy.

The helmet of salvation: Much of the battle against the enemy takes place in our minds. Think about it, the devil will plant a thought in your mind-often the thought will reinforce a stronghold. For example, if he wants to throw you into a pit of despair he will remind you of all your past sins or reinforce the stronghold of rejection that has convinced you that everyone is going to let you down because you are not worthy of love. These thoughts are so subtle we don't even realize that the devil is engaged in a full-force battle against us. Romans 12:2 says, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will." In 2 Corinthians 2:16 it says that we have the mind of Christ! As the saving presence of Jesus reforms our patterns of thinking the devil's most effective attacks on the mind become powerless.

The sword of the Spirit: This is our only offensive weapon. In other words, knowing God's word and declaring it is one of the best ways to stand our ground and remind the devil that the victory has already been won. Please note however, that it is the sword of the Spirit; the full power of the written word is unleashed when it is wielded in cooperation with the dynamic movement of the Holy Spirit.

The passage in Ephesians ends off by saying that we need to pray in the Spirit at all times. It even says: Be alert and always keep on praying for the saints. This is the key factor when dealing with spiritual warfare. Let us continuously pray and not let our guard down. The Lord has already done all the work for us, but may we not be caught sleeping on the battlefield. Let us put on His armour and prayerfully stand our ground!

More Than Meets The Eye

LISA BEVERE

"Trials teach us what we are; they dig up the soil and let us see what we are made of." -Charles Spurgeon

I agree with Charles Spurgeon: Trials are indeed a revelation. They are meant to be our teachers, revealing our true condition. When we encounter trials, we have the choice of what kind of student we want to be. Despite my imperfections, I want to do life well. I have the power to choose whether tests and trials will serve as messengers or simply leave me looking messy.

Continuing with the concept of trials as teachers, hear what Solomon had to share: *"In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: surely God has appointed the one as well as the other"* (Ecclesiastes 7:14 NKJV). When life is going well, it's easy to be joyful. However, when life is difficult, we resort to complaining - at least, I do. This is a common response in times of trial, but here we are challenged to have a fresh perspective regarding adversity.

Solomon encouraged us to pause and consider - because when considering adversity, there is always more than meets the eye. Citing Spurgeon on trials once again, he shared, *"I've learned to kiss the wave that slammed me into the rock."* He is not referring to a rocky coastline but Christ the rock. Each day is a new opportunity to determine how we will respond to life's waves. Learning to *"kiss the wave"* means that we appreciate the lessons to be learned and the growth that results as we allow God to have His way in and through the chisel of adversity!

If we become defensive, then any issue that comes to light will remain a problem. If we humble ourselves, then the trial allows the Holy Spirit to increase our depth and therefore our capacity for godliness. Depth cannot be purchased - it must be pursued. It comes when we are brave enough to be honest. In that sense, depth is more like a muscle that is developed through consistent use.

The challenges of life reveal what we are made of without undermining who we are. Trials position us to grow more Christlike and therefore unshakable. They clear the ground and remove what impedes future growth. These encounters serve to refine and prepare us for future potential.

Trials are indeed teachers. What type of student will you be?

Lisa Bevere's authentic, passionate, and witty teachings weave profound biblical truths with practical application. A New York Times best-selling author, her books are in the hands of millions worldwide. Lisa and her husband John, who's also a best-selling author and teacher, are the founders of Messenger International. the challenges of life reveal what we are made of without undermining who we are

What Are You Made Of?

ALEX & LAUREN BOURGOS

What are you made of? While there is an abundance of answers to this very open-ended question, I would like to direct you to a very simple answer: As humans, we can divide our make-up into three distinct parts: spirit, soul and body. There is not one person exempt from this trio, though there are many who do not understand their individual functions.

