

# WHAT DO YOU

A close-up photograph of a woman's face, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. Her hands are resting under her chin. On her forehead, there is a rectangular digital display with a green background and a grid pattern. The display shows the text "PHILIPPIANS" in large, blocky, green letters, and "4:8" in smaller, blocky, green letters below it. The background of the image is dark, with large, stylized, red letters "K" and "M" visible on the right side.

PHILIPPIANS  
4:8



# MORE THAN A DESIGNER LABEL

BY PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR

THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

During a trip to China, I was accosted by a street salesman offering gold Rolex watches for just \$20. Seeing my dubious expression, he opened his portable display case and held out a glittering sample for me to consider. (Growing up in New York City teaches you an element of cynicism.) Admittedly, it *looked* like a Rolex. It even had the Rolex name stamped on the face. But I gracefully declined his offer, because I firmly suspected it was really just gold paint slapped on a cheap watch.

The story reminds me that adopting God's name without a real knowledge of Him is part of the sin identified in the third commandment. "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain" (Exodus 20:7). We often think of this commandment as condemning profanity, and it surely does, but that is just a small part of it. To take the name of the Lord in vain also means to say that you are a child of God but then live like a child of the world.

It takes more than a designer label to make a genuine Christian. The heart, the inner gears, must be authentic.

The satirist Gerog Christoph Lichtenberg once told this hard parable: "When a certain worthy died, one man copied his way of wearing his hat, another his way of carrying a sword, a third the cut of his beard, and a fourth his walk; but not one tried to be the honest man he was." That is, they took on a few of the unique attributes they liked most but lacked his character. Likewise, many confess the name of Jesus and try to mimic some righteous work, but they don't have a heart like Christ.

Being a Christian means more than being baptized. It also doesn't simply mean having your name on the books

or securing a high office in the church. It means more than giving money to worthy causes, or even writing great books about Jesus and preaching inspiring sermons.

Paul added that even if he spoke with the tongues of angels, had the gift of prophecy, had all knowledge, and gave away all of his goods and sacrificed his life, if he did not have love it was essentially worthless (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

Tony Compolo said he was once walking down a street in some large city when he was mugged at gunpoint. During the robbery, the thief asked his victim what he did

for a living. Compolo answered, "I'm a Baptist minister."

"Oh, you're a Baptist," exclaimed the thief. "So am I!"

It is like a newspaper ad that read: "Lost: one dog. Brown, scruffy hair with several bald spots. Right leg broken due to auto accident. Half a tail. Right eye missing. Left ear bitten off in a dog fight. Answers to the name 'Lucky.'" Obviously, that unfortunate little dog was "lucky" in name only.

But some Christians are just like that! Sadly, many converts merely become "nominal Christians," meaning "in name only." These people don't have their hearts changed, essentially taking the name of the Lord in vain.

It is true we become justified immediately as we come to Christ through faith. But genuine justification will always be followed by sanctification. The new name will be confirmed by a transformed heart and a life demonstrating that a new creature with a new heart has been created. The Bible says, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). In this issue of *Inside Report*, we give you some resources to help you start thinking with a new heart. —



THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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**INSIDE REPORT**  
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**PRESIDENT/SPEAKER**  
DOUG BATCHELOR

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
ANTHONY LESTER

**ART DESIGN/LAYOUT**  
HALEY TRIMMER

**COPYEDITORS**  
ARLENE CLARK  
LU ANN CREWS

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P.O. Box 1058  
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678-8058

PHONE: 916-434-3880  
FAX: 916-434-3889

WEBSITE: [WWW.AMAZINGFACTS.ORG](http://WWW.AMAZINGFACTS.ORG)  
E-MAIL: [EDITOR@AMAZINGFACTS.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@AMAZINGFACTS.ORG)  
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY; 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M. PACIFIC.

Amazing Facts is a nonprofit Christian ministry that utilizes literature, radio, television, the internet, and public evangelism to share the saving truths of Jesus Christ. For operation, we depend on the gifts and prayers of caring Christians who believe in our mission.

## FREE BIBLE STUDIES

To enroll in our free 27-lesson Bible study, go to [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org) and click on "Bible School." Or to take the course free by mail, send us your name, address, and phone number and specify that you would like to begin the course. (Printed lessons are in English and are available only in Canada, the United States, and their territories.)

## FREE CATALOG

Call or write for a color catalog of materials available through Amazing Facts. It contains information and prices on all books, videotapes, CDs, audiotapes, and other soul-winning materials to help you in your walk with Christ.

The *Inside Report* is printed at Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Maryland.

## 10 Amazing Facts Presents

Our new Bible-teaching television program is set to revolutionize our media outreach. Find out more about it here!



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# Mail Bag



## Central Study Hour Blessings

Our family enjoys and looks forward to watching *Central Bible Study* hour thru 3ABN and Safe TV. It is such a blessing for



us, and we have learned so much Bible truth from the program. Thanks so much for airing this program for the many viewers like us who are searching for Bible truth. *Iowa*

## Refreshing Truth

I just watched three of your lessons on your website after seeing you on TV. *Is the Devil in Charge of Hell?* is such a revelation to me. I hated God for years because I thought it was so unfair that He'd torment people forever. Even after believing in Jesus and receiving salvation, this gross unfairness still plagued me—till just now. I'm surrounded by Christians, and never before have I heard this truth. Thank you so much. Now it makes sense. *Michigan*

## A Yearning Satisfied

I cried out loud one evening yearning and thirsting for more knowledge of the Lord. I've read much of the Bible on my own, but I never felt fulfilled. One week later a friend from work directed me to your website. I knew at once the Lord had answered my prayer. This study course is truly amazing. I have learned so much. Now so much more has been revealed to me when I read the Word. Thank you for all you've done and continue to do. Glory be to God! *California*

## Source of Encouragement

I am at a cancer treatment center, and I woke up discouraged, alone, and afraid of the upcoming chemo and radiation treatments. I listened to the



sermon *Be Like Jesus*, and it lifted me up and gave me courage. I thank you for having this resource available. *Illinois*

## Helpful Web Resource

I love your website. I first heard of you through the radio and then decided to check out your homepage. It is full of awesome information. It has become a godsend to me as I am currently on bed rest and am unable to attend church. Since finding this site, I supplement my Bible reading with your studies online. Thanks for your ministry. *Kansas*



## A Ministry for Everyone

Thank the Lord for this ministry! Amazing Facts reaches out to every one of all ages. I am quite into documentaries and movies, but I don't think I will ever need to tell my friends about the latest blockbusters. Instead, the producers of your upcoming *Great Controversy* DVD are very dedicated and talented, all for the Lord. A lot of talent is being wasted on fiction for the love of money. Don't let the devil bring you down because you are a ministry that is talented, productive, up-to-date, and is saving millions of lives all across the globe on the same scale at which Hollywood is entertaining. *E-mail*



## Discovering God's Love

Praise God and thank you for *The Truth About Mary*. I've had a long struggle with sin, and I was doing all the right things for all the wrong reasons. I was doing the right things because I felt I had to, rather than from love. And I felt that I wasn't good enough for God to forgive me. After reading it, I now know Jesus loves and accepts me and my sins are forgiven. I am free in Christ! *E-mail*

The *Inside Report* welcomes all correspondence regarding the magazine and other Amazing Facts outreaches. Letters and other materials may be used—in whole or in part and edited for content and clarity—in future publications unless otherwise requested. **If Amazing Facts has helped change your life for Christ, please write to us today at [testimonies@amazingfacts.org](mailto:testimonies@amazingfacts.org)!**



# WISHES

## Making Come TRUE



We all want to be reasonably sure we will have the funds we need for the rest of our lives. We also want to ensure financial security for those loved ones who survive us. It would also be great to reduce or eliminate the taxes we owe ...

These goals, which are vitally important to most of us, simply aren't reached by accident. Instead, to make them a reality, you have to do some "Estate Planning."

### THREE STEPS ...

Estate planning starts with the acquisition of property—like real estate and other assets like stocks. It then means good management of your property to take you and your loved ones safely through life's potentially costly pitfalls—like disability and expensive emergencies. It is also crucial to make provisions for distribution of property after we die.

For each of these steps, different planning vehicles are useful. You might be familiar with some, such as a will, trust, gift annuity, or IRA. Still others may become important as you seek the best ways to plan for your needs and those of your loved ones.

### BENEFITS OF GIVING ...

Wise estate planning can also assist you in making gifts to favorite charities, such as Amazing Facts. It can help you decide what to give, when, and how. You can often help support God's work while also enhancing your own economic security.

There may never be a better time for a gift arranged as part of your estate plan. The benefits for you and Amazing Facts or other charitable organization through your gifts can help both your short- and long-term needs.

If you would like more information, call our Planned Giving Services. Call toll free at 800-436-2695 and ask for Judy, ext. 3029, or Dan, ext. 3005. We look forward to assisting you!



# WHAT DO

Sins are always ready to strike somewhere in our lives, even when others see us as a model of the faith. Learn what it takes to be a light to the world and where that journey really begins ...

# YOU THINK?

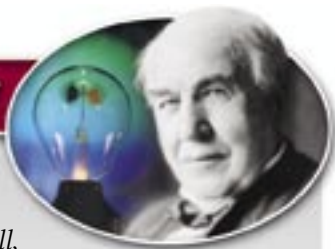
BY PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” –Isaiah 55:8, 9*

## AN AMAZING FACT

*If you could put a price on your brain, how much do you think it would be worth? Well,*

*Thomas Edison had thousands of patents in his lifetime. Around the time of his death, an economic analyst for the New York Times estimated that the brain of this notable genius was worth \$25 billion, which the analyst derived largely from the business interests from his inventions.*



**I**f you are anything like me, you rarely think *about your thinking*. And sadly, thinking usually “just happens” for most of us. It is much like a ship that doesn’t have an anchor or a rudder, and whichever way the wind blows or the current moves, that’s where our minds go. Rarely do we focus our thinking as did Thomas Edison. I want to challenge Christians to think more about what they think.

Good thinking is something we can train ourselves to do like any other discipline. If we can learn to play the piano or speak a second language, we can also train our minds to think well in just about every possible circumstance. And this is absolutely crucial as we head into the last days of earth’s history: to have strong, sharp minds ready to recognize and refute the devil’s challenges. I submit therefore that it is very important for us to learn to think the way God wants us to think.

