

myFaith

magazine

YOUR HOME OF VARIETY CHRISTIAN
ENTERTAINMENT

OCTOBER 2018



*“To everything
there is a season,”*

HE IS PROMISING YOU THAT WHATEVER YOU ARE GOING THROUGH CAN ONLY LAST A SEASON.
SEASONS CHANGE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, CHRIST IS UNCHANGING AND EVERLASTING.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

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FROM THE EDITOR

WALDO MALAN

Allow me to borrow a story from the comedian Ken Davis that describes a little about me and gives a good background to the October issue, which focuses on sport and some other issues. I know that God has a great sense of humour because he gave me a fiercely competitive nature together with the hand-eye coordination of a turtle. No laughing, this is serious! Ever since I can remember balls terrified me because they came flying at me out of nowhere; when I tried (even today) to kick a ball that is stationary on the ground, my foot somehow manages to slice more air than leather; I try my best to play cricket, rugby, tennis, badminton and golf with my son, but I can see the puzzled expression on his face each time his dad (his hero) misses the swing or kick. This natural ineptitude has often made me wonder about the abilities of great sportsmen. (I suppose to be PC I should say sports persons). How much can be learnt after raw talent runs out? Is there a programme that can help a person such as myself become better (or even good) at some type of sport? I guess the real question for me is how much of a performance can we alter; how is it possible for us to still break sporting records – I mean, the 100m sprint can surely not be run any faster, or can it?

Apart from technique, performance enhancers and better equipment, the sporting arena and man's fascination with it is a topic all on its own. Why do most societies consider men who are not involved with physical sport as a 'lesser breed'? Why is it that companies will spend billions of rands on advertising for sport and at sporting events and deny the same treatment for the arts or even spiritual events? Since we have been created as worshippers I find the idolizing of sport and personalities a concern; if we will not deem to worship the Creator then we will find something else to make the centre of our attention. What makes the dividing line even more difficult to define is society's stamp of approval on the idolization process. I know that this



type of idolization is not only limited to the sporting arena and that actors, politicians and religious leaders have the same power to attract attention to themselves; however, we may find some interesting answers when we decide to research these and other related phenomena.

I referred to our Creator and the way in which we were formed – as the homo sapiens species. What does this really mean? The often-quoted passage in Genesis gives us the blueprint and outline of our unique composition and purpose: we are created just like God and we are given the choice to be like Him. Many times, we are under the impression that being created in the “image” of God make us automatically, fully-God proactive – but this is not so. Image simply means we have the characteristics of God in-built. So, when we see that God is love, then we also know what we are capable of. When we see, that God is faithful, merciful and kind, then we know exactly how we too can conduct ourselves. However, this is where the gift of “likeness” enters the equation: we must choose to live like God. We can't change who we are, but we can change the way we live. Now when we live like God we are true to His request, **“Be holy because I Am holy.”** This is the ultimate expression of true worship.

Now when we worship God, truly and spiritually, can we still idolize anything else? Sport? People? Church? Well, today we may see as a child, tomorrow like a young adult, but ultimately as wise people; no matter where we find ourselves in this journey of discovery we need to determine the destination, and along the way make sure our GPS is still tuned in to the final coordinates. “And where do we find the coordinates,” you may ask; well, isn't that built into the fibres of our being according to the exact instructions on our blueprint?

So, fellow readers and thinkers, blog me your thoughts and musings and let us challenge one another even as we are ourselves challenged. If we are willing to engage in the debate we will hopefully discover in the process that we are indeed fearfully and wonderfully made.

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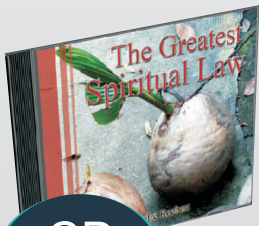
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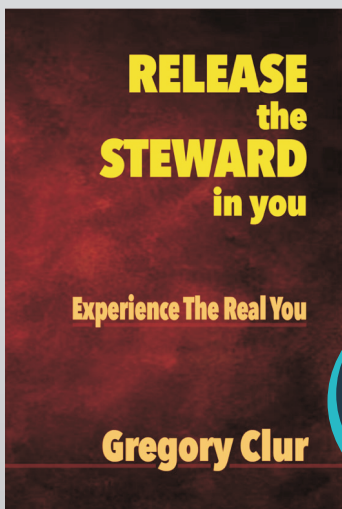
In this teaching we will learn how our thoughts; words; attitudes and actions all play a vital role in establishing God's blessing in our lives. May this message inspire you to take God's word to heart and actively apply His kingdom principles to your every day life.

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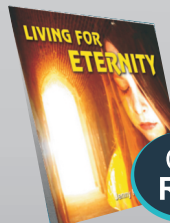
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Treasure Hunt

ANDRÉ & JENNY ROEBERT

Proverbs 3:15 ***"Skilful and godly Wisdom is more precious than rubies; and nothing you can wish for is to be compared to her."***

I have discovered treasure! Not just any treasure, I found the principal treasure of all treasures that is guaranteed to keep a person enriched, every single day, for as long as they draw breath!

It's the wisdom of God, and the more I dig into this treasure, the more wealth I discover, and it makes me want to burst with excitement and joy! I know it will keep me ahead in all God has for me and above every challenge and obstacle that comes my way!

I feel a little like the person who was inspired to write Psalm 103:2 - ***"Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all His benefits..."*** The Word of God, which is His wisdom, has endless benefits when we give ourselves to it and let it live richly in our hearts.

Colossians 3:16 ***"Let the word [spoken by] Christ (the Messiah) have its HOME [IN YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS] and DWELL IN YOU IN [all its] RICHNESS ."***

One of the many benefits of the Wisdom of God, is its ability to shine light on our path of life. In fact, it's all the light we will ever need, especially when we charter new ground, or need direction where there just seems to be no possible way to go. Where others see a blank wall of

impossibility, God shows us a highway of opportunity! What really impresses me, is how God's Wisdom isn't just there for the BIG decisions, it's a light for every choice we make from the moment we wake in the morning, till we lay our heads down at night. Even in the wee hours of the morning, when our minds are assaulted with fearful thoughts, God's wisdom teaches us to shut the door to those voices and immediately find our shelter in Him.

Now, I have found Psalm 119 to be a wonderful contribution to the treasure of God's Word. It's overflowing with exquisite wealth for our everyday lives. I began to feast my heart and mind on its jewels, and found its wisdom delightful! It is a rather lengthy Psalm, overflowing with riches. So, this letter alone will never be able to contain all the discoveries I've found. Could I entice you, dear reader, to find one specific gem amongst its many, and record what the Holy Spirit has revealed to you about it - this not only solidifies and establishes itself more securely inside you when you do so, it becomes a point of reference for the future - when you need to be reminded of its truth. My prayer, is that the Holy Spirit - the author of this treasure, will reveal its magnificence to you and cause it to dwell in your heart and produce the finest, most exquisite character and nature in you, a perfect reflection of the person of Jesus.

*Skilful and godly Wisdom is more precious than rubies;
and nothing you can wish for is to be compared to her*



Faith Versus Fear

JOYCE MEYER

What is your biggest fear? What is that fear preventing you from doing? Does that fear steal your confidence? Does it make you feel insecure? Fear can make you think and feel a lot of things. In fact, fear always makes things seem worse than they really are.

When my husband, Dave, and I were first married and I was pregnant with our oldest daughter, we lived in a house that had some mice. Although we would occasionally see mice around the house, it wasn't a problem because Dave was always around to deal with them. But one day, when Dave was away at work, I went into the bathroom and saw a mouse in the bathtub.

Well, I just freaked out! I grabbed the first thing I could find - the plunger - and managed to trap the mouse under it in the tub. I was petrified. I ran out of the bathroom and closed the door. Then I got some rope, put the rope around the bathroom door and stretched it over and put it around the bedroom door. Then I stretched it around another door for good measure.

After that, I ran to the kitchen and climbed up on top of the table. I had so much fear, I actually thought that little mouse was going to get out of the bathroom. I was so scared, I had to call Dave to come home and take care of that mouse for me. Believe me, I know that fear can make you do some pretty ridiculous things.

It's been said that F-E-A-R stands for False Evidence Appearing Real. You have to remember that fear comes

from the devil, but faith comes from God. It's almost like every good thing that God tries to give us, the enemy tries to ruin it with some kind of poison. Put another way, every poison that Satan tries to bring into our lives, God has the antidote, and the antidote for the poison of fear is faith.

We also need to remember that everything God has is better and more powerful than anything the devil has. First John 4:4 says, ***He Who lives in you (God) is greater (mightier) than he who is in the world. Faith is greater than fear!***

You may think you have more fear than you can handle. You may think you don't have any faith at all. But that's just not true. Romans 12:3 says, ***For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith*** (King James Version).

Notice that the verse says "**every man**" has the measure of faith. Not some men...every man, woman, child, young and old. And "**the measure of faith**" means that everyone, including you, has enough faith to do whatever God has called you to do, no matter what your life holds.

God has already given you the faith to walk in victory over everything you'll face in life - whatever you are facing right now, whatever's coming up, and even those things you don't yet know about.

But that faith does you no good if you don't know how to release it. So how do you release it? You release it through your faith-filled thoughts and words, through your actions, and of course, through prayer. You can't just sit around



God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith

thinking fearful thoughts and walk in faith at the same time. What you think about is very important. What you allow yourself to meditate on is very important.

You see, your enemy, the devil, will always try to steal your faith by getting you to believe your fearful thoughts. But you can overcome the enemy by thinking about and declaring the Word of God, which says if God be for me, who can be against me? And if God is on my side, whom

shall I fear? We also need to say many times throughout the day, ***“God, I trust You.”***

When you rise up in faith, believing that God will do the things He’s promised, you can overcome the fear that tries to stop you. Remember, for every poison the devil tries to bring into your life, God has the antidote, and the antidote for fear is your faith in God.