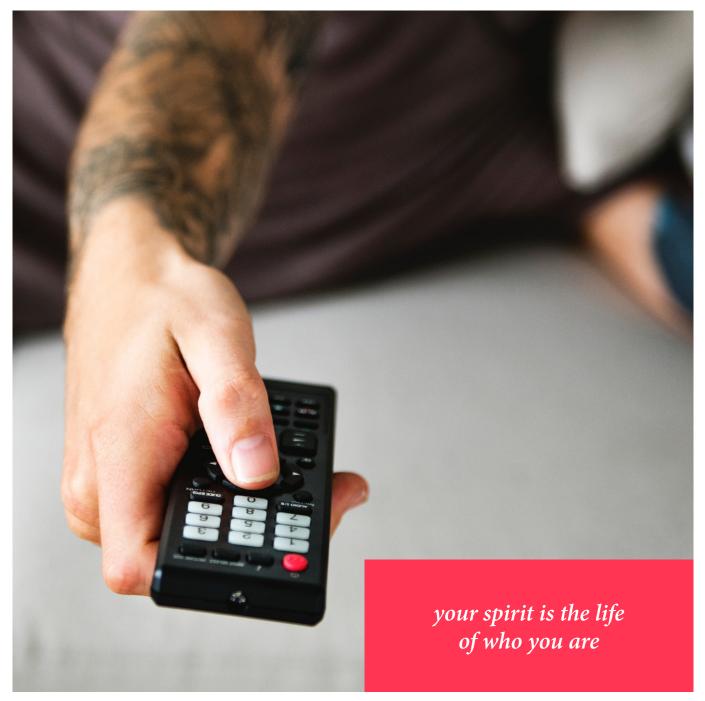
Here is the deal: first and foremost, you are a **SPIRIT** being, you have a **SOUL** and you live in a **BODY**. Most of the time, people get it backwards. They think, "*I am a body, I live through my soul, and I have a spirit somewhere in there.*" If we begin to dissect our lives and re-evaluate our priorities we can get somewhere in knowing who we are in Christ and what our life looks like through His eyes.

Let's start with spirit - your spirit is the life of who you are. In Genesis [2:6-8], when God **"breathed into Adam the breath of life"**, He gave Him life. It's kind of like He turned on the electricity. Without a spirit, you would be dead. It's your spirit that causes your body and your soul to function. You can't live without your spirit - just ask someone who is six feet under!

Moving on to the body - the body is your "earth suit", also known as your "birthday suit". It's the wardrobe you put on when you came into this world and when you leave [as in when you die], your spirit will slip out of it its "earth suit" in the similar manner that you take off a pair of jeans. Our body is the vehicle that transports our spirit and our soul while we hang out on this planet. When you really look at it, our body has the least to do with who we are as people, yet our society gives it excessive, obsessive emphasis. Now your soul is made up three things as well: your mind, will and emotions. I like to think of it as the "remote control" of your life. Your mind, will and emotions dictate what you are going to get out of life based on which "buttons" are pressed. Your soul is controlled by your five senses - by what you see, hear, feel, taste and smell. However, it is up to you to choose what you allow your soul to have access to. If you allow your "remote" to have access to the X-rated channels, both figuratively and literally speaking, it's not going to go well with you. It is our CHOICE to disable certain harmful "features" in our life.

Now with that said, we live in a world in which our minds, wills and emotions (our souls) are constantly bombarded by pollutants sent to drag us down a very wrong path. These pollutants may come through bad relationships, offense, negative media, etc ... the stuff of life that everyone goes through to some degree or another. Has anyone ever sat on your remote and changed the channel before? Hello! Things happen from time to time, but just because something happens outside of your control, does not mean that you must succumb to the victim mentality and allow it to derail you from your path of righteousness. Just because someone sits on my remote or presses my buttons and changes the channel from 'Joyce Meyer' to 'Days of Our Lives', it sure doesn't mean I am just going to sit there and watch that garbage! No way! I am ultimately in control of my mind, will, and emotions and I must choose to use them for righteousness. If someone came to rob your house of all its possessions, would you kindly let them in and offer them a cup of tea? No way! You would fight with everything within you to keep them out and to protect your home.