Our ability to reason in abstract ways is perhaps the most fundamental difference between humans and the rest of God’s animal creation. And it is a significant difference, because we will someday answer to God for what we choose to think. “The LORD does not see as man sees; for man

looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7 NKJV). That means even if we can fool others with our so-called righteous actions, if we deliberately entertain sin in our minds and enjoy the pleasures of it with our imaginations, we cannot fool God.

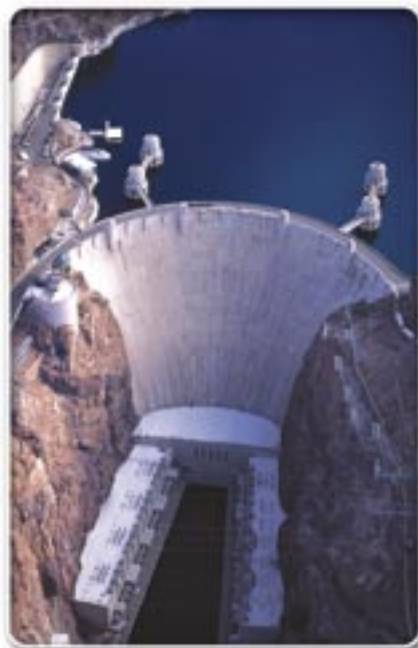
Besides, as Proverbs tell us, “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (23:7).

## Controlling the Flood

Horace, an ancient philosopher, said, “Rule your mind, or it will rule you.”

Before Hoover Dam was built, billions of gallons of rainwater would flood wildly through the Colorado River to the sea. But once that water was controlled, a tremendous amount of power was harnessed for electricity and the irrigation of millions of acres of farms. Most people let their thoughts flood aimlessly through their minds out into a useless sea of oblivion, but under the influence and control of the Holy Spirit a great deal of good thinking can be accomplished.

Ever since I was a day-dreaming child in grade school, I have experienced problems controlling my maverick thinking. I suspect it’s a battle we all face, but it is



imperative that everyone start thinking about what we think because it matters to God.

Allow me to illustrate: We believe in keeping God's seventh-day Sabbath. We meet God on His time and refrain from our labor, which is typically something we think about doing with our bodies. But not long ago, my house was undergoing some overdue repair with new sheetrock and paint. I found that after the sun went down and the workers were gone and all the tools were put away, when I would wander by the room under construction, I started thinking about what still needed to be done. I also managed to find problems and make mental notes, "Oh, they missed a spot with the paint."

But the Lord convicted me. "Doug, it's the Sabbath. What are you thinking about?" Sure, I wasn't working with my body, but my mind was fully engaged in construction. I was doing labor in my brain. We might sometimes pride ourselves on keeping the Sabbath because we're not doing any physical work. But are we putting our minds into something as if we were working?

## Sinful Thoughts

Are we really *that* responsible for what we think? Well, yes. Sure, thoughts tend to go through your mind as if they were on a conveyer belt. Sometimes we can't help what we start thinking, especially with the blizzard of information coming from our senses that our brains have to sort. Psychologists have estimated that about 10,000 thoughts go through our brains every day. But even then, we can choose what to keep in our brains for processing and what to discard. And a lot of Christians dwell on very unhealthy, very sinful things rather than focusing on that which is holy.

Jesus taught that we can commit perjury, murder, and adultery in the mind. (See Matthew 5:28). He added, "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false

witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man" (Matthew 15:18-20).

According to Jesus, sin always begins in the mind. That's why we can't be indifferent about what we think. Yet the emphasis of most churches is on actions, leading many Christians to consider sin as just an action rather than an attitude.

Let me be clear: This does not mean that when a tempting thought hits you—for instance, you are tempted to shoplift an item from a store—it is necessarily a sin.

If I told you not to think of a purple monkey with polka dots, you would be hard pressed not to think about it. I imagine you are thinking about it right now! There are times when you are unable to control the stimulus around you, or the evil suggestions the devil may plant in your thoughts.

In a world convoluted with shameful advertising and revealing fashions, the devil has an easy job planting the seeds of sin in our minds. If you reject the thought and evict it from your mind, then it is not a sin. But if you choose to dwell on it and embrace the idea, it becomes a sin.

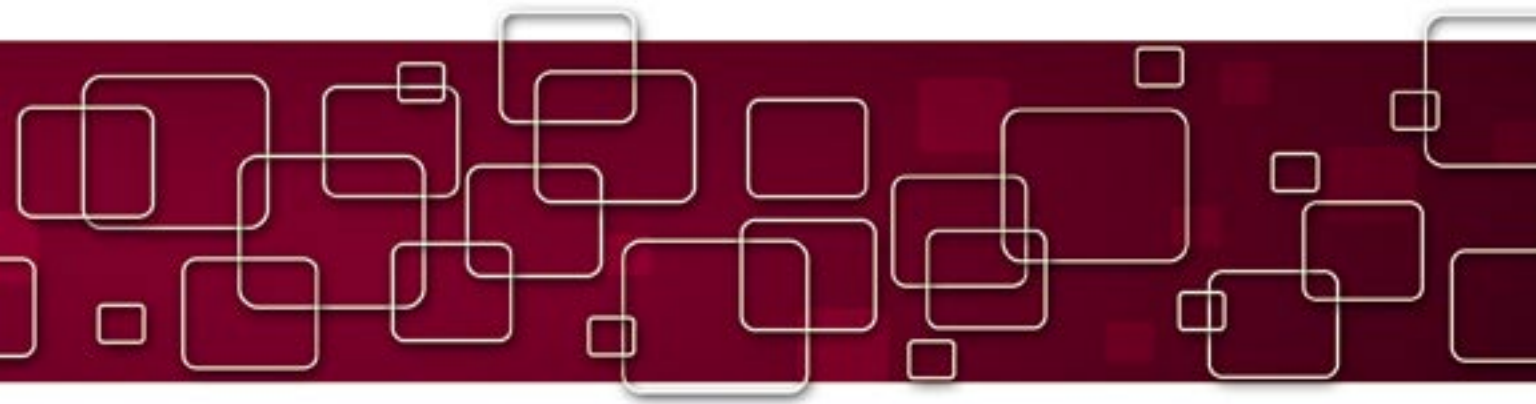
## The Mind's Gatekeeper

But be warned: As they say in flying, "your attitude determines your altitude." When you adjust an airplane's attitude, the angle at which the wings hit the air, the plane will either ascend or descend. In the same way, the attitude of your mind toward sin is going to affect the altitude of your life.

If your mind is constantly floating in the trash, that's where you're going to go in your life. If your attitude is focused upward on the spiritual, you will glide up to heaven. Yet God's people are often blasé about the connection between our thoughts and our success as Christians. George Barna, the famous researcher,







put it this way: “The vast majority of Christians do not behave differently because they do not think differently.”

How does a person become spiritually minded, to think the thoughts God wants us to think? Part of training and exercising the mind is controlling the inputs. We’re likely to let our minds slip into sinful thoughts if we’re constantly eyeing what passes for entertainment. What we take into our minds will certainly affect how and what we think. How much more likely will you have nightmares if you start watching horror flicks before going to bed?

The reason this is so crucial is that we never really stop thinking. You are practically unable to stop when you are awake, which makes what you think and how you control your thinking so potentially dangerous. You are what you think. The more poison you let into your mind, the more poison you are likely to process in your thinking and the more poison you are likely to leave in the world.

If our thinking is influenced by what we take into our minds, shouldn’t Christians be particularly careful about what we choose to watch and hear? Some Christians wonder,



“Lord, why can’t I be more like Christ? Why is the Christian walk so difficult?” Yet they’re filling their minds with things that are totally opposed to Christ. We don’t think we would ever consider murder or adultery or stealing or lying, yet we deliberately choose to do these things

vicariously by beholding entertainment filled with those behaviors. (See Matthew 15:17.)

That’s a startling contradiction. It is in fact one of the most dangerous problems in the church, virtually everywhere in the world. It’s the frivolous, nasty things that people watch and hear and read, filling their minds with filth and tempting the Lord. Do not be deceived; God is not mocked. “To be carnally minded is death. . . . Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are

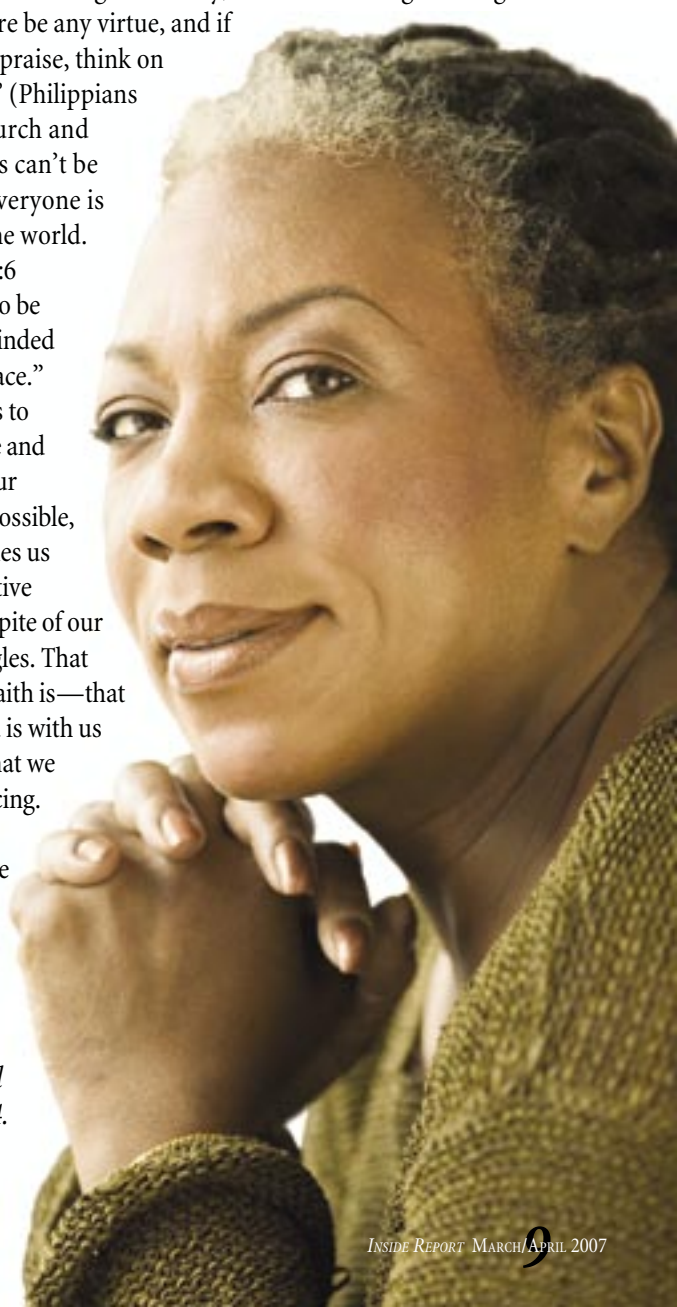
in the flesh cannot please God” (Romans 8:6–8). What you sow into your mind, you are going to reap in your thoughts and actions.