The Body *Of Christ*

ANGUS BUCHAN

Mark 3:13–19

In the Gospel according to Mark we read how Jesus appointed 12 disciples to follow Him, and to go out and declare the good news with the power to heal sickness and cast out demons.

These twelve men impacted the world like never before, yet among them there was one who betrayed the Lord (Judas), one who denied the Lord (Peter) and another who doubted the resurrection (Thomas). In spite of their shortcomings they were still empowered by the Holy Spirit to change the world. We are experiencing this same world changing power in our beloved South Africa!

I've just returned from Bloemfontein where we saw the power of God manifest as we saw men, women, and children repent from a spirit of pride. No matter where we go thousands are turning to the Lord for the first time.

People often ask me if we are thinking about starting a Mighty Men organization - God forbid. We have enough Christian organizations, institutions, denominations as it is. The current revival we are experiencing is all about God achieving it with people, like myself, who are accountable to those they minister to. While I belong to a local congregation, I also have intimate fellowship with different church groupings and denominations; it seems that people from all walks of life are getting together to usher in the Kingdom of God. I was speaking to a man at the Bloemfontein campaign who told me of different denominations from ten towns that are praying together.

Groups of ladies are praying for our Lord to intervene in our nation to bring peace and holiness all over. Young people on fire for God are working in the areas where they live - we are in revival!

Recently I spoke to 2500 men at a meeting in Worcester, England, of whom nearly 800 were South Africans. I also spoke at a huge cathedral in the London square mile to a predominantly Afrikaans speaking crowd. It seems that God is using South Africans all over the world to propagate His Word, to pray for the sick, and to see revival come. Many of these people are not theologians, but like the disciples are comprised of, among others, tax collectors, swindlers, and blaspheming fisherman.

I thank God for theologians and teachers of the Word that keep us concentrated on the principles of Christianity, but we are in need of evangelists to speak the simple truth and introduce people to the man from Nazareth. The excitement and love they find when meeting Christ personally will automatically draw them to the church. Remember, evangelism is simply one hungry beggar showing another hungry beggar where to find bread! Jesus showed the disciples where to find bread and then sent them out to find the hungry people; nothing has changes since Jesus wants us to do the same today.

*God is using South Africans all over the world
to propagate His Word, to pray for the sick,
and to see revival come*



Advertising Your Business

A Great Message Isn't Enough

PHIL COOKE

Most communicators think that having a great message secures 90% of the consumer engagement battle. It seems that people in the non-profit, advocacy, or religious media worlds, often focus entirely on the message. Their thinking is that if the message is powerful and compelling, it will find the audience. But nothing could be further from the truth. Having a great message is important, but what the advertising world knows that others don't is that you have to build pathways to your audience. Business leaders understand the concept as building pathways to your customer. The fact is, having a compelling message matters, but in today's media-driven, distracted, competitive culture, it's getting more and more difficult for your audience to find you.

Advertisers know they have to find their audience. That's why they're always looking for more effective media tools, from online video to kiosks inside stores to better media buys, or direct mail. Sometimes it's about putting their message in the most unusual places.

Start thinking about better pathways to your customer, consumer, donor, or audience. Always be alert to tweak those avenues to reach your audience more effectively. Find experts who can help, and listen to their advice. Make sure your message is right, but that's only the beginning; because no matter how life changing your message may be, if no one's listening, you've failed.



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to your customer,
consumer, donor, or
audience*

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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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Beyond Adventure

The Age of Narcissism

MELANIE VOIGT

When I was at university I did an English course where we analysed magazines published for women. Although these magazines were all aimed at different age groups and social classes, I found that they all printed similar articles. Almost every article had a major focus on looking out for number one - yourself. These articles contained phrases like: ***"Make decisions that will make YOU happy,"*** ***"Make sure he gives YOU what YOU want or divorce him"*** or ***"Give money to charity, it will make YOU feel good."*** Everything was aimed at making the reader feel like she was in charge of her own destiny and that her main focus should be on ensuring that she is fulfilled.

I'm not saying that all women's magazines are like that, or that men's magazines don't publish similar articles. In fact all one has to do is switch on the television and watch one of these day time talk shows to hear the message that we need to love ourselves and fight for our own happiness. Teenagers seem to thrive on this message. It's the age of instant gratification (I want this now and don't care what it could do to me in the future) and narcissism. We are becoming a people so insanely obsessed with ourselves that we forget about other people.

It's very easy to get caught in the trap of narcissism. Not only is the media promoting it, but it's also very easy for us to make situations about ourselves. When things go wrong we tend to internalise it. We ask ourselves ***"Why did this have to happen to ME?"*** or ***"Why is everyone always out to get ME?"*** I know that this has happened

to me many times. But we need to realise and constantly remind ourselves of that incredibly true statement: ***"It's not about you!"***

We were not created to be narcissists. We were made by God, for God. He gave us particular gifts so that we could do what He has planned for us to do. Our sinful nature wants us to be selfish and self-loving but when we choose God as our Lord and saviour, we are no longer slaves to our sinful nature. We realise that we have a greater purpose which is way bigger than our selfish longings. In Mark 8:34+35 Jesus says: ***"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and the gospel will save it."*** It's not easy, but it's what we are called to do.

How do we prevent ourselves from becoming narcissists? Firstly we need to realise that God's plans are way bigger and way more important than ours. We need to start to see our worth through Him. We have got great worth not because of who we are but because of whose we are. We need to look at ourselves with humility. A good way to do this is to read the Bible. It teaches us about what God's plans are for our lives and is a reminder that everything we do, our lives, are for His glory. We've also got to spend time with Him, asking Him to help us get over ourselves. When we pray we need to try not to focus so much on what we want or need, but on praising God for who He is.

Another way of getting over ourselves is by serving others. In this way, we're serving God, helping others and learning to put other people before ourselves. Step out of your comfort zone and do something completely selfless. Find



a way to help out at church or help a friend who is going through a rough time. It's amazing how God can use us when we take our minds off ourselves and look to help others.

There will be times when you start to feel the narcissism return but in those times remember John the Baptist. He was sent to prepare the way for Jesus just like we have been sent to share Him with the world. In John 3:30 when speaking about Jesus he said: ***"He must become greater, I must become less."*** Let's adopt that attitude. As we take our eyes off ourselves and our attention off all the things we are going through, may we look up and remember that actually it's all about Him!

*We have a greater
purpose which is way
bigger than our selfish
longings*

The Prince

DARREL HOFLAND

I remember seeing this album name from a South African Band (Crash Car Burn): ***"This City needs a Hero."***

And it has been a catchy slogan in my head for a while and when I thought about writing this article that line was my driving inspiration. This city needs a Hero. This world needs a Saviour.

In most fairytales we find a damsel in distress and then a knight in shining armour or a Prince Charming, who comes riding in on his horse to the rescue. Now with Jesus, the Prince of Peace, much is the same. Yet he came in on a donkey, in his mother's womb and also on his own accord at a later stage.

I like how our Prince of Peace comes and throws all **"expectations"** out the window. What I mean, is He goes beyond those expectations. He is so much more than them. I like how He puts things upside down. The world says: ***"Show me then we will believe."*** Jesus, the Prince says: ***"Believe and then you will see"***.

First look at the world: the damsel in distress. She is hurt, she is confused. She is lost and she is at war: literally and figuratively. God hears the cry of His people time and again. He sends His one and only Son, to be the final and strongest of Princes to rescue us.

The Prophet Isaiah spoke about it long before: Isaiah 9:6 ***"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be***

called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace."

There is so much to the man of Jesus. He is a counsellor; he is mighty in ways we don't even comprehend. And our Jesus is forever. He's here to stay, to reign over our lives. But that reigning is not a horrible thing. We tend to have negative feelings within when we ponder Jesus reigning over our lives. BUT please do believe He is the Prince of Peace. His reign is not for our gain.

In a world of chaos He offers:

1) Peace

John 14: 27: ***"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."***

2) Forgiveness

Acts 5: 31 ***"God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Saviour that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel (us)."***

And I could go on and on... telling you all the things that this Prince offers. BUT as with all tales (stories), they are not kept to one book only. There is not only one tale about our Prince but many...

You can discover Him through the books of the Bible and you can even discover Him through the very chapters of your life. Truth is, the Prince is here to rescue His damsel in distress (the world, which includes you and I)... However, are you willing to be rescued?

Believe and then you will see



Modern day *idols?*

MICHELLE FROST

“Alright children,” the well-buttoned, stern lady with the graying hair claps her hands to grab the attention of the last few children straggling into the Sunday school class. *“Today, we are going to learn about the Ten Commandments”*. The naughty boys sitting at the back of the class roll their eyes. They’ve heard this one before! *“What are the first two commandments?”* the teacher asks, with a disapproving glance at the so-called delinquents. A bright-eyed little girl sits up taller and raises her hand, *“You shall have no other gods before me and you shall not make yourself an idol and bow down to worship it.”* *“Correct!”* the teacher nods her approval at this model student.

The Sunday school lesson continues successfully, albeit tediously at times, and the impressionable children return to their fast-paced, technologically littered worlds. The relevance of the lesson is seemingly lost on most of them. Carving idols? Bowing down to worship? It seems a ridiculous thought. We are far too post-modern and politically correct to do such primitive things... Or are we?

Perhaps this is where the true danger of modern day idolatry comes into play. Before we explore this issue, it may be best to define the word “idol”. The Concise Oxford Dictionary says that an idol is **“an image or representation of a god used as an object of worship”**. So, lest we think of a golden statue laden with intricate etchings, we should be aware that an idol is any object or person that takes the place of God in our minds and (more importantly) our hearts.