My friend, it is exactly the same with our soul. When pollutants come, when the desires of your flesh come, when bad thoughts come - and I assure you, they will



- don't just lie down and play dead. That is no longer who you are. Tell them to GET OUT. The same way you would defend your home or your family from an abusive intruder - by all means, defend your soul from the daily evils that would attempt to intrude. 2 Corinthians 5:17 remind us: **"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."**

So, how do these three - spirit, soul and body - work together? The only way we can live this life for Christ is to live it in Christ! We have to allow the Holy Spirit to have control of not only our spirit, but also our soul. How about you let Him *"push your buttons"*! However, giving Him control is a daily choice. Paul shows us what that looks like in the scripture below:

Paul urges us, "I appeal to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]." (Romans 12:1).

Remember, you are a spirit, you have a soul, and you live in a body. When those three parts of your being are surrendered to God, there is not stopping His plan for your life!

I Think So I Am

TRACY TREDREA

Tracy Tredrea explores the fact that everything we see as *'action'* in our life, started out as a mere thought...

Everything we do starts from a thought. Everything we say originates from a thought. Our choices are routed in our thoughts. Our actions are a result of our thoughts. What you are wearing right now is based on what you were thinking this morning when you got dressed. What you ate for breakfast today is a direct result of what you were thinking of eating. Our lives, our choices, our fears, our successes, are all a reflection of what we think.

Your brain is a remarkable machine. God designed our brains to process every feeling, smell, taste, touch and visual stimulation in such a way that your thoughts are formed which then result in your actions. Here is a basic example. You are sitting on a warm day in the sun 'thinking' what a beautiful warm day it is. Suddenly a freezing cold wind from nowhere comes flying towards you. You feel the cold. Think to yourself it has become cold. Then run inside and fetch a jersey because it is now cold. External stimuli resulted in a thought which resulted in an action. Another example. You wake up in the morning feeling tired. You think to yourself, "I am so tired." And the rest of the day you can barely keep your eyes open because you are so tired. What you think results in the way you are, whether that is from an external factor or not. Your thoughts determine who you are.

Proverbs 23:7 says, **"As a man thinketh, so is he."** You think you are cold – then you are cold. You think you are tired, and you will be tired. You think you are feeling depressed, you will be! God has designed us this way. Whatever you think, you are. With this understanding we must then start to not only control our actions but to control our thoughts. If your thoughts determine who you become, then managing what you allow yourself to think should become more of a priority than ever.

Jesus explained this concept even further in the book of Matthew chapter 5 from verses 21-30. Up until this point, the people believed that only if they committed a crime such as adultery or murder were they liable to suffer the penalties of it. However Jesus shocks them by saying that even if you are angry with someone that you will be subject to the same judgment as someone who commits murder! He continued by saying that if you look lustfully at someone it's the same as having committed adultery! Your thoughts, in other words, are powerful. So often we believe that as long as no one knows what we are thinking then it is fine. But the truth is that Jesus knows our every thought. (Matthew 9:4). We cannot escape the fact that your every thought is accountable to the knowledge of Jesus Himself.

Recently I was counseling a young woman who is battling with severe thoughts of lust. She is consumed with it to the point where she believes she cannot stop herself. These thoughts of lust have led to a lifestyle of evil thinking and self satisfaction and are robbing her from the joy and pleasure of sexual intimacy which God intended for us as humans to experience in marriage. As we started talking, God showed me a picture of a bird flying over her head. This bird was circling around her head. It then came and settled upon her head and started to build a nest. The Lord showed me that we cannot stop the enemy from trying to place his evil thoughts of lust or greed or anger or sin in our minds. The enemy will do whatever he can to try destroy you through your thoughts. However, we can stop

WALK THE TALK GIRLS 37



accept this gift and control your thinking

him from settling in our heads and building a nest there. So let's get practical about this.