## Think the Positive

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Philippians 4:8). The church and her members can’t be spiritual if everyone is feeding on the world.

Romans 8:6 promises, “To be spiritually minded is life and peace.” God wants us to be as positive and spiritual in our thinking as possible, and He enables us to think positive thoughts in spite of our fleshly struggles. That is what real faith is—that thinking God is with us in spite of what we are experiencing.

In fact, Paul Bunyan wrote *Pilgrim’s Progress* while he was in



*Continued on page 24.*

# AMAZING FACTS PRESENTS

Amazing Facts has revolutionized our television programming with a brand-new Bible-teaching broadcast! In the second week of February, *Amazing Facts Presents* debuted across the country on all our networks, including BET, ABC, and i TV. Be sure to tune in and discover what the Lord is accomplishing through Amazing Facts.

Says Douglas Garcia, producer, "Our new *Amazing Facts Presents* is specifically designed to catch the eye of today's media savvy generation without compromising the ministry's unique Bible-based, conservative message. The program is both fresh and contemporary without diluting crucial Bible truth."

Amazing Facts' staff worked hard to get the program ready in time for the February deadline, creating new, eye-catching graphics and editing fresh, timely content that will touch hearts and minds for the Lord. It will be a great way to get nominal Christians to rethink their faith and to touch the hearts of skeptics with reasons to believe.

"This new program shows that Amazing Facts is actively seeking new ways to reach the lost," adds Garcia. "This program doesn't necessarily scream 'religion' even though it contains some of Pastor Doug's best and most

## Quick Fact

At the beginning of the program, we'll let viewers know they are getting an excerpt from a larger series so they can order the full presentation.



## Quick Fact

The composer who scored *The Final Events of Bible Prophecy*, Joe Hogue, is also writing the music for *Amazing Facts Presents*.



powerful sermons. It should catch the eye of more channel surfers and grab the attention of open hearts long enough to get them deep into the spiritual message.”

### Re-Envisioning Soul-Winning Programming

Unlike past programs, each episode of *Amazing Facts Presents* will stand alone, meaning viewers will get a full, faith-building lesson on a subject each time they watch—rather than having to wait for the next program or worry that they have missed a previous one.

One significant change is that Doug's presentation will not be interrupted by commercial breaks. Instead, we'll supplement every lesson with a free offer at the end of the program, enabling our audience to dive deeper into the Bible and better understand God's will without interruption. We'll continue offering our very popular and free Bible lessons as well.

*Amazing Facts Presents* also provides the ministry

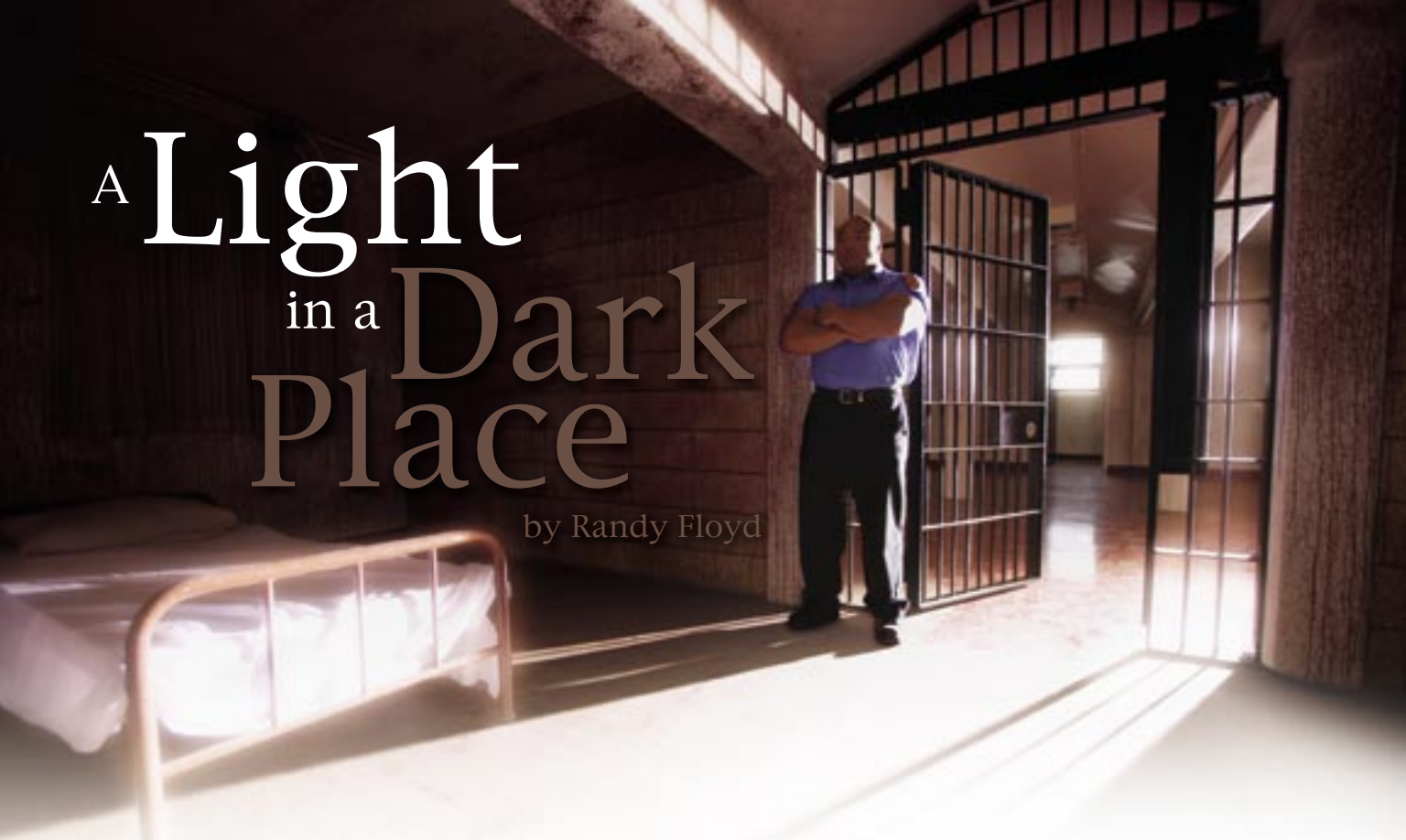
greater flexibility in meeting channel surfers and regular viewers wherever

they are in their lives. It will now be much easier to adapt the program to current events with timely messages, speaking to the concerns and needs of our audience and giving them a reason to have hope in Jesus Christ.

Pastor Doug adds, “I'm very excited about the evangelism possibilities of *Amazing Facts Presents*. I hope each one of our friends will take this new program as a new opportunity to share their faith with their friends, families, and neighbors.”

Thank you for making this new program possible. And be sure to invite your loved ones to watch with you. Did you know that the majority of our new contacts come through our television programs? Without your support, this vital media outreach would not be possible! —





# A Light in a Dark Place

by Randy Floyd

**My life** was seriously out of control when I was arrested for attempted murder in 1996. God reached out to me then, and I surrendered my life to Him while awaiting sentencing.


Amazing Facts was a big part of getting me back on track. The ministry helped me to see more and more of the beauty of our risen Savior through your Study Guides and booklets. The love and generosity shown by Amazing Facts to a criminal such as myself has also shown me what He can accomplish through fallen men, manifested every day by faithful, transformed people working at Amazing Facts and through those who support the ministry. I'm happy to say I too have been transformed. I am no longer the man I used to be, but a new creation in Christ Jesus, baptized into God's church!

While I was still in state prison, Amazing Facts graciously sent me a set of Study Guides. I passed these around among the others at the prison and several became convinced and desired to honor God. Then we wanted to reach the rest of the prison. A generous donor sent us the entire *A New Revelation* video series! We were also able to obtain enough *Storacles* Bible lessons for everyone who attended.

We convinced the prison to play *A New Revelation* every week on the prison station. One set of videos and Study Guides reached thousands over a period of about three years. Many hearts were touched to surrender their torn lives to Jesus. I have seen some of the biggest, baddest men you've ever laid eyes on break down and cry, broken before Jesus. It is an amazing sight! Many were brought to the light of the truth!

Sometime later, I was transferred to another prison. Every Sunday night, several of us would meet in the prison yard to listen to *Bible Answers Live* on our radios and then send for the free booklets and use those to share with others! We obtained another set of videos and the truth was spread in a major way. Thanks to God and His blessing upon Amazing Facts, church services soon swelled. Soon we had standing room only and had to be moved to a bigger chapel.

The magnitude of what has been accomplished through the humble instrument of Amazing Facts in just my life alone is immeasurable. Only in eternity will its far-reaching effects be known. Prison is one of the dirtiest and darkest places. But through Amazing Facts, God has shown a light into this darkness. Murderers have been transformed by the love of Jesus into men that are gentle and caring—who wouldn't even raise their voice let alone their hand. Men who have been in bondage to drugs, alcohol, anger, and so many other traps of Satan have been set free and now have a new start, a new life, in Christ!

What more can I say than thank God for you. 

# Project Opportunities

Building His Kingdom Together



## Project: Great Controversy DVD

With the evangelistic success of *Final Events*, Amazing Facts is now producing a brand-new documentary based on the classic *Great Controversy*. We need to raise funds today to help inform millions about God's incredible master plan of redemption for the human race. It's a great way to share the remnant church's message before the return of our Lord! It's the perfect evangelism tool!