Seen any red carpet events on the entertainment channel lately? Viewed any pop icon’s funeral processions? Or reality shows that elevate talented and attractive people to bizarre heights? Hmm...could it be that idolatry is still well and alive in our ‘cultured’, Western world? I dare say that it is.

The danger lies in its obscurity. We may not physically bow down and chant mantras, but our hearts are turned to another god; a fickle, materialistic god who changes with the weather and spits us out when we cannot keep up with its whims. Perhaps a gorgeous actor walking down the red carpet is not your idol, but perhaps it’s that fancy sports car you would do almost anything to own. Or perhaps it’s that sport that you sacrifice time with your loved ones for, week after week. It’s likely to be something different for each of us. Now, I’m not suggesting we all sell our TV sets and live with our heads buried in the sand. We cannot point fingers at entertainment moguls. What we can do, however, is examine our own hearts closely.

Let’s rewind to those ancient folk who worshipped chunks of wood covered in gold. What was their motive? Why worship wood and stone? As best I can tell, they did it for two reasons, they were looking for protection and provision; essentially they were saying to their idols **“I will give you whatever you want if you will make my life work and make my life last.”** I believe that little has changed with regard to our motives for idolatry; we pursue things that will make our lives ‘work’ and that will protect us from death (or postpone it).

But these are mini-desires that are bound to keep us running around in circles, perpetually engaged in an ever deepening quest to find that ‘thing’ that will make everything else fall into place.



An idol is any object or person that takes the place of God in our minds and (more importantly) our hearts

The good news is that there is grace for us all at the feet of Jesus and He alone can help us to see what our heart's true desires are. In a world that keeps throwing new fads, entertainment and technology at us, our hearts are often inundated with options and the battle for the affection of our hearts can be relentless.

The truth of the matter is that we were created for God's pleasure and that our hearts are seeking His beauty, grace and love. That is why, in the search for this amazing God, our hearts are often stolen by other idols that seem to promise fulfillment but produce disappointment every time. With each successive disappointment, our hearts seek out something or someone else that promises to fill the ever growing void. Only God can fill that place in our hearts. Only He is worthy of our worship and adoration. I once heard that, as human beings, we were made to worship. As a result we all, voluntarily or involuntarily, worship something. The question is, what or who do you worship?

Whatever your answer may be, I do not want you to feel like those boys at the back of the Sunday school class, earning disapproving glances from a stern teacher. Instead, lay your idols at Jesus' feet and allow Him to fill the void that they never could. He wants to soothe your fears, heal your wounds and love you with His incredible love. He is a God who offers inconceivable grace and unending love.

We are all in danger of allowing subtle, yet dangerous, idolatry into our lives but if we will lay our idols down and spend time in His presence, we will recognize the fake idols that attempt to distract us, and we can ignore their hollow, deceitful voices and follow the voice of the one true God -who shows love to a thousand generations of those who love and worship Him.

A Positive Response to Crisis

MYLES MUNROE

What is crisis? A crisis is an event, circumstance, or situation affecting you or your environment over which you have no direct cause, control, or responsibility. News updates and headlines broadcast that the world is in crisis, as a result of global recession. To recess means to stop and draw back. When this word is used in terms of the economy, it means that the economy has stopped growing and has started contracting. One of the most detrimental effects of such activity is fear - the lack of consumer confidence in the economy. Consumer confidence is important because everything in the world's economy depends on people buying and selling. As this challenge has spread from nation to nation beyond the direct control of citizens of the global community, we can indeed agree that the world is in crisis.

Despite the fear and anxiety that come from crisis, understanding the concept of crisis can bring great perspective on one's response to it. As previously stated, a crisis is an event, circumstance, or situation over which you have no direct cause, control, or responsibility. Leaders of organizations and companies cannot control what is happening in the world around them. Similarly, pastors and ministers cannot control what is happening in the communities around them. Why is this important to understand? Consider national crisis such as natural disasters or adverse weather conditions. No one can

control a hurricane or a tornado; therefore, everyone must prepare himself or herself to adapt, adjust, and ride out the experience.

However, despite the inability to control crisis, it is important for you to remember that you are always in control of one thing - your mind. You cannot control a hurricane, tornado, the wind, or the economic downturn in the world. However, you can control the way that you think about them. This factor is very important because your mindset and your thoughts are necessary in order to interpret and respond effectively to the crisis. It is during this period of economic turmoil that true leadership will be revealed, and counterfeit leadership will be exposed. True leaders do not panic in crisis; they plan. They do not lose control in crisis; they manage. Therefore, how you think is more important than what happens around you.

I have experienced many challenges in life, and over time, I have learnt that whatever you call or label a thing, that is what it becomes to you. I used to tell people years ago that I had problems. However, I do not do that any more. I always say now that I have opportunities to grow. Whenever something happens in my life that I did not expect or cannot control, my thought patterns are that this is an opportunity for me to test some untapped abilities, to use some skills that I never used before, and to draw on hidden potential.

Whatever you see a situation to be controls your response to it. Controlled perception is not denial of reality, but it

is a controlled response to reality. In other words, I am not suggesting that you go around saying, "It does not exist. It does not exist." Economic problems do exist. People are losing their jobs. Houses are in foreclosure. These events are now a reality for many people around the world; however, you must control how you think about all of these events.


Consider God's perspective of crisis, as recorded in Scripture. Many times in the Bible, we see that God interrupted humans in times of crisis, and He would say, **"Be not afraid"** (Gen 15:1; 26:24). Why? Like humans today, characters in the Bible began to interpret the environment as a reason for fear. If your thoughts become a victim of your circumstance, the circumstance wins. As a leader of a business, church, community group, or your family, you cannot allow the environment to control you. People are counting on you to take them through the crisis. Crisis is not a problem but simply a change in the environment that demands a new, unscheduled response. You must decide how you are going to respond. Crisis helps you to discover an innovative, creative person that you never knew lived inside of you.

The Positive Effects of Crisis

Crisis is the source of creativity. When there is innovation, it is usually a result of crisis. Humans have always advanced under pressure. Your parents or a teacher may have told you years ago that necessity is the mother of invention. What they meant by that is that when you have to do something, you find a way to do it. Moreover, there are positive effects that come as result of the demand on you to work through crisis. Firstly, as stated, crisis is the source of creativity. If you lose your job, I know that you are going to set your mind on what you will have to do to live. Crisis is the incubator for innovation and the womb for creativity.

Secondly, crisis produces a sense of solidarity. In times of difficulty, people begin to work together. Individuals begin to cooperate as a community. There is an understanding that when we are all in trouble, we all have to help. Crisis can give us back our sensitivity. Finally, crisis causes you to re-prioritize your life. It makes you understand what is important again. You begin to ask yourself, "What are the real, basic things that are important to me?" Crisis brings you back to the simplicity of life.

In the Bahamas, my home country, we have also faced economic struggle and hardship. In my organization and our church, we have had to learn to respond to these difficult times affecting the whole world. Personally, my response to help others in crisis, I released a new book, *Overcoming Crisis: The Secrets to Thriving in Challenging Times*. I wanted to identify ways to help people navigate through seasons of difficulty whether their challenges are economic, personal, or corporate. For those facing great hardship under economic crisis, I encourage you that no matter what is happening, it is temporary. God promises, **"To everything there is a season"** (Eccl 3:1a). He is promising you that whatever you are going through can only last a season. Seasons change. More importantly, Christ is unchanging and everlasting.



*How you think is
more important
than what happens
around you*



NEWS RELEASE

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Francois Van Niekerk Honoured as KaapstadSakekamer 2018 Business Leader of the Year

Francois van Niekerk, founder of the Mergon group, was announced as the **KaapstadSakekamer** Business Leader of the Year (**Sakeleier van die Jaar**) 2018, at a gala evening hosted in Cape Town last week.

“Francois is an exemplary leader, and we are honoured to have him as our Business Leader of 2018,” said Karin Pickard Louis, Chairperson of **KaapstadSakekamer** after the ceremony.

Mergon is a private investment group that exists to impact lives and equip others to do the same. The group, consisting of Mergon Invest, the Mergon Foundation and Nation Builder, currently holds a portfolio of successful businesses operating in 10 different industries across 5 continents. The founding mission of Mergon is to strategically deploy its resources for Kingdom Expansion - to reach the un-reached with the good news of Jesus Christ, to see people disciplined into a living relationship with God and assimilated into a faith community. From very humble beginnings in 1980, the Mergon Group has grown consistently by an average of 30% per year for more than 30 years.

“We believe we are part of His story and we are merely stewards in amazement at what He is doing. We are unified in our commitment to surrender our own plans and dreams of success, to walk in relationship with Him, depend on Him and be willing instruments in His hands,” says Francois about the Mergon journey.

Francois' business journey has been documented in his book, **Doing Business with Purpose**. The book reflects on the testimony of how God turned a near bankrupt IT company in 1980 into what the Mergon Group is today, after Francois cried out to Him in desperate need. He made a vow that he would give 30% of the business for the expansion of God's Kingdom if the Lord averted the crisis. Within half an hour, God turned the situation around and the company was saved. Francois followed through on the 30% commitment by placing the shares in an independent trust, the Mergon Foundation Trust. In response to Christ's continued grace, the Van Niekerk family has since sought to increase the Mergon Foundation's ownership in the group to 70%, a goal that was achieved in 2008.

From these humble beginnings, Francois and the Mergon team went on to establish several successful businesses, including Atterbury Properties and King Price Insurance, in partnership with like-minded entrepreneurs. This approach, together with unmerited favour, has resulted in Mergon achieving sustained above-market returns for nearly four decades.