When the idea / thought of lust comes into your head you then have a choice. You can choose to accept the thought and start building on it, by continuing the fantasy. You can allow that thought to take root and ultimately determine how you will behave. Or, you can take captive the thought, refuse it any further entry into your mind and rebuke the enemy (2 Corinthians 10:5). You can stop the bird from nesting in your head! It's your choice. That is where free will comes into play. Likewise, you can wake up in the morning and 'feel' depressed. You then have a choice. You can choose to let the bird of depression nest in your head, climb back into bed and let the enemy win. Or you can choose to pull that thought down and refuse to allow it to take root in your mind. Instead replacing it with God's way of thinking - "the joy of the Lord is my strength!"

Your thoughts do determine who you are. So choose wisely about what you think. When you feel yourself starting to think in a destructive way, steer yourself immediately into thinking towards God's ways. Meditate on God's words. Sing songs which will cause your mind to become focused on Jesus. Allow the Holy Spirit's gift of self-control to rise up within you. Accept this gift and control your thinking, remembering that you are what you think!

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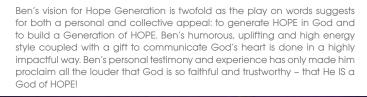
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Andrew Wommack is the founder of Andrew Wommack Ministry International (AWMI). In 1968, after a life of legalism, Andrew experienced God's presence, which flooded him with love. "God's love consumed me," he says. "When I was at my worst, God's love was the strongest." He has since ministered with the vision to teach the truth of the Gospel to the body of Christ throughout the world, with special emphasis on God's unconditional love and the balance between grace and faith.



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AT 16H00-16H30





Bishop Jackson is Senior Pastor of Hope Christian Church in the Washington, DC, area and serves as the presiding Bishop of International Communion of Evangelical Churches. The vision of Hope Connection is to empower families with hope and destiny through prayer, worship and the Word. He is committed to advancing the Kingdom of God; developing God-given potential in order for others to win in every area of their lives; and turning the heart of youth and families to God and each other. Hosting the Supernatural is a talk show based program hosted by Apostle Nicky van der Westhuizen. This show will teach you how to host the supernatural in your personal daily lives! Apostle Nicky has been in fulltime ministry over 20years; he is the founder and Senior Pastor of NBCFC.