**Funding Goal: \$1,500,000**

**Storehouse: \$556,269**

## Project: New Television Program and Broadcast Expansion



We've developed a new weekly, 30-minute television program featuring Pastor Doug's best sermons and want to make it available to a much bigger audience than ever before. The new packaging will appeal to today's viewer, with new, eye-grabbing graphics and more focused ministry

promos that will present Amazing Facts as an awesome Bible resource warehouse!

**Funding Goal: \$3,000,000**

**Storehouse: \$1,368,504**

## Project: Final Events Commercial



When Amazing Facts last aired our special *Final Events* 30-minute program on the i Network, we received thousands of responses from all over the country, opening up a new door to effective and efficient evangelism. We want to repeat that success by airing even more specials

that potential millions will see and respond. Be a part of this exciting new effort!

**Funding Goal: \$1,300,000**

**Storehouse: \$139,217**

## More Ways to Support God's End-Time Work

- You can now do more to further the gospel with even more giving options available! Do you have a non-cash gift you would like to donate to help reach souls lost in darkness?
- Amazing Facts gladly accepts vehicles, stocks, mutual fund shares, and real estate that we can convert into soul-winning resources.
- Call us at 1-800-436-2695, ext. 3029, and we'll assist you with the paperwork and how you can benefit with the best possible tax deduction.



# BIBLE Answers



with Pastor Doug Batchelor



**Should we expect the Holy Spirit to come upon us when we are baptized as in Jesus' example (Act 8:16)?**

The Holy Spirit comes into people's lives in varying degrees at different times. He goes to the sinner and convicts him. He goes to the believers to push him further in his walk with God. The Holy Spirit works in hearts in different proportions as we make room for Him.

God the Spirit is a person, with a mind of His own. He's often the hardest entity for us to understand because we picture Christ, who is also God, with a body. We imagine the Spirit as a dove, as fire, as water, as wind. But He's a real person we can know, and as with any friend or acquaintance there can be varying depths of relationship and closeness.

For instance, the Scriptures seem to teach that the Holy Spirit always infuses His power fully with those engaged fully in God's work. Obviously, Jesus had the Holy Spirit in His life even before His baptism.

It is the Spirit that first begins to work in a person's life, convicting them of sin and leading them to repentance. John 16:8 teaches, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin." Indeed, the Holy Spirit leads a person to the decision of baptism.

But then a special filling of the Holy Spirit is promised to all who have been baptized and have made the decision to follow Christ. "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:38, 39).

The sequence of baptism and receiving the Spirit may be different for every individual. The apostles were baptized by

Tune in to *Bible Answers Live*, Amazing Facts' live, nationwide call-in radio program, and listen to Pastor Doug give biblical, straightforward answers to difficult Bible questions. To get times and stations in your area, or to listen to answers online, visit [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org). You can also request a free program guide by phone or mail.

**New Bible Answers Live Radio Stations!**

Shelbyville, KY on 93.3 FM  
 Whitehall, PA on 1470 AM  
 Saint Louis, MO on 630 AM




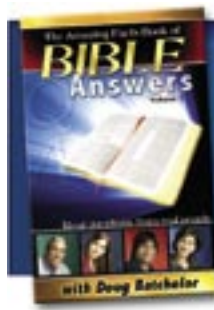
John the Baptist but did not receive the Holy Spirit until Pentecost (Acts 2). In contrast, Cornelius and his household were baptized by the Holy Spirit before being baptized in water (Acts 10:45-47).

Then, of course, at the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came down immediately after Christ came up out of the water. "And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him" (Mark 1:9, 10).

Also remember that God's Spirit is not limited to one baptism. The book of Acts records several occasions where the apostles were re-fueled with the power of the Holy Spirit. "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31).

When a person is baptized, they should go into that experience asking for and claiming the Holy Spirit because we need His power to navigate this sinful world as Christians. "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8).

If you repent of your sins and surrender yourself fully to be used of God, the Lord will send the promise of His Spirit. But remember, the Holy Spirit will only fill empty vessels available for His service. 



**Book of Bible Answers, Vol. 1**  
Get Pastor Doug's candid, biblical answers to difficult Bible questions, straight from his popular *Bible Answers Live* radio program. It's one of our most requested books of all time—find out why today!  
BK-BOBA ... \$10.99

See ordering info on page 19.

# Do you want to lead people to Christ? You can by joining Amazing Facts

## PARTNERS IN EVANGELISM



For more than 40 years, Amazing Facts has proclaimed the gospel through television, radio, national and international evangelistic events, and our many Bible schools. The result is a multitude of lives radically transformed through the power of Jesus Christ.

One of our most popular Bible-teaching broadcasts today is *Bible Answers Live*, which can be heard on the airwaves around the world in more than 100 cities and live on the internet. Every Sunday night, seekers and Bible students get faith-affirming answers to some of the most difficult and confusing Bible subjects, giving them a reason to believe.

This would never be possible without the faithful monthly financial support of people

just like you, people who really want to change the world for the Lord.

And now you have a better opportunity than ever to be a part of this work. For a monthly commitment of just \$50 or more—an annual commitment of \$600—you can help the soul-winning ministry of Amazing Facts continue the work until the return of our Savior. You'll share in the harvest of souls won to Christ and have the satisfaction of making an eternal difference!

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You will also be kept informed of how your gifts are being used through a special Partners in Evangelism quarterly report.

**Yes, I want to become  
a Partner in Evangelism!**

Enclosed is my first monthly gift of

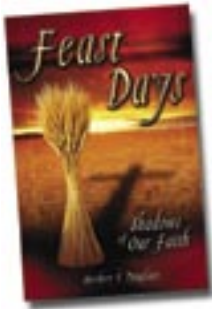
- \$50     \$75     \$100  
 \$150     \$200     Other \_\_\_\_\_



"Thank you for *Bible Answers Live*. It is a real blessing as I led Jesus into my life only a few months ago."

— Switzerland

Please use the envelope in the center of this magazine to let us know your reply.



### Feast Days

*Dr. Herbert E. Douglass.* Should Christians be keeping the ancient Jewish feast-days? Get a direct, biblical answer about a subject that is driving a wedge between otherwise well-meaning Christians. You'll learn the truth, according to the Bible alone. This provocative and timely work will challenge you no matter where you stand on the issue.

**BK-FD ... \$3.95**



### Feast Days & Sabbaths

*Joe Crews.* A powerful answer to the mistaken view that the Ten Commandments were part of the ceremonial law. Great for sharing.

**BK-FDS ... \$0.95**

### The Book of Amazing Facts, Volumes 1 & 2

Pastor Doug's most popular amazing facts have been compiled into these comprehensive volumes! Whether you're preparing a sermon, need an attention grabber for a children's story, or just enjoy fascinating trivia of every kind, these great books will be wonderful resources for your home or office.

**Vol. 1: BK-BOAF ... \$9.99**

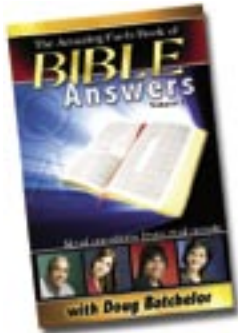
**Vol. 2: BK-BOAF2 ... \$9.99**



### Holy Spirit: The Need

*Doug Batchelor.* The Holy Spirit, the third person of the triune God, plays a critical role in the spiritual growth of every Christian. Learn how to prepare for this incredible gift, and what happens to a soul that is filled with the power of God.

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### Book of Bible Answers, Vol. 1

*Doug Batchelor.* From the national live radio call-in show *Bible Answers Live*, Pastor Doug Batchelor gives candid, biblical answers to tough Bible questions. Compiled from the very best, this is an awesome resource for sharing, Bible study, and personal evangelism.

**BK-BOBA ... \$10.99**



### Down From His Glory

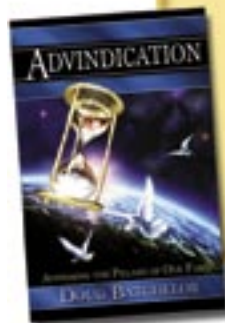
*Joe Crews.* Fully divine, fully human ... or both? A study of Christ's human nature in the context of His earthly life.

**BK-DFG ... \$0.95**

### Higher Still

*Wellesley Muir.* Pick up your feet and start climbing into a richer Christian experience by learning to actively participate in God's plan for your life. A life-changing book!

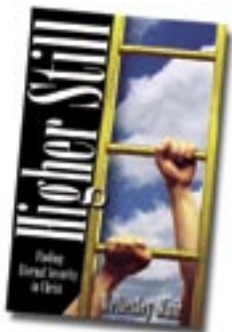
**BK-HS ... \$13.99**



### Advindication

*Doug Batchelor.* Is Adventism a biblical denomination leading souls to the true faith—or a dangerous cult leading millions astray? Find out here! Get straight, easy-to-understand, Bible-based reasons for six of the most controversial tenets of a faith inspired by the Reformation, including the seventh-day Sabbath, God's law, Ellen White, health laws, and the judgment and afterlife.

**BK-ADVIN ... \$9.99**



### The Beast, the Dragon, and the Woman

*Joe Crews.* A daring overview of the Bible's most compelling end-time players and the struggle between good and evil!

**BK-BDW ... \$1.95**



### Answers to Difficult Bible Texts

*Joe Crews.* Quickly find valuable information to explain more than 100 perplexing Bible verses. A valuable tool for witnessing or personal Bible study with an easy-to-use index.

**BK-ANS ... \$3.95**



**The Richest Caveman**

*Doug Batchelor.* The extraordinary true story of Doug Batchelor, son of a millionaire father and show-business mother. Find out how God turned a rebellious cave-dwelling teenager into a tremendous soul-winner for Jesus Christ.

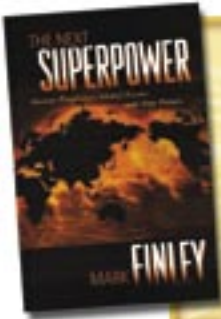
**BK-RCM ... \$9.95**



**The Richest Caveman CD**

Pastor Doug Batchelor reads his extraordinary testimony of how God transformed him from a rebellious teenager living in a cave into a tremendous soul-winner.

Includes a bonus DVD.  
**(Audio CD) CD-RCM ... \$24.95**



**The Next Superpower**

*Mark Finley.* Filled with colorful illustrations, photos, and charts, this easy-to-read yet detailed study on Bible prophecy and the earth's last-day events is designed for sharing with anyone searching for biblical answers in these troubling times. Overcomes false teachings while giving lasting peace and hope to everyone who opens its pages.