Mergon Foundation is a 70% shareholder in the Mergon group that allocates funding to Christian ministries and NPOs, for the Gospel to positively impact the lives of countless people. Nation Builder is a Mergon initiative that inspires and equips custodians of capital to enable greater positive social impact.

Francois' address on the evening highlighted his hope for South Africa. ***“The country's undoubted potential can be unlocked, but only through a radical new approach to leadership and a new form of constructive cooperative governance. Courage, creative thinking and the can-do SA attitude may make the seemingly impossible narrowly possible,”*** he said. ***“The question is simply whether we are going to be passive spectators or active change agents?”***

Mergon is currently managed by a multi-disciplinary team, bound together by the founding purpose and a shared commitment to a set of core values that has become interwoven in the Group's DNA over more than 35 years.

“We are delighted for Francois, and we celebrate this well-deserved honour with him and his family,” said Pieter Faure, CEO of Mergon. ***“It is a privilege to share the Mergon journey with him, as we continue to build on the legacy of his leadership.”***

Quoting the philosopher Henry Nouwen, Francois concluded his address with the following words: ***“You don't think your way into a new kind of living. You live your way into a new kind of thinking.”*** And also: ***“Who will I be when I stand before You with empty hands? Please help me to gradually open my hands; and to discover that I am not what I own; but what You want to give me”.***



Faith cares



For more than ten years Faith Cares (formerly known as Siyanceda Africa) has been devoted to providing food, clothing, shelter, medicine and other daily necessities to the economically disadvantaged and victims of disasters on this continent. Faith Cares cuts across cultural barriers, travelling to rural areas, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Be a part of what God is doing through this Relief ministry.

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Gaps In The Gap Theory

WESLEY ROSTOLL

Over the last several years evolutionists have done a remarkable job convincing people that the debate over origins is one between science and religion. However, both parties essentially have access to the same data, and both parties ultimately have to go by faith on certain issues, like how the first life form came to be for example. It is not something that can be scientifically observed, you either believe God did it or it created itself through a series of chance events - your conclusions having been influenced either by man's theories or God's Word. So because these theories are often taught as fact many people now doubt a literal interpretation of the Bible and have tried to bend scripture so that it can be harmonised with these **"alternate ideas"**. One of these theories is known as The Gap Theory.

The gap theory proposes that there is a time gap of millions or billions of years between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. The story says that God once created a world full of dinosaurs and ape men which are often referred to as the Pre-Adamic race. At some point here the devil rebelled against God who then destroyed that world with a flood (not to be confused with Noah's flood). God then supposedly started the creation process afresh about 6000 years ago which is where Genesis 1:2 kicks in. The problem with this is that the Bible gives no indication that any of this happens, it actually paints a rather different picture of how events unfolded which goes something like this.

In Exodus 20:11 we read that God made the heavens and the earth and everything in them (which would include the angels) in six days; based on the life spans and genealogies

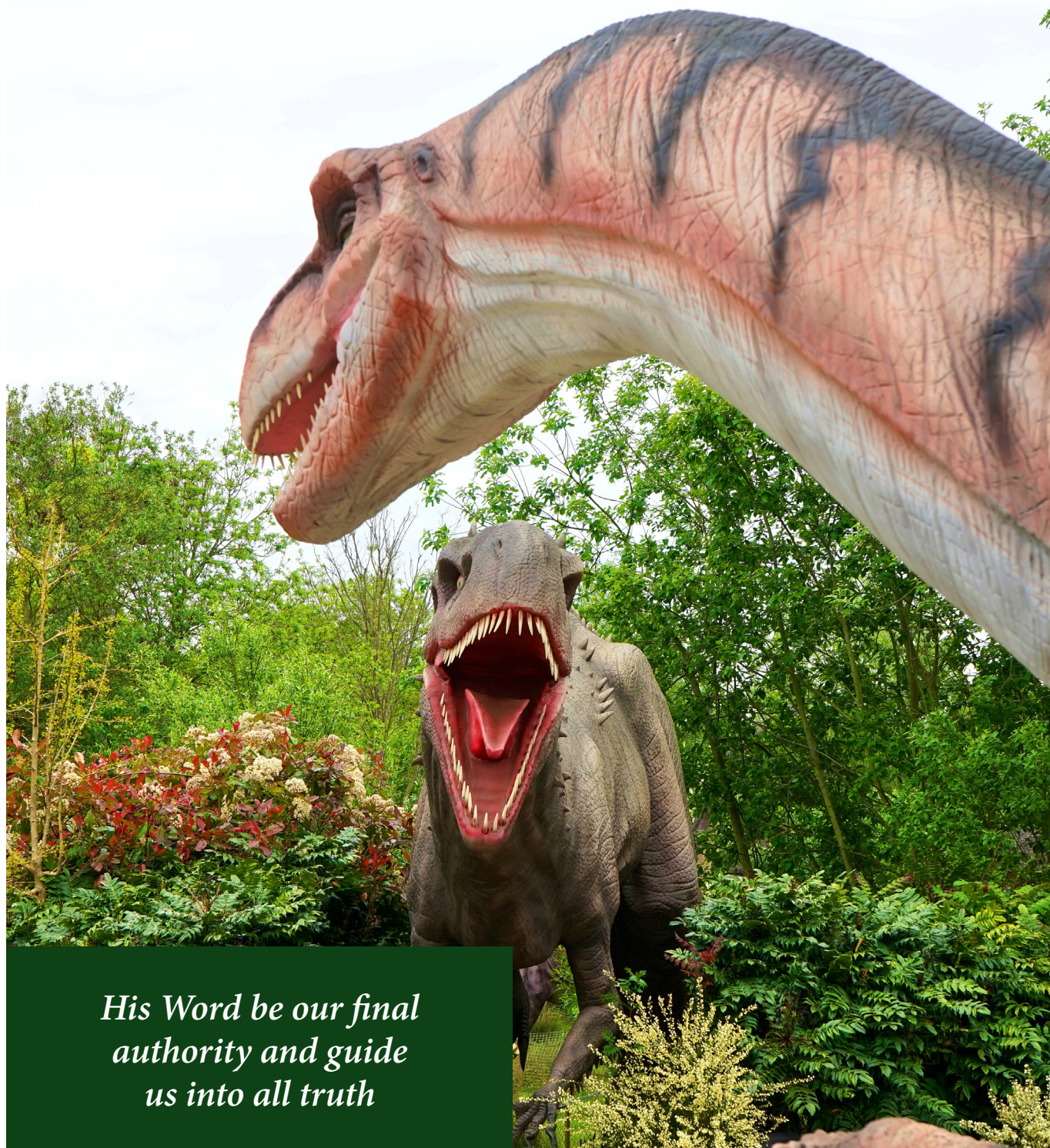
given in Genesis scholars place the date at around 6000 years ago. At the end of the first week God looks at His creation and declares everything to be **"very good"** (Genesis 1:31), He probably would not have said this had the devil and a third of the angels rebelled yet. Scripture actually reveals that it was only after the Garden of Eden was created that Satan rebelled, we read in Ezekiel 28:13-19 that he was in the garden, perfect in his ways and called the anointed cherub before he became prideful at his own beauty. So his fall must have occurred somewhere between the creation of man and the temptation of Adam and Eve later on in chapter 3 of Genesis.

Contradictions, contradictions...

Placing a gap of millions of years between the first two verses of Genesis causes several contradictions to materialize later in the Bible. For example, Jesus taught that the creation of man was the beginning (Mathew 19:4); had mankind only arrived on the scene 4.6 billion years after the beginning then He would have been wrong.

Paul would also have been wrong in several scriptures. He taught that death, disease and suffering were a result of the fall in passages like Romans 5:12-14, 8:22 and 1 Corinthians 15:21-22. We have to ask ourselves, if sin never brought death into the world as these scriptures teach and they are not a result of man's disobedience, then why did Jesus have to die?

John would have been wrong as well - when speaking of a future new heaven and new earth he stated in Revelation 21:1 that the world we currently live on is the first earth, why did he not say it is the second earth if one was destroyed previously?



*His Word be our final
authority and guide
us into all truth*

Logical arguments can be raised as well, for instance, because people who accept the gap theory also accept the long time spans evolutionists need for their theories to sound legitimate. They must accept that sharks and crocodiles have been on our planet for millions of years. Now if God destroyed everything in verse 1 of the Bible to such an extent that He had to recreate the sun and plants later on, how then did these animals survive through this period of destruction? Another question worth pondering on is if Satan did indeed fall before man was created, why would God judge a spiritual being by destroying the earth with a flood? It seems like everything but Satan and the fallen angels would have perished in that judgement.

With a little study one can see that most of man's opinions fall short and simply cannot stand against God's Word. Once we start elevating our theories to the same level as the Bible then we start reading things in the scriptures that are not there. May His Word be our final authority and guide us into all truth!

Motivators *For Success*

GLENN MCQUIRK

"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody." Bill Cosby

Not everyone is going to agree with your vision. Some may even oppose what you are aiming for. If their objections have merit, re-evaluate your vision to ensure that it is morally and ethically correct. If it is, stand your ground and pursue your vision or purpose with passion. The moment you begin to try to accommodate every person's wishes, you begin a process of compromise that will ultimately lead to your vision being eroded. Your drive to achieve it will diminish to the point where your vision no longer motivates you. This is because it is no longer your vision. Be absolutely focused on your vision. Don't allow anyone to steal your enthusiasm by forcing you to consider compromise in order to win his or her favour. Who are you trying to please and why?