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	MONDAY	MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	FRIDAY				
00h00		The 700 Club Nigeria							
00h30	Jewish Jesus [R]	Christ For All Nations [R]	REAL with Diego Mesa [R]	#TheGoodNewsTVShow [R]	One Cubed Naija [R]				
01h00	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	Wisdom For Life - Allan Bagg							
01h30	Hope for Every Home - Hettie Brittz [R]	Believer's Walk Of Faith - Bill Winston							
02h00	LegacyTV - Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons		Believer's Voice Of Victory - Kenneth Copeland						
02h30	Pressing Matters - Afrika Mhlophe [R]	Living Life - Theo Wolmarans							
03h00		LIVE BIG - Derek Grier [R] In Touch - Charles Stanley REAL with Diega Mesa [R] Abba's House - Ro							
03h30	Faith an Fire (D)	Now Faith - John Torrens	Following Jesus - Tommy Lilja	Manna-Fest - Perry Stone	Zola Levitt with Myles Weiss				
04h00	Faith on Fire [R]	Celebrate Life - Tom Deuschle [R]	Ever Increasing Faith - Fred Price	Hillsong - Brian Houston	CHOOSE LIFE - John Roebert				
04h30		CHOOSE LIFE - John Roebert	Zola Levitt with Myles Weiss	Following Jesus - Tommy Lilja [R]	Manna-Fest - Perry Stone				
05h00	Discover Life - At Boshoff [R]	Following Jesus - Tommy Lilja [R]	Planetshakers TV [R]	Prophetic Encounter - J. vd West.	The Messenger - J&L Bevere [R]				
05h30	Shaping Your Destiny [R]	Christian V	Vorld News	Real Women, Real Life - T. Tredrea [R]	Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza [R]				
06h00			Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar		·				
06h30									
07h00									
07h30	Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez								
08h00		Belie	ver's Voice Of Victory - Kenneth Cope	land					
08h30	Answers with Bayless Conley [R]	Higher Life - Jenny Roebert [R]	Brand New You - Luke Brugger	Inspire - Mark Sarver	Legacy TV - Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons				
09h00		I	Enjoying Everyday Life - Joyce Meyer						
09h30									
10h00									
10h30			Gospel Truth - Andrew Wommack						
11h00			Quick Study - Rod Hembree						
11h30	LIVE BIG - Derek Grier	LIVE BIG - Derek Grier In Touch - Charles Stanley The Hope Connection [R] Abundant Life		Abundant Life Today - Walter Hallam [R]	Elijah's List - Steve Shultz				
12h00			The 700 Club						
12h30			Creasereste Angue Duchen						
13h00			Grassroots - Angus Buchan						
13h30	Walk in the Word	The Jewish Jesus -	Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza Faithlift - Prophetic Encounter		Love Israel -				
14h00	- James MacDonald	Kirt Schneider [R]	Glenn Arekion	- J. vd Westhuizen	Baruch Korman				
14h30	Higher Life - Jenny Roebert [R]	Everlasting Love TV - Patricia King	Preacher of Righteousness - Mark T. Barclay	Miracles Happen - John Hunter	Power Encounter - Donna Schambach				
15h00	Paws & Tales	The Dooley and Pals Show	BJ's Teddy Bear Club	RocKids TV	Truth Quake				
15h30	The Revolution TV	Superbook	KidsHubTv	Celebrate Life - Tom & Bonnie Deuschle	TV One Life - Sean Park				
16h00	MXTV - Tim Bisagno	Turning Point International	End of the Age - Irvin Baxter	Youth Bytes - Chad Daniel	Hope Generation - Ben Courson				
16h30	Believer's Voice Of Victory - Kenneth Copeland								
17h00									
17h30	One Cubed Naija			The Secret Place - Christopher Lynn					
18h00	One Cubed Naija Pressing Matters - Afrika Mhlophe Faith Matters Manna-Fest - Perry Stone The Secret Place - Christopher It's Supernatural - Sid Roth It's								
18h30	Jentezen Franklin	Watchmen on the Wall	Now Faith - John Torrens [R]	The Messenger - J&L Bevere	Monumental - Kirk Cameron				
		Legacy TV -	Till All Have Heard -	Higher Life -	Hope for Every Home				
19h00	Behind the Faith [R]	Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	Patricia Bailey	Jenny Roebert - Hettie Brittz					
19h30	Faith Matters - André & Jenny		Jonathan Sh	nuttlesworth					
19h57			FRESH with Berni Dymet						
20h00	Hour of Salvation - David Ibiyeomie								
20h30	Enjoying Everyday Life - Joyce Meyer								
21h00	Following Jesus - Tommy Lilja	Illowing Jesus - Tommy Lilja Prophetic Encounter - J. vd West. Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza [R] Reigning as Kings - Basil Tryon Now Faith - John Torrens							
21h30	Hosting the Supernatural - Nicky van der Westhuizen								
22h00		Supernatural Now - Guillermo Maldonado							
22h30	Brand New You - Luke Brugger [R]	Jentezen Franklin [R]	Freshdew Rick Renner		The Jewish Jesus				
23h00	Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez [R]								
23h30	Winning Ways - Matthew Ashimolowo								



SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
The Great Awakening -	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	00h00
Rodney Howard-Browne [R]	Hope for Every Home - Hettie Brittz [R]	00h30
Wisdom For Life - Allan Bagg [R]	Turning Point - David Jeremiah [R]	01h00
Believer's Walk Of Faith - B.Winston [R]	Elevation Experience [R]	01h30
Believer's Voice Of Victory - K. Copeland		02h00
Living Life - Theo Wolmarans [R]	Faith on Fire [R]	02h30
The Glory Road		03h00
Answer with Bayless Conley [R]		03h30
	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	04h00
	Hope for Every Home - Hettie Brittz [R]	04h30
Faith on Fire [R]	Ever Increasing Faith - Fred Price [R]	05h00
	Shaping Your Destiny - Mike Aphane	05h30
Behind the Faith [R]	Reformation3 TV	06h00
Faith Matters - André & Jenny [R]	Hosting the Supernatural - N vd Westhuizen	06h30
Superbook [R]	The Great Awakening - Rodney	07h00
Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez	Howard Browne	07h30
The Living Stone - Edgar Holder	Jesse Duplantis Ministries	08h00
Planetshakers TV	Jerry Savelle Ministries	08h30
Keys to Breakthrough - Debbie Rich	Faith Worship @ The River	09h00
Hillsong - Brian Houston	LIVE	09h30
On the Living Edge - Mark Chironna		10h00
The Miraculous - Wessel du Bruyn	Faith Matters - André & Jenny	10h30
Winning Walk - Ed Young Sr.	The Supernatural Now - Maldonado	11h00
CHOOSE LIFE - John Roebert	Christ For All Nations - D. Kolenda	11h30
Pressing Matters - Afrika Mhlophe [R]	It's Supernatural - Sid Roth	12h00
Real Women, Real Life - Tracy Tredrea	Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar	12h30
The Messenger - J & L Bevere [R]	Doxa Deo	13h00
Jentezen Franklin [R]		13h30
Faith Alive - Ted Shuttlesworth	The Hope Connection - Harry Jackson	14h00
Answers - Bayless Conley	Turning Point - David Jeremiah	14h30
UnderDogZone - Renier Weideman	The Jewish Jesus	15h00
The Cross - Miki Hardy	Ever Increasing Faith - Fred Price	15h30
Bloom Today - Paula Wallace	Building Championships - K. Ulmer	16h00
One Cubed Naija [R]	Enjoying Everyday Life - J. Meyer	16h30
Celebrate Life - Tom Deuschle	In Touch - Charles Stanley	17h00
Creation Today - Eric Hovind	Believer's Walk Of Faith - B.Winston	17h30
Faith Life Church - Keith Moore	Believer's Voice Of Victory - Kenneth & Gloria Copeland	18h00
Save The World - Jarrod Davidoff	Discover Life - At Boshoff	18h30
Hour of Salvation - David Ibiyeomie	Sunday Praise	19h00
Rhema Church - Kenneth Hagin Jr. FRESH with B	erni Dymet	19h30
		20h00
		20h30
Faith on Fire [R]	Faith on Fire [R]	21h00
		21h30
Discover Life - At Boshoff [R]	Abba's House - Ron Phillips	22h00
Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza	Love Israel - Baruch Korman	22h30
Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez	Faith Life Church - Keith Moore [R]	23h00
#TheGoodNewsTVShow	Answers with Bayless Conley [R]	23h30





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Walk in the Word James MacDonald

MON-FRI 01:00 PM

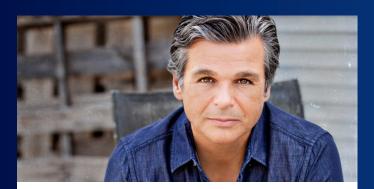
James MacDonald is the Founding and Senior Pastor of Harvest Bible Chapel. His teaching ministry aims to ignite passion in the people of God though the unapologetic proclamation of His Word.



It's Supernatural Sid Roth

MON-FRI 11:00 AM / 08:00 PM

Investigative Reporter, Sid Roth, verifies the supernatural. His desire is for all people to know Jesus and deals with subjects that most shy away from in this sensitive age. Sid also tells viewers how they can have intimacy with God.