**BK-NS ... \$9.95**

**The Day God Rested**

*D.C. Manrick.* Dynamic proof that the fourth commandment is as important



today as the day it was established. Learn about the blessings this day promises. Share with friends and family.

**BK-DGR ... \$3.95**



**The Final Events of Bible Prophecy**

*E.G. White.* Get a detailed, powerful picture of what's to come in the next age of human history. This treasured masterpiece will help you and your family prepare for eternity. A soul-winning sharing book!

(DVD on page 19.)  
**(Book) BK-FE ... \$4.99**



**Born to Die**

*E.G. White.* So many have heard about the babe born in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago, yet few really understand the depths of His beginnings. Now this beautifully crafted volume taken from the classic *The Desire of Ages* will give you a breathtakingly detailed portrait of the early years of Christ. A remarkable journey that will change your life. Great for sharing with those who want to know more about Jesus.

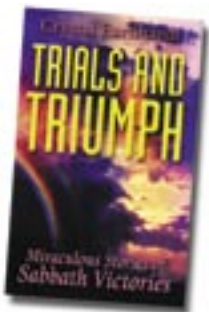
**BK-BTD ... \$4.98**



**Grave Errors About Death**

*Jim Pinkoski.* This illustrated, attention-grabbing book gives the Bible facts on what happens after death.

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**Trials and Triumph**

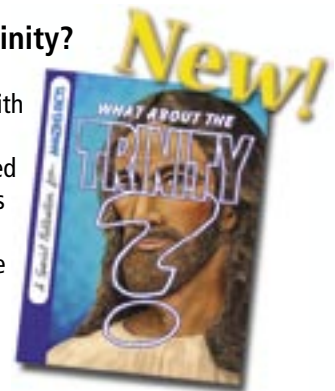
*Crystal Earnhardt.* Each week Norman, a commercial fisherman, drifts at sea for 24 hours and catches a triple amount of fish the next day. Teri loses her job and nearly every earthly possession, then winds up in court fighting for justice. What do they have in common? A passionate desire to obey God's fourth commandment, regardless of the cost.

**BK-ETT ... \$4.95**

**What About the Trinity?**

*Jim Pinkoski.* Share the truth of the Godhead with this easy-to-understand and beautifully illustrated Bible study that features Pastor Doug Batchelor! A great sharing resource for any age!

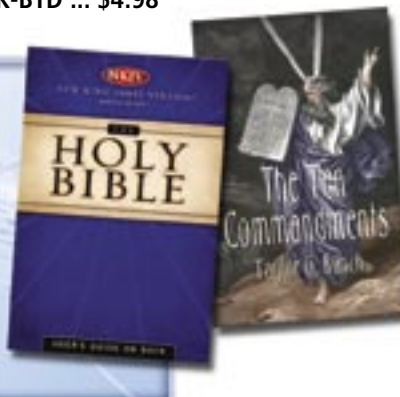
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**NKJ Version Paperback Bible**

Get God's Word more affordably and in a package that's easier to carry around. A great sharing Bible that people will love.

**BK-BNKJP ... \$2.99**



**The Ten Commandments**

*Taylor Bunch.* A classic work that brings the Ten Commandments to life unlike anything else. It emphasizes the spiritual nature and lessons of God's moral law. And discover how Christ's righteousness, imparted to all believers, makes it the "law of liberty" that all should obey.

**BK-TC ... \$12.95**

## Never Been This Late Before

*Herbert Edgar Douglass.* The world around you is changing fast! And all the Bible signs of the end are rapidly converging. In this masterful commentary, you'll get astounding evidence—from natural disasters to spiritual falsehood and more—but even more important, you'll learn what should you be doing to be prepared. Also an awesome witnessing resource!

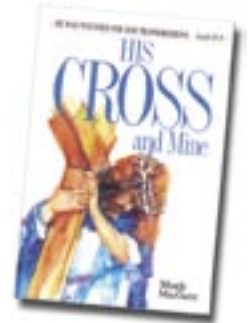
**BK-NBTL ... \$9.95**



## His Cross and Mine

*Meade MacGuire.* A vivid portrayal of what the cross meant to the disciples and early Christians—and what it still should mean for every believer today. Highly recommended!

**BK-HCM ... \$2.95**



## Patriarchs and Prophets CD set

You will be spellbound as the great stories of the Old Testament, the creation week, Noah and the flood, Joseph, Moses, the exodus from Egypt, and countless others are retold in the audio rendition of Patriarchs and Prophets. How did the universe begin? How did the world get here? Where and how did the human race start? Patriarchs and Prophets is about beginnings. It explains exactly how planet Earth—and the people who live on it—began! 2 Albums (25 CDs).

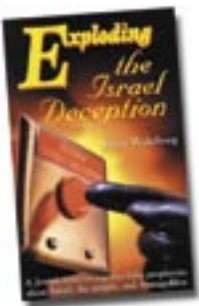
**CD-PPRO ... \$99.95**



## Exploding the Israel Deception

*Steve Wohlberg.* 100-percent Bible proof that the book of Revelation centers around spiritual Israel! Wohlberg effectively unmasks the popular errors now leading millions astray.

**BK-EID ... \$5.95**



## Hidden Treasures DVD

Explore the intricate beauty of a simple snow crystal and marvel at a desert flower too tiny for the eye to see. Teaches that the greatest treasure of all is knowing the Creator as our Father.

**DV-HT ... \$12.99**



## Journey of Life DVD

Get exciting science from a biblical perspective and learn how God's Word must take root in our hearts. (40 mins.)

**DV-JOL ... \$12.99**



## Panorama of Prophecy CD

*The Ultimate Bible Study Resource!*

Using the revolutionary *Storacles of Prophecy*, this exciting study will help you clearly understand the primary prophecies of Daniel and Revelation. This amazing CD also contains \$300 worth of free resources, including Bible-search software and a resource library. Priced for sharing with all your friends and family!

**CD-POP ... \$1.99 each for 9 or less  
Only \$1 each for 10 or more!**



## God's Mighty Men

*Doug Batchelor.* Using stories of the Bible's most faithful men, Pastor Doug calls men to holiness, personal responsibility, and to live godly lives. This candid, convicting presentation is entertaining and inspiring. Guaranteed to touch the hearts of

men who want to lead their families, churches, and communities in Christ-like fashion. 4 part series.

**(Audio CD) CD-GMM ... \$19.95**

**(DVD) DV-GMM ... \$24.95**



## Oh For Revival!

Did you miss this life-changing series, or do you want to share it with others who could use a boost in their walk with Christ? Rediscover this exciting revival series and watch everyone you know find their first love all over again! Set comes with the inspirational book *To Live in His Sight*.

**(Audio CD) CD-REV4 ... \$49.95**

**(DVD) DV-REV4S ... \$89.85**

**The Final Events of Bible Prophecy DVD**

An extraordinary interactive Bible adventure and documentary that explores the final events of prophecy in a way you've never seen before! An incredible witnessing tool!  
**DV-FEB ... \$6.99** *New price!*



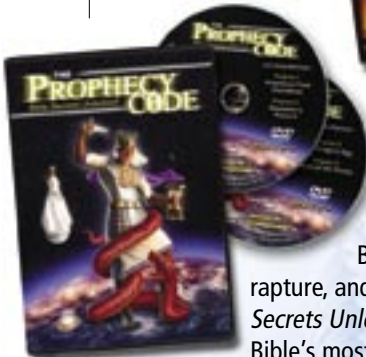
**Incredible Creatures that Defy Evolution 1, 2, and 3 DVD**

Enter the fascinating world of God's animals to witness sophisticated and complex designs that shake the traditional foundations of evolutionary theory. Presents powerful evidence that proves that animal designs can be attributed only to the Creator.  
**DV-ICTD1 ... \$22.99**  
**DV-ICTD2 ... \$22.99**  
**DV-ICTD3 ... \$22.99**



**The Most Amazing Prophecies DVD series**

Don't miss out on one of the most powerful prophecy series ever made — the MAP: Most Amazing Prophecies! Pastor Doug delivers a thrilling picture of Bible prophecy, proving that Scripture can be trusted and that Jesus and His offer of eternal salvation are the ultimate reasons for understanding your future.  
**DV-MAP ... \$89.95**



**The Prophecy Code DVD series**

*Pastor Doug Batchelor.* Discover an all-new, Bible-based perspective about Revelation, the rapture, and much more with *The Prophecy Code ... Bible Secrets Unlocked*. You will get the keys to understand the Bible's most mysterious prophecies for yourself in this dynamic, 20-part series that will challenge everything you know about the last days! Are you ready for the future? You can be with *The Prophecy Code!*  
**(DVD) DV-PCS ... \$99.95 (Audio CD) CD-PCS ... \$69.95**

**From Evolutionist to Creationist DVD**

*Dr. Walter Veith.* Popular international speaker Dr. Veith shares his incredible personal testimony of how God changed him from an atheist evolutionist scientist into a creationist Sabbathkeeping evangelist! A miracle conversion story that you will never forget! (90 mins.)  
**DV-FEC ... \$10.00**



**Living on the Edge DVD**

*Jim Hohnberger.* Jim relentlessly pursued the American Dream but soon discovered it left him unfulfilled. He risked everything to find a better way and as a result, he found the secret for genuine satisfaction. His whole life turned around, and what he learned will do the same for you.  
**DV-LOE ... \$19.95**



**The New Covenant: A Better Promise Audio CD**

Join Pastor Doug as he delivers an uplifting, hope-filled message about the new covenant between Christ and His followers. Understand why the old covenant was cast aside for a better promise relying on God's infinite love and how there is hope for every Christian caught in the snare of sin.  
**CD-E2547 ... \$6.00**



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Order online at [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org)

Prices subject to change without notice. California residents please add 7.25% sales tax. For orders shipped outside the USA, add 37% of subtotal (minimum \$9.50) for additional foreign postage.

# THE BEHIND SCENES

## Meet Brod Boyd



Brod Boyd has joined Amazing Facts as Director of Media, where he will oversee the production and creation of content for all non-print ministry media, including our television and radio broadcasts and internet content. He says, "Part of my role is to help provide the vision for our Media Department. God has blessed our past efforts, and I can't wait to see what He will do in the coming years."

After graduating from Florida A&M University with a degree in music, he continued with graduate studies in public administration. He then led new media productions at his alma mater, while also serving as a consultant on various television and film productions.