Your mind is like a computer. What you put in is what you get out." – Anonymous

What you think is who you are. A computer is an amazing tool. It can do calculations of great magnitude that may take mere mortals like you or I months to figure out — in a split second. Yet despite its great speed and complexity, it cannot do anything unless someone has first loaded the required software. Isn't that amazing? Although we understand this, people constantly try to do things without first programming their minds with the right inputs. They refuse to read books, listen to tapes or watch motivational videos. They seldom, if ever, attend personal development seminars. Yet they believe that they can change the world. You cannot change the world if you refuse to change yourself. Commit to a personal development programme. Stick to it and ensure that you are learning from it every day. How can you improve your Personal Development Programme?

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Be absolutely focused on your vision





The Death of Reason in Today's Culture... and why Christianity matters

PHIL COOKE

Not long ago, I listened to a radio interview with a self-described “**feminist**” being interviewed about her recent experience giving birth. The host actually asked her why she “**chose**” to have a vaginal delivery. She replied that she had really been thinking about it a long time and sort of came to the thinking that a vaginal delivery might be the best way to deliver. Think about that for a second. She “**sort of**” decided on it as if a vaginal delivery was just one of many equal choices for healthy women delivering babies. She had no confidence at all that it might be the natural way women were designed to deliver babies.

Shortly thereafter I met a very progressive couple who excitedly told me that they aren’t putting any pressure at all on their toddler, until “**it**” decided what gender “**it**” wants to be. In fact, after that I saw a Tweet from someone who advocated not naming a new-born. Instead, she thought parents should give it a number until the child decides what gender to choose. (Then I wondered what would happen if the new-born was given an odd number, but later self-identified as even.)

Sigh.

Then I read a press statement from a CEO, apologizing for his company’s employment applications, because “**male**” and “**female**” are just one of many possible gender descriptions.

I know this is nothing new, but it seems that the more secularized the culture becomes, the further and further we drift from reason. Biology has lost all authority and science means less and less to a culture that prefers feelings over truth.

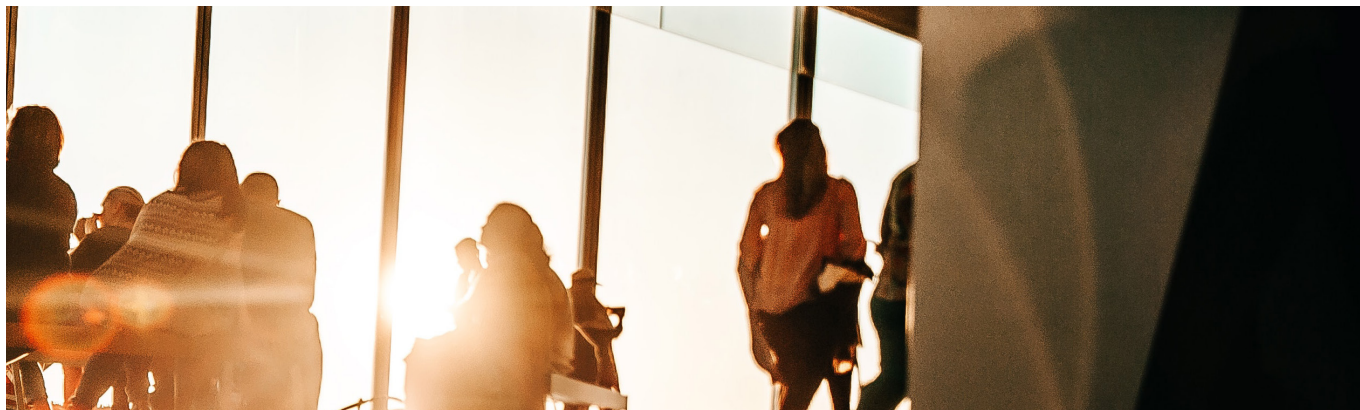
For so many years, Christianity has been accused of being “**anti-science.**” But what’s being revealed now is that Christians may be the last group holding on to reason. The old criticism of Christians believing in fantasy is finally giving way to the reality that Christianity is built on reason.

After all, faith isn’t believing in fantasy, it’s having the confidence to step out based on what you know. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “***All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.***”

Christianity is based on reason. In fact, the book of Acts describes the Apostle Paul this way: “***So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout person, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.***”

Paul was out there engaging the culture every day, and he based his arguments on reason, not fantasy.

Which is more than I can say for today’s secular culture.



Leaders: What You Should Know About Your Team

PHIL COOKE

Whenever I consult with a church, ministry, or non-profit; I always begin by looking closely at the team. The employees are the ones that make an organization work, so learning as much as we can about them is critical – and I’m often surprised at how little pastors and other leaders actually know about the personal side of their team. If you’re not taking the time to know your people well, you’re shortchanging your vision. Having studied teams over the years, here’s a starting list of issues leaders need to know about their teams:

1) Purpose is just as important as talent. Talent is important, but know why your people are there in the first place. Find out who’s there just for a paycheck, and who’s there to change the world. Knowing motivations is critical for team chemistry to work.

2) Make sure they’re in the right seats on the bus. You know the Jim Collins concept – get the right employees on the bus, make sure they’re in the right seats, and then get the wrong ones off the bus. Brilliantly simple, and yet you’d be amazed at the number of organizations that make serious mistakes in all three areas. The church and ministry world abounds with employees in positions that conflict with their talent and gifts. That disconnect damages morale, because everyone else knows that employee is failing and everyone else becomes more frustrated by the day.

3) Know which ones are locked into the rules and which are more flexible. I’ve worked at organizations who are crippled because employees are so bound by the rules that they can’t think outside the box. Rules and policies are important, but you also need a team that knows when to step outside the rules for a bigger purpose.

4) Be careful of employees who are building their own empire inside your organization. These are team members who will do anything to protect their turf. You want a team that is generous with their ideas, time, and talent, and knows how to work with others in the organization.

5) Finally, of all your tasks as a leader, developing your team is one of the most important. You can’t do everything yourself, but when you hand off responsibilities, you need to make sure it’s handed to a capable, talented, and motivated employee. Taking the time every day to teach, encourage, and inspire your team will reap more benefits than you can possibly imagine.

And the opposite? One of these days I’ll write a post about the number of organizations who have crashed because of a renegade, bitter, angry team and the leaders who let it happen...

Financial Literacy In Schools And At Home

PAUL LEONARD

Women in leadership have come a long way and today they have a voice in government, more equality in the workplace and hold positions as heads of corporations while still fulfilling their roles as mothers and wives. One financial educator said that when it comes to the subject of money it seems as if women retract into the dark ages.

Generally speaking there are three categories of women that quiver at the “M” word. First there are the ladies in waiting. They are looking for Prince “**deep pocket**” to sweep them of their financial feet. They believe that this generous man will fall on his knees begging to pay off their debts. Once the debt monster has been trussed up and ready for disposal and they will get married, live happily ever after in a big house, with lots of money, with two kids half a dog and a cat.

Second, there is the newly wed who says, ***“I’ll tell you what - we’ll pool our money and you can give me an allowance. You take care of the bills and investments and I’ll...just concentrate on spending.”***

Lastly there are those ladies who have worked hard to get a career and in some cases may have even surpassed

their spouse’s income. But somewhere they have bought into the idea that the man in their life can do a better job. So he gets to play investor-investor with some doing a great job. But what happens if every time you accumulate some money he decides that he can’t possibly live with his old and decrepit two-year-old car because his image is suffering. So he convinces you to let him by the 4X4 because the boys at the club are feeling sorry for him. Say bye-bye to retirement and hello to the part-time sales job at the local clothing store. As the saying goes, ladies need to take control of their finances or be controlled.

I was even more surprised when talking with a teacher who is passionate about financial literacy; she gets the distinct impression from girls in school today that they still espouse some of the traditional thinking that someone will take care of them - daddy, husband, sugar daddy, or whoever. She said that she senses a very lax attitude that seems to say, ***“It will all be okay in the end since someone will take care of me.”***

Financial literacy is the one skill that affects all other areas of life yet it still receives too little attention in schools and in homes today. One highly skilled asset manager said to me that he believes children should not be asked to take scientific calculators to school but that they should rather get financial calculators. Working out the sine and cosine, square roots and tangents have only limited application



Financial literacy is the one skill that affects all other areas of life

in real life. Calculations which are far more relevant to the modern world and which will help people make more informed life choices are working out the repayment on a mortgage bond or hire purchase agreement, or calculating the compound growth on my monthly savings.

Working out the internal rate of return on your money and calculating how much interest you are losing by buying a doodad or gadget instead of saving the money is more important in the long run for a secure financial

future. Schools and educators have a huge responsibility for the future of our children, and since they have limited time resources, time needs to be spent on subject matter that is as relevant to real life as possible. Its good to see that classes and activities like entrepreneurial days are starting to cover financial literacy, but I believe that there is still room for improvement in creating an awareness and exposure on this subject.



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What Is A *Help Meet?*

TRACY TREDREA

Most of us know the story of creation – God in all His sovereignty and majesty, spoke out the vision He had in His mind and created: day and night, waters and land, every tree and flower, flying and crawling and swimming animals and of course man. Adam had free reign over the whole earth and was given the awesome task of naming all the animals. But before God gave Adam this task he noticed something. Genesis 2: 18-20 records, ***“And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him.”*** I personally find it interesting that just before God gives Adam the responsibility of naming every creature that walked the earth, God immediately noted to Himself that Adam needed help. Don't you find that peculiar? Adam was perfect in form and at this stage had no sin in him. He was the perfect image of God Himself and therefore must have encompassed the ultimate 'super' man. Yet God still makes the statement that he should not be alone. This makes a loud and clear statement that God is a relational God – relationship is important to Him!