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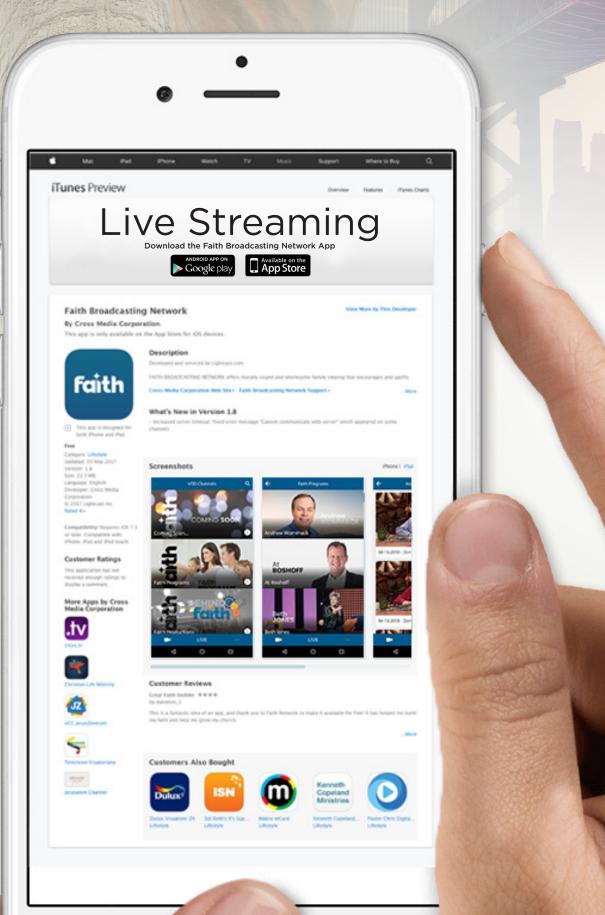


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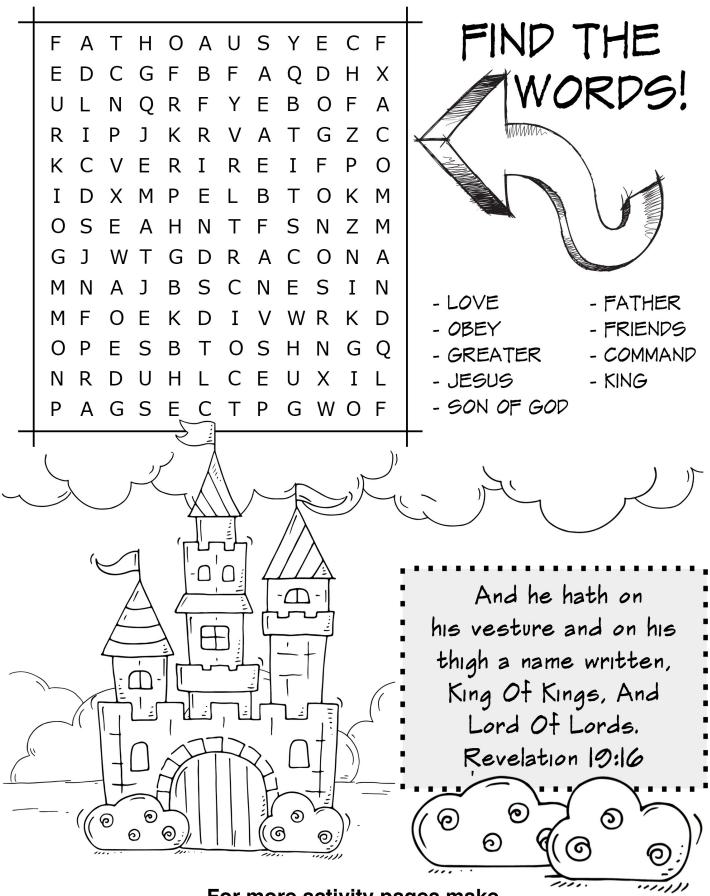












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BER 2018	02	Psalm 31:24
2	03	Psalm 71:5
~	04	Psalm 71:14
<u> </u>	05	Psalm 119:49
	06	Proverbs 10:28
	07	Proverbs 23:18
NON	08	Jeremiah 17:7
	09	Jeremiah 29:11-13
	10	Jeremiah 31:16-17
	11	Lamentations 3:21-22
	12	Lamentations 3:24
	13	Ezekiel 3:11-12
(00)	14	Zechariah 9:12
	15	Acts 2:25-26
5	16	Acts 17:26-28
2	17	Romans 4:18
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A C	21	Ephesians 4:4-5
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- John -	25	Hebrews 6:19-20
	26	Hebrews 7:18-19
	27	Hebrews 10:23
	28	1 Peter 1:13
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