Seeking to use his talents and experience to reach more people with the light of Christ, he adds, "My goal is to increase our media reach. There are still millions of individuals who have never heard of Amazing Facts, and most important, have never heard the truths from the Bible. My burden is to change that."

Brod believes Amazing Facts plays an important role in the cosmic conflict between good and evil and that its dedication to Christ is the foundation of its success. "My co-workers are truly seeking to know God personally. Our daily morning devotions and prayer are a welcome refreshment to my soul."

## Meet Dan Storkamp



Amazing Facts also extends a warm welcome to Dan Storkamp as our new Planned Giving Advisor. He'll guide ministry friends through the process of estate planning, securing their financial futures while also enabling them to share their abundant blessings with others and the Lord's work.

He says, "I look forward to helping people reach their financial goals and showing them the blessings God has for those who give to His work." He believes being a part of the worldwide ministry of Amazing Facts is the most fulfilling work there is. "While working as financial planners in Michigan, our clients invited us to a satellite prophecy series. We were convicted to follow these teachings. A year later, soon after we were baptized, we attended *Millennium of Prophecy* and just 'connected' with Pastor Doug."

Dan shares a home with his wife Deb and their three children, Olivia, Esmie, and Mari. He has degrees in both law enforcement from a university in Michigan and theology from Pacific Union College. Prior to Amazing Facts, he worked as the director of NEWSTART at the Weimar Institute in Northern California.

On off hours, Dan enjoys hiking, camping, and visiting zoos, aquariums, and botanical gardens with his family.

## THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT

FACTS AM... TS AMAZING FACTS AMAZING FACTS



Here are just a few of the many sacrificial spirits making a difference at Amazing Facts as volunteers. Martha and Bill Thessman have been working with the ministry for years. "Some of us can't go to the mission field, but we can do things here," says Martha. She organized a "collating party" at her home where she served soup and bread, had a short worship service, and 30 of her friends collated 1,500 Study Guides into sets in one short evening!

Norman Elliott works from home, responding to some of the thousands who write Amazing Facts with Bible questions. He spends just an hour each day, but each letter makes a

huge difference. Dr. Carol Humphreys has been volunteering from home writing letters for up to 40 hours in one week on top of her regular job!

We're always looking for volunteers to work with us in our Roseville office, and many others to work with us over the internet and out in the field with camp meetings and other conferences.

If you're feeling called to volunteer at Amazing Facts, we first ask that you spend some time praying about it. When you know the Spirit is moving you, please let us know via e-mail at [MichelleS@AmazingFacts.org](mailto:MichelleS@AmazingFacts.org) or by phone at 916-434-3880.

# NEWS NOTES

Amazing Facts



## New TV Stations

Amazing Facts' programs can now be seen in San Diego, California, on MY TV, channel 13, and XDTV, channel 49. Be sure to watch and let your friends know too!

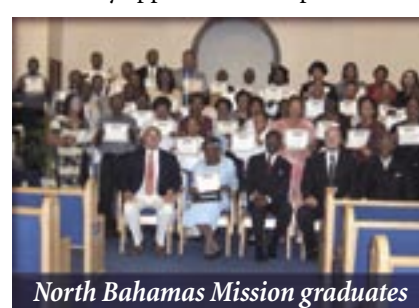
## AFCOE Training Prepares the Way

The North Bahamas Mission requested special evangelism training from Amazing Facts, so the ministry sent Jëan Ross, Empowered Church director, and Tyler Long, AFCOE outreach coordinator, for a week of powerful insight into reaching the lost. Tyler reports:

"The North Bahamas Mission consists of 10 churches, 5 pastors, and more than 1,800 members. Each of these churches is planning a full evangelistic outreach in the next 12 months.

"When Jëan and I arrived on Grand Bahamas Island, we were expecting to train 30 laity. We soon discovered that the church membership is on fire for the Lord! More than 100 dedicated souls, from ages 10 to 82, attended training! The information-packed classes included the cycle of evangelism, friendship evangelism, reclaiming lost members, and how to secure a Bible study. But our main focus was to instill confidence and teach practical techniques they could use in soul winning.

"Those who attended the training are now going door-to-door to practice friendship evangelism within their circle of influence, gearing up for their wider church outreach. One of the couples who attended were recently baptized and told me how much they appreciated how practical our classes are. To date, 65



North Bahamas Mission graduates

Mission church members graduated from our lay Bible worker training school. Even better, we've been asked to return in September to continue training the evangelistic-minded laity!"

## Revival 2007 Announced

Pastor Doug will host a thrilling 10-part revival series from September 7 – 15, 2007. The live satellite series will take place at the Convention Center in Lansing, Michigan, in conjunction with an Empowered Church theological symposium and special training program. The meetings, "Here We Stand: Foundations of Our Faith," will highlight the three angels' messages and the distinctive teachings of God's remnant church. Says Doug, "Revival '07 will also have tremendous evangelistic potential, providing an excellent opportunity to bring your friends who want to better understand the foundational teachings that make our faith unique."



## Special Opportunity for Your IRA

For a limited time, it's now easier to donate money from your IRA to Amazing Facts. But there is only a small window of opportunity to make this tax-wise gift! In 2007, a person 70-1/2 years or older can take a tax-free withdrawal from their IRA! If the withdrawal is donated directly to a charity, it is excluded from your income. Special conditions apply, so please contact our estate planning specialists at 1-800-436-2695 for more information.

## New AFCOE Class Begins Training

AFCOE welcomed 34 students for its spring training session, which will run through June 2. The students come from as far away as South Africa, the Bahamas, Mexico, and Canada, with ages ranging from 18 to the mid-60s. All are on fire to share Jesus' love with others, so please pray while they train and put their knowledge to practice during their evangelism outreach efforts in Northern California!

# THE AMAZING FACTS Evangelism TEAM



Schedule an Amazing Facts evangelistic series or a revival weekend in your church!

You are invited to meet the members of our dynamic evangelism team at our many seminars and revivals throughout the year—and please invite a friend! Go to [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org) to get exact times and locations!

Contact our evangelism department by phone at 916-434-3880 or by mail.

**Doug Batchelor**

April 26, 28  
ASI Convention  
Sacramento, California  
Call 916-434-3880 for details.

May 5  
10 Commandments Day  
Chicago, Illinois  
Arie Crown Theater

**Emanuel Baek**

April 13 – May 19  
Ione, Washington  
Call 916-434-3880 for details.

**John Bradshaw**

April 13 – May 19  
Amazing Grace Church  
661 Sixth St. #104  
Lincoln, California

**Darrin Bartell**

April 13 – May 19  
Glasgow, Kentucky  
Call 502-678-5336 for details.

**Byron Corbett**

April 13 – May 19  
St. Paul First Church  
1935 Princeton Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota

**Eric Flickinger**

March 2 – April 7  
Tau Conference Center  
511 Hilbert Street  
Winona, Minnesota

April 13 – May 19  
Kasson-Mantorville Community Education Building  
606 - 16th Street N.W.  
Kasson, Minnesota

**Brian McMahon**

March 3 – April 7  
Memorial Center  
4214 58th Street  
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada

April 28 – May 12  
Church Auditorium  
425 Arroyo Road  
Santa Barbara, California

**Jason Morgan**

April 13 – May 19  
Baltimore First Church  
4619 Old Court Road  
Pikesville, Maryland

**Jack Pefley**

March 9 – April 14  
City Hall  
2729 Prospect Park Drive  
Rancho Cordova, California

**Dennis Priebe**

April 6  
San Antonio, Texas  
Call 210-637-5275 for details.

More revivals in Texas, Arkansas, and Tennessee.  
Call 916-434-3880 for details.

**Adam Ramdin**

April 13 – May 19  
Church Auditorium  
3660 Highway 31 West  
White House, Tennessee

**Jason Sliger**

April 13 – May 19  
Church Auditorium  
210 W. 11th Street  
Kettle Falls, Washington



Doug Batchelor



Emanuel Baek



John Bradshaw



Darrin Bartell



Byron Corbett



Eric Flickinger



Lowell Hargreaves



Brian McMahon



Jason Morgan



Jack Pefley



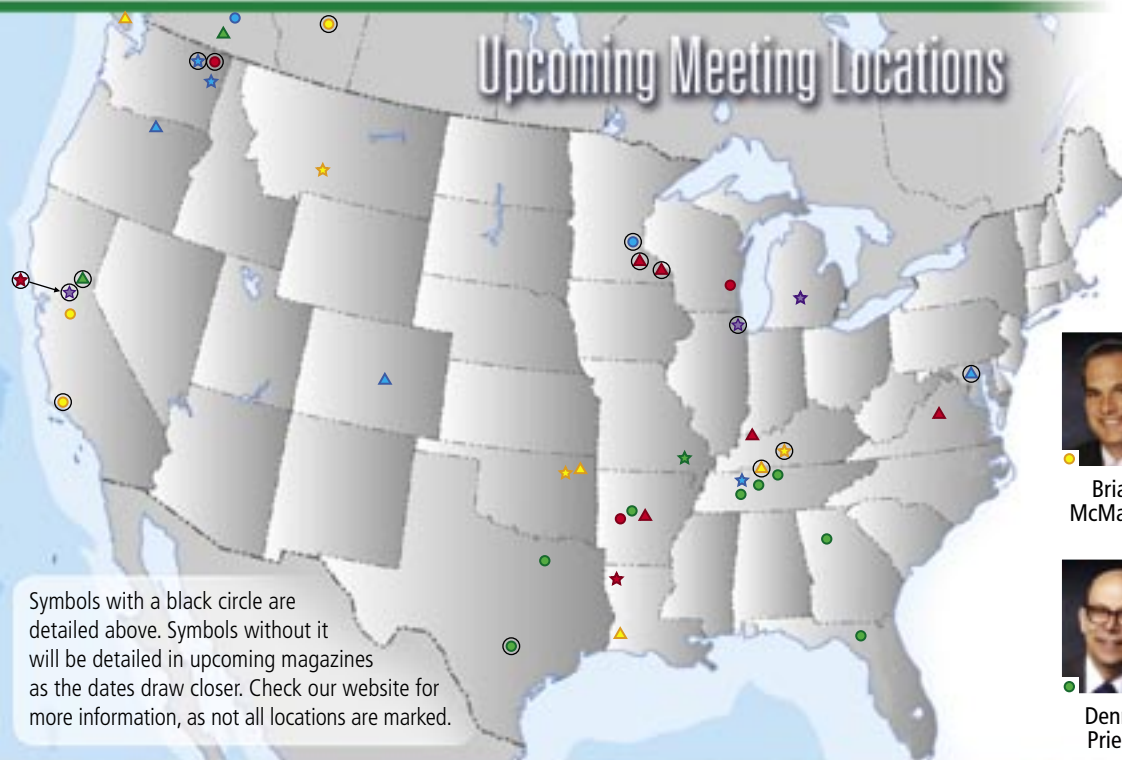
Dennis Priebe



Adam Ramdin



Jason Sliger



Symbols with a black circle are detailed above. Symbols without it will be detailed in upcoming magazines as the dates draw closer. Check our website for more information, as not all locations are marked.