After making this statement God continued in His quest - ***“And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him.”***

I get the picture in my mind of Adam sitting on lush green grass in a field that stretches as far as the eye can see. As he is basking in the crisp warmth of the morning, he watches as God brings each and every kind of creature parading across his path. Imagine it! Put yourself in Adams position for a moment. One by one the various shapes and sizes of creatures passes him by and using his God given creative skills, Adam names them. ***“The one with the long nose and big feet – elephant. The one with the long neck and jigsaw looking patterns – giraffe!”*** And so the parade continues until every creature had a name and could be named! Now remember before this event took place, God had made the statement that Adam needs a helper. And this is exactly what Adam noted himself.

After naming all the creatures and witnessing every creature in all their splendour, Genesis records that Adam noted that there was not one creature among them all that matched him! That could be his help meet! Yip, from the beginning of time, man just could not do without a woman.

Ladies, this is the good part of the story. Just after this, God caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam. Ever wondered why it had to be a deep sleep? I think because God needed time to build and make woman. God wanted to take time to make this help meet. She needed to be perfectly built to match and compliment and assist Adam. ***“And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he woman”*** (Genesis 2:22). The word “made” comes from the translated Hebrew word “**banah**” which means to build something. God took the rib from Adam and supernaturally built the first woman – Eve; the hands of God built Eve perfect for her match Adam,



We have a deep inner strength that is required for us to fulfil our functions as help meets

There is so much significance in why God chose the rib to make woman. And I think once we understand this revelation, the reason why we as woman are the help meets will make complete sense. The Hebrew word for the word rib is “**tsalah**” which means – rib from a physical skeleton. This same word is used to describe the “**beams**” in king Solomon’s houses. The beams of a house are the part of the infrastructure that keep the house standing. Without the beams, the house will fall. The beams are the strength of the house. The beams protect the house. The beams support the house. No matter how amazing the house looks from the outside, without the beams, it cannot stand. The beams are steadfast – reliable, dependable, always there, never swaying, solid, and steady. Without these characteristics, the house or building will not be able to fulfil its purpose. The inner beams are the exact structures that reinforce the rest of the building to stand against external stresses.

Ladies – did you just get that? As woman we were made to reinforce the strength in our husbands - to be their strength and steadfastness, and to be the support when external pressures and strains threaten the very purpose within them. We reinforce their strengths. We reinforce their purpose.

Together we make a structure that is strong, beautiful, steady in times of stress and full of divine glorious purpose! That is what a help meet is! That is who we are as woman! That is why God made us!

Now if you understand the above, you will realise that the often-believed stigma of woman being weak is so far from the truth. Yes, we are often weaker in physical strength!

But there is a deep inner strength that is required for us to fulfil our functions as help meets. There is nothing weak or inferior in this. And when God was creating Adam He knew that Adam would need this support.

To nurture and take care of and have dominion over the earth would require support. God made woman to support the man in His God given mandate. Just as the rib protects the heart that is the very life of the person, like wise as the help meets, we protect our husbands emotions and inner man-his very life.

So what is a help meet? It is a high, awesome calling and function given to woman by God Himself - a calling to support and reinforce. A function to protect and provide steadfastness and reliability to the inner core and emotions of the man. Take a moment to look introspectively. Are you being a “**beam**” supporting, protecting and reinforcing? Or are you possibly causing the stress on the structure, swaying when the external pressures become too much and wanting to collapse when things don’t go your way? Ladies, its time to rise up to our divine functions as help meets. With God’s help we can. In Him, we will to do it.

We can stand firm and together with our husbands and fulfil our God ordained purposes as individuals, couples and families!

So Full, Yet So Empty

DR DAVID RYSER

“Here!” And with that one word, my two-year-old son taught me a lesson about the Kingdom of God.

I was serving as a full-time associate pastor. With four children between the ages of 9 and 2 to house and feed, money was tight. We had just returned from the grocery store. We’d splurged on two bottles of soda and were going to enjoy them as soon as the groceries were put away.

“I’m thirsty.”

The two-year-old had been an angel at the store. But now he wanted something to drink. My wife answered, **“Hang on a minute, honey.”** He was in no mood to wait and made his displeasure known in typical two-year-old fashion. **“I’m thirsty!!!”** Unable to convince him to wait, my wife poured a glass of water and gave it to him.

He was happy...but not for long.

In a couple of minutes, we had put up the groceries. My wife laid out some glasses, put in the ice, and poured out the soda. She passed out the glasses to everyone... except the two-year-old. He had observed the preparation of the soft drinks with increasing interest and anticipation. He was obviously disappointed he had not received one.

“Where’s my pop?”

My wife answered, **“Sweetie, I’d love to give you some pop. But your glass is already full.”** I’ve mentioned my son was two years old. I never said he was stupid. It took him no time at all to pick up his glass of water and hand it to his mother.

“Here!”

In Luke 4:1a, the Bible tells us that Jesus was filled with the Spirit. This verse occurs in the time between Jesus’ baptism by John and His temptation in the wilderness. The implication is that Jesus was filled with the Spirit when the Holy Spirit descended upon Him at His baptism (Luke 3:22a).

If Jesus was filled with the spirit at His baptism, then what was He filled with before His baptism?

Nothing.

According to Philippians 2:7, Jesus emptied Himself (literal Greek translation) and took on human form. Emptied Himself of what? Theologians have argued this question for centuries. Whatever it was He emptied Himself of, we are encouraged to have the same attitude as Jesus (Philippians 2:5). The same attitude will produce the same results. So we should empty ourselves also. Empty ourselves of what?

Have you ever heard a person being described as **“full of himself/herself”**?

The scriptures command us to lay aside our old nature (Ephesians 4:22; Colossians 3:5, 8, 9). We are told to

*How can any vessel be
cleansed without first
being emptied*



cleanse ourselves (2 Corinthians 7:1a; James 4:8b). Our effectiveness as carriers of God's life depends upon our doing this (2 Timothy 2:20, 21).

How can any vessel, a glass for example, be cleansed without first being emptied?

God desires that we be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18b). We are called to be carriers of the treasure of God's presence (2 Corinthians 4:7a). We are commissioned to pour out the Spirit of God from within ourselves (John 7:38, 39).

How can we be filled with the Spirit without first being emptied of ourselves?

Even a two-year-old child knows you cannot fill a glass that is already full. If we are going to be God's wineskins, we need to follow Jesus' example and empty ourselves. Then, and only then, can we be filled with the Spirit.

Jesus is described as filled with the Spirit (Luke 4:1a) before He is described as empowered by the Spirit (Luke 4:14a) and anointed by the spirit (Luke 4:18a). This empowering and anointing of the Spirit is what enabled Jesus to fulfill His ministry.

Spirit empowerment and Spirit anointing flow out of Spirit filling. Spirit filling follows emptying. Jesus emptied Himself. Then He was filled. Then He was empowered and anointed.

If Jesus is our example, then this works the same way for us.

"Here!"

My wife took my son's glass, emptied it, and rinsed it out. Then she put ice into it, filled it with soda, and handed it back. As my son enjoyed the fruits of his wise decision, God was speaking to me.

I wish I had listened then.

So what do we want? Do we want to be filled with the Spirit? Do we want to be carriers of God's life? Do we want to touch the lives of others with God's power and anointing?

And how badly do we want it?

Are we willing to be emptied? Will we hand our glass over to God? What is in our glass so precious to us, that we would rather have it than have Him?

It's so simple. Just hold out your hand to God and repeat this simple prayer: ***"Here!"***

By the way, I have an idea for a faith-based reality television show. I'm going to call it ***"Are You Smarter than a Two-Year-Old?"***

Would you like to be a contestant?

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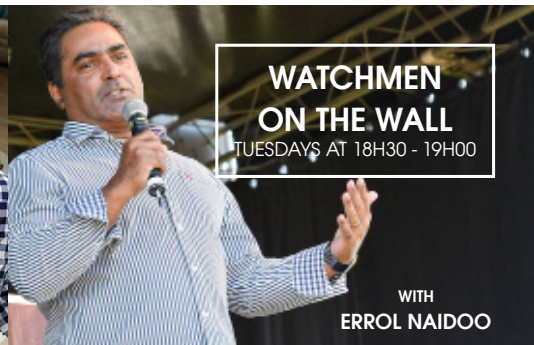
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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
00h00	The 700 Club Nigeria				
00h30	Jewish Jesus [R]	Christ For All Nations [R]	REAL with Diego Mesa [R]	#TheGoodNewsTVShow [R]	One Cubed Naija [R]
01h00	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	Wisdom For Life - Allan 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	Faith That Counts - Kevin Davis [R]	Living Life - Theo Wolmarans			
03h00	Faith on Fire [R]	LIVE BIG - Derek Grier [R]	In Touch - Charles Stanley	REAL with Diega Mesa [R]	Abba's House - Ron Phillips
03h30		Now Faith - John Torrens	Following Jesus - Tommy Lilja	Manna-Fest - Perry Stone	Zola Levitt with Myles Weiss
04h00		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 World News		Real Women, Real Life - T. Tredrea [R]	Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza [R]
06h00	Changing Your World - Creflo Dollar				
06h30	Wisdom For Life - Allan Bagg				
07h00	Believer's Walk Of Faith - Bill Winston				
07h30	Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez				
08h00	Believer's Voice Of Victory - Kenneth Copeland				
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	Enjoying Everyday Life - Joyce Meyer				
09h30	Faith Alive - Ted Shuttlesworth [R]	Miracles Happen - Joan Hunter [R]	Hillsong TV - Brian Houston [R]	In Touch - Charles Stanley [R]	The Cross - Miki Hardy [R]
10h00	Living Life - Theo Wolmarans				
10h30	Gospel Truth - Andrew Wommack				
11h00	Quick Study - Rod Hembree				
11h30	LIVE BIG - Derek Grier	In Touch - Charles Stanley	The Hope Connection [R]	Abundant Life Today - Walter Hallam [R]	Elijah's List - Steve Shultz
12h00	The 700 Club				
12h30					
13h00	Grassroots - Angus Buchan				
13h30	Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza				
14h00	Walk in the Word - James MacDonald	The Jewish Jesus - Kirt Schneider [R]	Faithlift - Glenn Arekion	Prophetic Encounter - J. vd Westhuizen	Love Israel - 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	RockKids 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	Your Miracle Moment - Siva Moodley		Behind the Faith (LIVE)	Your Miracle Moment - Siva Moodley	
17h30	One Cubed Naija	Faith That Counts - Kevin Davis	Faith Matters	Manna-Fest - Perry Stone	The Secret Place - Christopher Lynn
18h00	It's Supernatural - Sid Roth				
18h30	Jentezen Franklin	Watchmen on the Wall	Now Faith - John Torrens [R]	The Messenger - J&L Bevere	Monumental - Kirk Cameron
19h00	Behind the Faith [R]	Legacy TV - Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	Till All Have Heard - Patricia Bailey	Higher Life - Jenny Roebert	Hope for Every Home - Hettie Brittz
19h30	Faith Matters - André & Jenny	Jonathan Shuttlesworth			
19h57	FRESH with Berni Dymet				
20h00	Hour of Salvation - David Ibiyeomie				
20h30	Enjoying Everyday Life - Joyce Meyer				
21h00	Following 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				