AROUND THE WORLD!

# Saving Souls IN SZOMBATHELY, Hungary



**Illdeeco** has suffered through many life-threatening illnesses, including breast cancer, wading through a shadowy valley without much hope in God. But even during her times of good health, family problems led to anger and bitterness that fogged over any faith she might have had.

Her husband Urden spent a lot of time away from home, immersing himself in a successful and growing business. Illdeeco became resentful of the little time he gave to his family, and soon a major rift developed. They argued constantly.

When her husband discovered Christ, it seemed things only got worse. On fire for the Lord, he found new priorities at church to take up his time. She began to grow bitter of his newfound faith, and she became increasingly hostile toward the church. Divorce seemed imminent.

## Crisis of Faith

Not long after, Illdeeco's cancer returned in her lungs, plunging her into another frightening valley. Doubts and worry crowded her mind like thorn bushes—"Is God punishing my bitterness toward Him and His church?"

Eventually Illdeeco became so sick, her doctor said she only had a few weeks, at best, to live. Yet even as she lay dying in her home, hope flickered. Urden was giving much more time to her at the urging of his kind pastor. It is what she had longed for, and now he was almost always near. It seemed he was truly seeking to live his faith for her, and it began to soften her heart toward his church.

And each day when the hospice nurse came to visit, Urden always used the opportunity to witness, leading the open-hearted nurse into a spiritual conversation. Soon the visits became like Bible studies around Illdeeco's bed! Eagerly she listened to Urden's messages, and she felt a spark in her heart.

## "If You Will Have Me ..."

That's when Lowell Hargreaves, an Amazing Facts' evangelist, arrived in Szombathely to share Christ with the people of Hungary. When the meetings began, Urden and their

youngest son Peter attended whenever they could, but they were surprised when Illdeeco requested recordings of the series so she too could listen!

By God's grace, Illdeeco's condition improved enough for her to attend one of the meetings. She was so stirred by what she heard, she determined to return. Sick and feeble, she kept going whenever her body would allow. In God's time, the lessons she heard began to melt away the anger she felt against the church. Lowell's message of hope and truth cleared away the confusion in her heart as God's true character was finally revealed.

Along with her husband's change in character, she surrendered her heart to Christ and chose to unite with Him in the Sabbathkeeping church. Peter even suggested that they take the step together.

Illdeeco felt joy when Lowell came to visit to prepare her for baptism, embracing the truth eagerly. "If you'll have me," she said to Lowell through a translator, "I want to be baptized."

"Of course! We welcome you!" was Lowell's enthusiastic reply.

## A Change of Heart

At the conclusion of the seminar, Illdeeco and Peter were among the many baptized in the bustling town where



*Peter and Illdeeco (middle)*

witnessing is so difficult. And today, the rest of their family is preparing for baptism too, along with Peter's girlfriend!

Those who knew Illdeeco when she was so bitter toward God and the church testify that she is completely

changed. One reports, "You would never recognize her today from the woman she used to be." (See 2 Corinthians 5:17.)

Miraculously, Illdeeco's lung cancer has disappeared. Yet for Urden, Illdeeco's spiritual conversion and baptism are a greater miracle than her physical healing. To have his wife and son baptized is an answer to years of prayer. Since Urden sponsored the seminar that made it possible, he says it was the best investment he ever made. Are you ready to make the same investment for your church today? —

*Continued from page 9.*

prison. He decided not to stop thinking positively. While in prison, he only had time to think, but he used that time to think good thoughts and change countless lives.

We often talk and think based solely on our feelings, but your feelings don't have to dictate what you think. You might get grumpy when you haven't eaten in a while, but I'm not sure that low blood sugar will be a valid excuse in the judgment.

That's why it is better to think and behave based on principle rather than your feelings. Christ didn't turn to sin when He got hungry. He didn't allow His basic human nature to rule His mind. Instead, He remembered the Word and rebuked the devil. That is a tremendous example, and one we must strive to copy. Otherwise, if we could justify our wayward thoughts and actions based on how we are feeling, then any immoral action could be justified and there would be no need for a life-changing gospel.

### Thinking the Hard Way

Babies vacuum anything their senses bring to them. It doesn't take much for them to receive these stimuli and develop them into something that will teach them about their world. But as children grow, they must learn to concentrate and study. That's hard even for adults, and it takes more effort to exercise a mind that television and other disengaged amusements seek to make lazy.

It's tempting for a pastor to entertain a congregation with hypnotic music, chanting the same lyrics over and over again. It's easier to bring people back to



church with cotton-candy theology.

You won't get the same reaction when you teach brain-challenging, heart-churning doctrine. Why? Because the depth of thought necessary to process deeper theology requires effort. You can't just sit there like a lump and absorb the meat of the Word. You have to digest it and analyze it.

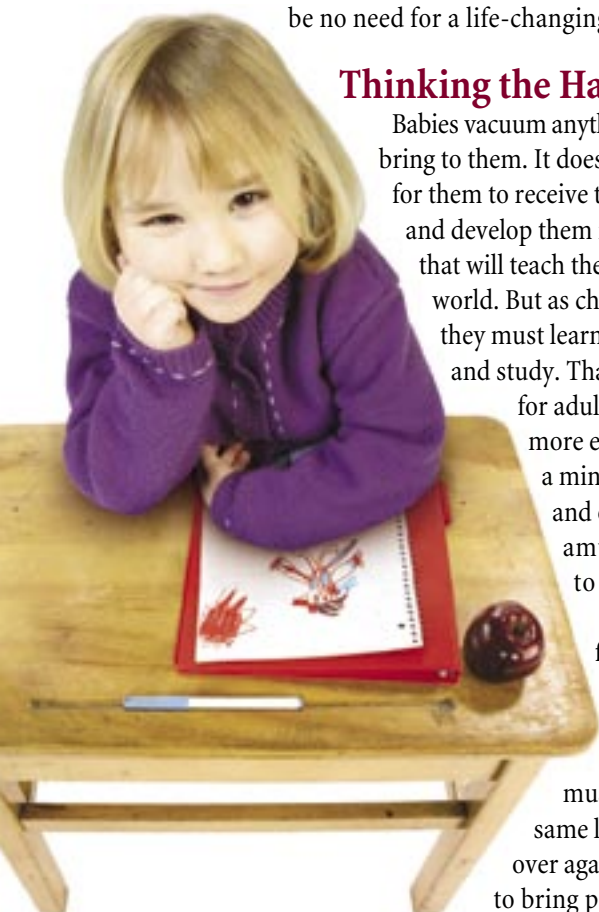
It isn't always easy, but it is the kind of spiritual food that will make you healthy in a sin-sick world. (Read Hebrews 5:13, 14.)

But how can lowly, selfish humans think the way God wants us to think? By letting God control our minds. How does that happen? We simply ask and believe. And that can work wonders in your life. Before I accepted Christ, I had a nasty vocabulary. I habitually cussed by instinct because I was living in the world and the world's vocabulary is really terrible.

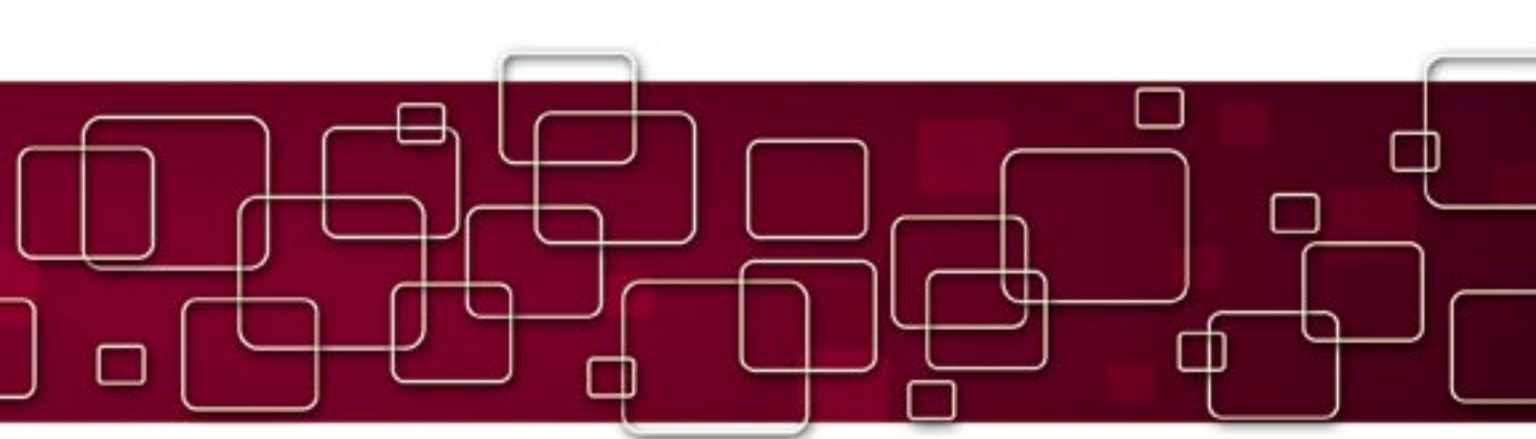
When I asked the Lord into my heart, I noticed that as I'd get ready to automatically say something inappropriate, God placed an emergency brake on my tongue. Suddenly a little voice would say, "Don't say that." And I praised the Lord, because I was actually in control of my thinking. Well, it was the Holy Spirit that was in control, and that in turn changed my mind and my talking. God will do that for you too if you are willing.