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SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
The Great Awakening - Rodney Howard-Browne [R]	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	00h00
	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	Faith on Fire [R]	02h00
Living Life - Theo Wolmarans [R]		02h30
The Glory Road		03h00
Answer with Bayless Conley [R]		03h30
Faith on Fire [R]	Monumental - Kirk Cameron [R]	04h00
	Hope for Every Home - Hettie Brittz [R]	04h30
	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 Howard Browne	07h00
Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez		07h30
The Living Stone - Edgar Holder	Jesse Duplantis Ministries	08h00
Walk in the Word - James McDonald [R]	Jerry Savelle Ministries	08h30
Keys to Breakthrough - Debbie Rich	Faith Worship @ The River LIVE	09h00
Hillsong - Brian Houston		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
Faith The Counts - Kevin Davis	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.		19h30
FRESH with Berni Dymet		
Faith on Fire [R]	Faith on Fire [R]	20h00
		20h30
		21h00
		21h30
Planetshakers TV	Abba's House - Ron Phillips	22h00
Healing Your Soul - Katie Souza	Love Israel - Baruch Korman	22h30
Abundant LIFE - Ashley & Carlie Terradez	Abundant Life Today - Walter Hallam	23h00
#TheGoodNewsTVShow	Answers with Bayless Conley [R]	23h30



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EST	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	EST	
00:00	Save The World Jarrod Davidoff	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	700 CLUB [Monday R]	00:00	
00:30	Reformation3 TV Brad & Wyona Norman	Creation Today [R] Eric Hovind	Now Faith [R] John Torrens	Turning Point David Jeremiah	Jerry Savelle	Prophetic Encounter [R] Jacques van der Westhuizen		00:30	
01:00	The Supernatural Now G Maldonado	Jessie DuPlantis	Jerry Savelle	Planetshakers	Building Champions Kenneth Ulmer	DOCUMENTARY [R]	700 CLUB [Tuesday R]	01:00	
01:30	Gospel Truth Andrew Wommack	Gospel Truth Andrew Wommack	Gospel Truth Andrew Wommack	Gospel Truth Andrew Wommack	Gospel Truth Andrew Wommack			01:30	
02:00	Higher Life [R] Jenny Roebert	Rick Renner [R]	Zola Levitt Ministries [R] Myles & Katherine Weiss	The Messenger [R] John & Lisa Bevere	Manna-Fest [R] Perry Stone	Bloom Today [R] Paula Wallace	700 CLUB [Wednesday R]	02:00	
02:30	MOVIE REPEAT	Legal Edge Brad Dacus	Miracles with Peter Doseck	Curt Landry Ministries	Jentezen Franklin	CFC Theo Wolmarans		02:30	
03:00		Turning Point David Jeremiah	Answers With Bayless Conley [R] Bayless Conley	Planetshakers	On the Living Edge Mark Chironna	Discovery the Jewish Jesus Rabbi Schneider	700 CLUB [Thursday R]	03:00	
03:30		The Messenger John & Lisa Bevere	Manna-Fest [R] Perry Stone	Legacy TV Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	Planetshakers TV	Young Explorers		03:30	
04:00		A Brand New You Luke Brugger	Inspire Mark Sarver	On the Living Edge Mark Chironna	Reigning as Kings Basil Tryon	Faith Alive Ted Shuttlesworth	SATURDAY MOVIE [R]	700 CLUB [Friday R]	04:00
04:30						04:30			
05:00	Changing Your World Creflo Dollar							DOCUMENTARY [R]	05:00
05:30	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	05:30			
06:00	Mark T Barclay	Everlasting Love TV [R] Patricia King	In Touch Charles Stanley	Elevation Experience Steven Furtick	Abba's House Ron Phillips	Healing Secrets Andrew Wommack	Planetshakers TV	06:00	
06:30	Grassroots Angus Buchan					Elevation Experience Steven Furtick	Legacy TV Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	06:30	
07:00	Believer's Voice Of Victory Kenneth & Gloria Copeland					Love Israel Baruch Korman	Manna-Fest [R] Perry Stone	07:00	
07:30	Believer's Walk Of Faith Bill Winston					The Living Stone Edgar Holder	Jerry Savelle	07:30	
08:00	Jesse Duplantis	Jerry Savelle	Jesse Duplantis	Jerry Savelle	Jesse Duplantis	Jerry Savelle [R]	Jesse Duplantis	08:00	
08:30	Everlasting Love TV Patricia King	Healing Your Soul Katie Souza			Everlasting Love TV [R] Patricia King	Following Jesus [R] Tommy Lila	Faith Matters André & Jenny	08:30	
09:00	Abundant Life Ashley & Carlte Terradez						Higher Life [R] Jenny Roebert	09:00	
09:30	Healing Your Soul Katie Souza	Power Encounter Donna Schambach			Healing Your Soul Katie Souza	Planetshakers TV	Rick Renner	09:30	
10:00	Revival Today LIVE Jonathan Shuttlesworth					The Cross Miki Hardy	River Church Tampa LIVE Rodney Howard-Browne	10:00	
10:30						The Hope Connection [R] Harry Jackson		10:30	
11:00	It's Supernatural Sid Roth					Building Champions [R] Kenneth Ulmer		11:00	
11:30	Live Big Derek Grier	Legacy TV Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	End of Age Irvin Baxter	Abundant Life Today [R] Walter Hallam	The Word for Living David Shearin	Billy Graham Classics		11:30	
12:00	Winning Ways Matthew Ashimolowo								12:00
12:30	Elevation Experience Steven Furtick	Christ For All Nations Daniel Kolenda	Jentezen Franklin	The Messenger John & Lisa Bevere	Manna-Fest [R] Perry Stone	Christ For All Nations Daniel Kolenda		12:30	
12:55	Sparkling Gems Rick Renner							12:55	
13:00	Walk in the Word James McDonald					Legacy TV Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	Sparkling Gems - Rick Renner 13h25 - 13h30	13:00	
13:30	Everlasting Love TV Patricia King	Elijah Stream Steve Shultz	Everlasting Love TV Patricia King	Glory Road TV Show Candice Smithyman	Miracles Happen! Joan Hunter	Jentezen Franklin	Higher Life [R] Jenny Roebert	13:30	
14:00	Believer's Voice Of Victory Kenneth & Gloria Copeland					Paws & Tales	Faith Life Church Keith Moore	14:00	
14:30	Quick Study Rod Hembree	Healing Your Soul Katie Souza	Quick Study Rod Hembree	Healing Your Soul Katie Souza	Quick Study Rod Hembree	Bobo & Kipi	On the Living Edge Mark Chironna	14:30	
15:00	Paws & Tales	Bobo & Kipi	What's In The Bible?	RockKids TV	Truth Quake	What's In The Bible?	Believer's Voice Of Victory Kenneth Copeland	15:00	
15:30	The Revolution TV	Dooley & Pals Show	Hope Generation Ben Courson	BJ's Teddy Bear Club	Co-Mission Expedition [R]	RockKids TV	Ever Increasing Faith Fred Price	15:30	
16:00	MXTV Tim Bisagno	TV One Life Sean Park	Love Israel Baruch Korman	Youth Bytes [R] Chad Daniel	Travel the Road	Patterns of Evidence	Jentezen Franklin	16:00	
16:30	Bloom Today Ginny Priz / Paula Wallace	Legal Edge Brad Dacus	Legacy TV Jeremy & Sarah Pearsons	Keys to Breakthrough Debbie Rich	The River Clermont Caleb Ring	MXTV [R] Tim Bisagno	Changing your World Creflo Dollar	16:30	
17:00	Monumental Kirk Cameron	The Messenger John & Lisa Bevere	Bloom Today Ginny Priz / Paula Wallace	The Secret Place Christopher Lynn	Turning Point David Jeremiah	Youth Bytes [R] Chad Daniel	Word for Living! David Shearin	17:00	
17:30	Following Jesus with Tommy Lila	Hosting the Supernatural N vd Westhuizen	Rick Renner [R]	Higher Life Jenny Roebert	Billy Graham Ministries	Travel the Road [R]	Hope Connection Harry Jackson	17:30	
18:00	Planetshakers TV	A Brand New You Luke Brugger	Inspire Mark Sarver	Building Champions Kenneth Ulmer	Christ For All Nations Daniel Kolenda	Creation Today Eric Hovind	Building Champions Kenneth Ulmer	18:00	
18:30	700 CLUB					Now Faith John Torrens	End of the Age Irvin Baxter	18:30	
19:00						The Word for Living David Shearin	Discover Life At Boshoff	19:00	
19:30	Believer's Walk Of Faith Bill Winston					A Brand New You [R] Luke Brugger	Love Israel Baruch Korman	19:30	
19:57	Fresh 4U Today Berni Dymet							19:57	
20:00	It's Supernatural Sid Roth					MOVIE PREMIERE	Christ For All Nations Daniel Kolenda	20:00	
20:30	A Brand New You Luke Brugger	Inspire Mark Sarver	Abba's House Ron Phillips	Reigning as Kings Basil Tryon	Faith Alive Ted Shuttlesworth		Miracles with Peter Doseck	20:30	
21:00	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny	Behind the Faith [R]	Faith Matters [R] André & Jenny		Order My Steps John Francis	21:00	
21:30	Healing Your Soul Katie Souza							Curt Landry Ministries	21:30
22:00	Believer's Voice Of Victory Kenneth Copeland					Legal Edge Brad Dacus	Your Miracle Moment Siva Moodley	22:00	
22:30	Manna-Fest [R] Perry Stone	The Supernatural Now Guillermo Maldonado	Discovering The Jewish Jesus Rabbi Schneider	The Supernatural Now [R] Guillermo Maldonado	The Messenger John & Lisa Bevere	Save The World [R] Jarrod Davidoff	Jesse Duplantis [R]	22:30	
23:00	Abundant Life Ashley & Carlte Terradez						Abundant Life Today Walter Hallam	23:00	
23:30	Changing Your World Creflo Dollar					Prophetic Encounter [R] Jacques van der Westhuizen	DOCUMENTARY [R]	23:30	

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OCTOBER 2018

HIGHLIGHTS



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Faith on Fire LIVE Drs Andre & Jenny Roebert

OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 04

Faith on Fire provides a unique opportunity to hear from the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, and worshippers who have come together to impart the Word of Faith and to demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit through signs, wonders, and miracles.



Monumental - The Series Kirk Cameron

MON 05:00 PM

Monumental is the story of America's beginnings. Presented, produced, and starring Kirk Cameron, the 90-minute true story follows this father of six across Europe and the U.S. as he seeks to discover America's true "national treasure"



Changing a Mind Saturday Movie

OCT 06 08:00 PM

A mother does the impossible, finds treatment for Down syndrome, dramatically improving IQ and quality of life for her son and others.



Abundant Life Ashley & Carlie Terradez

MON-SAT 09:00 AM & 11:00 PM

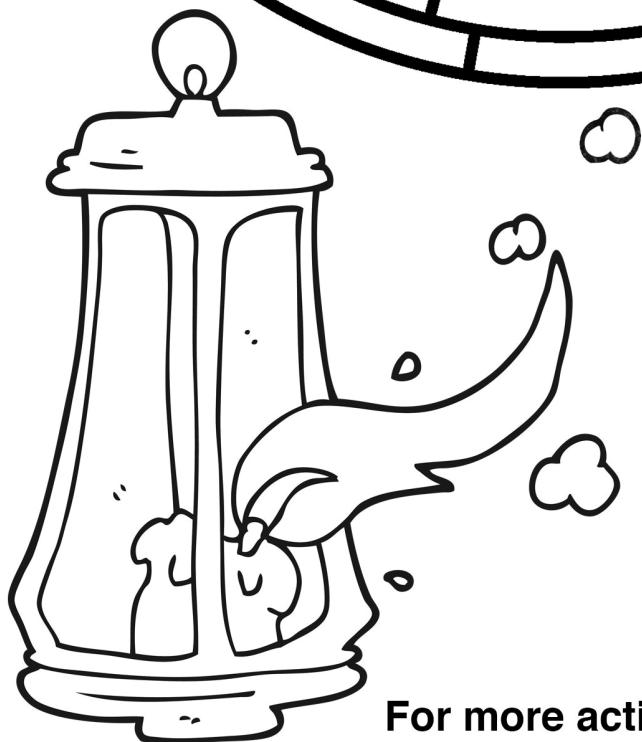
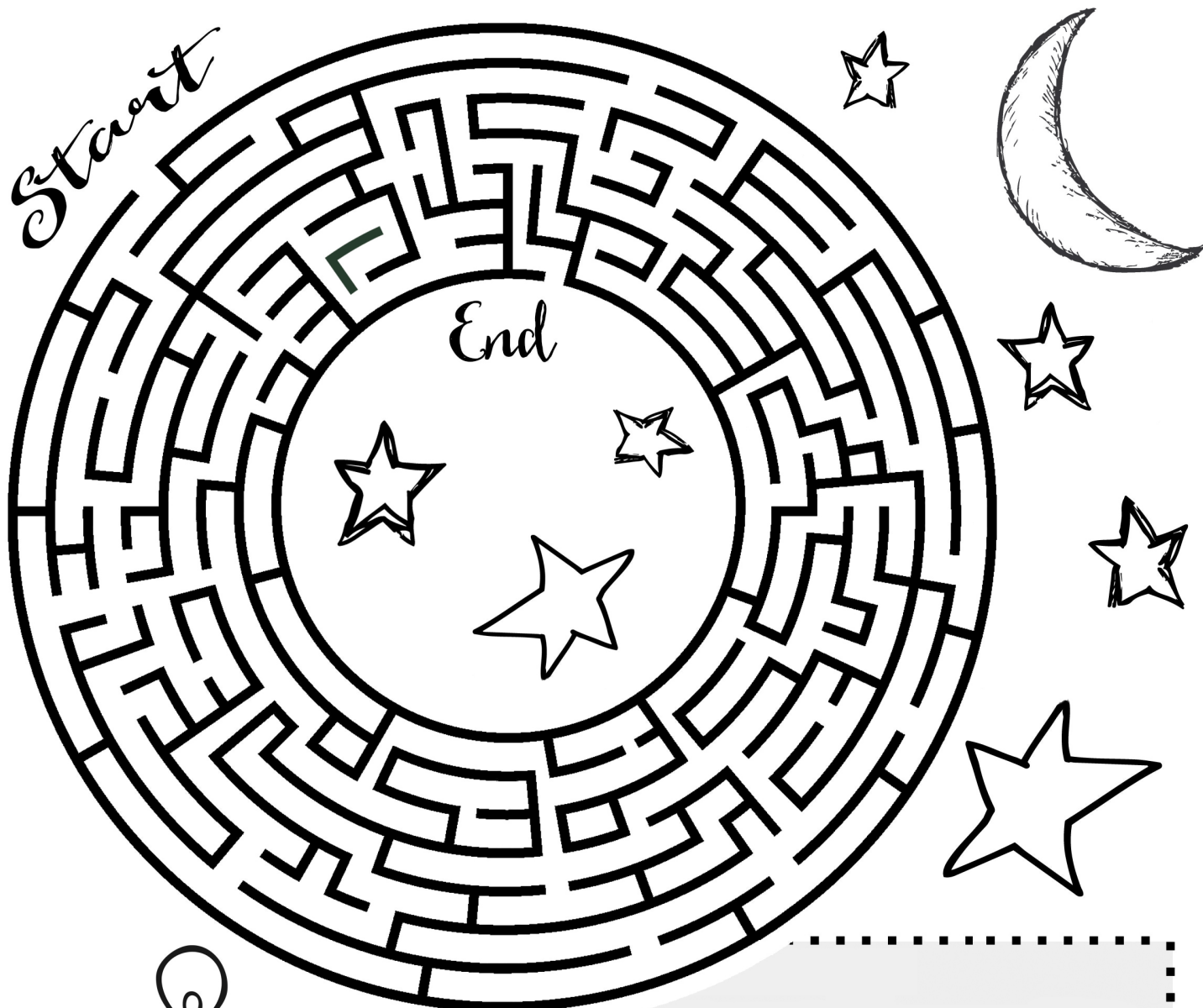
Terradez Ministries has a firm belief in the supernatural power of God with a mandate to empower believers in the promises of God. "Why live a normal life when you can live the Abundant LIFE"

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WJGV-CD CHANNEL 48.3
KRMF CHANNEL 7.2
KSCZ-LD CHANNEL 16.1
WRBZ-LD CHANNEL 31.6





Thy word is a
lamp unto my
feet, and a light
unto my path.
Psalm 119:105

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R E J O I C E

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 01 | 2 Chronicles 11-15 |
| 02 | Psalms 117-118 |
| 03 | Proverbs 28 |
| 04 | Jonah |
| 05 | Acts 3-4 |
| 06 | Hebrews 5-7 |
| 07 | Numbers 25-27 |
| 08 | 2 Chronicles 16-20 |
| 09 | Psalms 119 |
| 10 | Proverbs 29-30 |
| 11 | Micah |
| 12 | Acts 5-6 |
| 13 | Hebrews 8-10 |
| 14 | Numbers 28-30 |
| 15 | 2 Chronicles 21-24 |
| 16 | Psalms 120-121 |
| 17 | Proverbs 31 |
| 18 | Nahum |
| 19 | Acts 7-8 |
| 20 | Hebrews 11-13 |
| 21 | Numbers 31-33 |
| 22 | 2 Chronicles 25-28 |
| 23 | Psalms 122-124 |
| 24 | Ecclesiastes 1-2 |
| 25 | Habakkuk |
| 26 | Acts 9-10 |
| 27 | James 1-3 |
| 28 | Numbers 34-36 |
| 29 | 2 Chronicles 29-32 |
| 30 | Psalms 125-127 |
| 31 | Ecclesiastes 3-4 |





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SUMMER





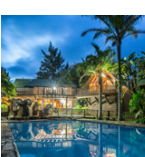
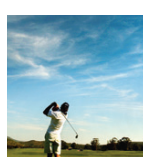


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