### Steps to Better Thinking

Although it is a frightening thought, it might do every one some good to have a little LCD screen on our foreheads displaying our thoughts for our neighbors to read. If that happened, I imagine we would all be a lot more careful about what we were thinking. The sad thing is that God is already reading our thoughts, but that doesn't seem to make us care what we think. Many Christians "feel" that God is real, but treat Him like a fairy tale invention.







We would all think differently if we would remember the first great commandment: “Thou shalt love the Lord with all your heart and all your mind.” How do you love the Lord with your mind? I can tell you it isn’t imaging a bouquet of flowers in God’s honor. Rather, it is telling Him that you want to think like Him. In Isaiah 55:8, 9, God says, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

God invites us to think with His mind. “Come now, and let us reason together” (Isaiah 1:18). We see a demonstration of God’s thoughts in His two great books—the Bible and creation. The universe and everything you see in the world is an example of God’s thought, with all of its magnificent wonder and beauty.

The other way is to commit yourself to prayer and Bible study. Just as pop culture can infect your thinking with all kinds of carnal thoughts, the Bible can infuse your thinking with holy and spiritual thoughts. Instead of watching that movie or TV program, covenant with God to read His Word and you’ll see how quickly the Holy Spirit can change your thinking. “Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation” (Psalm 119:97 NKJV).

### Fall in Love Again

Thomas Traherne correctly mused that “nothing is more easy than to think, but nothing is more difficult than to think well.” It will certainly take effort to experience any change in our thinking, but God will help us if we ask Him. “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:


And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting” (Psalm 139:23). And the act of renewing our minds is a process we must allow for.

But eventually, we are commanded to cast “down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5 NKJV). Is such a command even reasonable? *Every thought* into captivity? When you have the mind of Christ, it is.

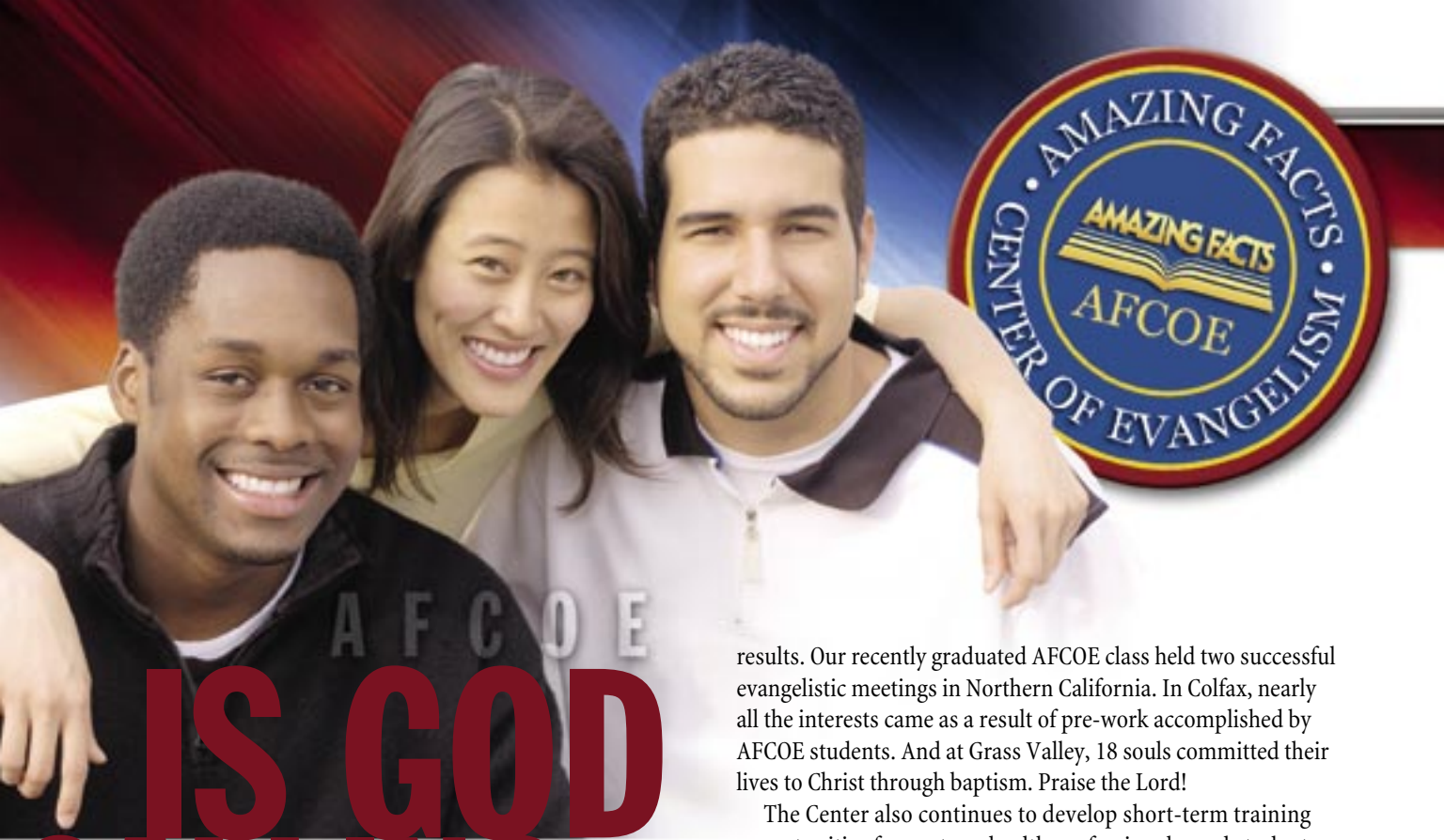
When you’re in love with somebody, you don’t have to try to think about them. Instead, it is a natural, spontaneous behavior to dwell on the person you love. The heart is a magnet drawn toward what it loves. When we love the Lord with all our minds, we will find ourselves thinking about Him all the time and what He desires rather than what the world desires. Only then is it possible to bring every thought into captivity to Christ.

Conversion, whether you have been a Christian for 50 years or 5 seconds, is not made possible by feeding off what the world has for us to eat. (See Romans 12:2.) Rather, it is made possible by the renewing of our minds, which the Holy Spirit makes possible so we can prove “what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” You have to put off the old man of Ephesians 4:22, “which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness” (NKJV).

God is offering us that new covenant—“a new heart I will put within thee.” And it is a wonderful thing, because “Blessed are the pure in heart,” pure in thought and mind, “for they shall see God.” No atom of your body is going to make it to heaven, not even your brain matter. So what is going to go? Your thoughts. So it really is important.

Are you beginning to think about what you are thinking about? 





# IS GOD CALLING YOU?

The Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism (AFCOE) has been undergoing some exciting developments that will increase its effectiveness as a leading evangelism training school. It's now a better time than ever for you or that faithful loved one to learn about sharing Christ with others!

In October, the Center's new director, Don Mackintosh, joined our growing staff of world-class instructors and leaders. As a church pastor, he hosted many Amazing Facts' evangelists and hired several Bible workers from AFCOE. Mackintosh believes strongly in the ministry of Amazing Facts and is thrilled about the new possibilities awaiting the Center of Evangelism.

## Growing Curriculum

For instance, AFCOE has recently added a health evangelism track to its core curriculum, introducing students to a crucial ministry practiced by Christ. According to Mackintosh, by studying and experiencing the unique aspects of the health ministry, students will "learn how to lead people from health to Him."

AFCOE students also have the opportunity to get hands-on experience doing the Lord's work, often witnessing astounding

results. Our recently graduated AFCOE class held two successful evangelistic meetings in Northern California. In Colfax, nearly all the interests came as a result of pre-work accomplished by AFCOE students. And at Grass Valley, 18 souls committed their lives to Christ through baptism. Praise the Lord!

The Center also continues to develop short-term training opportunities for pastors, health professionals, and students. These "intensives" focus on sharing the faith in clinical and academic arenas. You can read about one of these opportunities in the News Notes feature on page 21.

## International Evangelism Opportunities

Our recent graduates also had the opportunity to use their newfound skills to reach the lost across the equator in Cartagena and Barranquilla, Colombia, site of the fall AFCOE mission trip in conjunction with Share Him ministries.

The dedicated group of missionaries was led by Tyler Long, outreach coordinator, and Jay Anders, vice president of administration. The team preached God's Word at seven churches in Cartagena, a major tourist destination, and seven churches in Barranquilla, an industrial city. The teams were greeted warmly by the local church, which was ready to make evangelism a priority.

Graduates preached in churches that varied greatly in size, from 50 members to more than 400. Because Spanish is the language of Colombia, they also received much-needed experience in preaching with a translator. By God's grace, more than 250 people were baptized during the meetings, with hundreds more still receiving Bible studies. The local church believes that many more baptisms are likely as a result of these AFCOE meetings.



## Opening Eyes

AFCOE graduates get experience firsthand as souls come to the Lord as a result of their hard work. A young lady named Diane had been raised in another Christian tradition, but as a good friend of the translator, decided to come to the prophecy meetings.

She was faithful and never missed a meeting, even though a lot of the information she heard was absolutely new to her. Each evening, she had plenty of questions and was riveted with the Bible teachings.

One evening, when the call was made for people to accept Christ, Diane was the first to come forward. It was exciting for graduates to see her and hundreds of others baptized at the end of the meetings. It was even more thrilling to see her boyfriend respond to a call for baptism the same night that she was baptized. Today, he is studying for baptism.

## Giving Courage

Jay Anders spoke at a large church in Barranquilla. One night as the series was concluding, he noticed a teenage girl sitting with the pastor. The young lady was always attentive at the meetings, and whenever a call was made she would raise her hand and come forward. But now she was crying. Jay eventually learned that the girl desperately wanted to be baptized, but that her parents forbade her. "It was tragic to see her parents come between her and God," Jay says. "We felt helpless and were unsure if she would ever get baptized. So we took our concerns to the Lord."

Prayer and fellowship is a major component of Amazing Facts outreaches, and AFCOE graduates experience the bonding and faith-building power of prayer every step of the way. How did God answer the prayers for this girl? Jay reports, "We saw the young lady with her grandmother the next evening. Her grandmother spoke to her mom and dad and convinced them to allow her to be baptized. It was a thrill to see this young lady take her stand for Christ publicly and be baptized."



## AFCOE Reignites the Church

The church members were thrilled to participate in the meetings, with many believing that a true revival would result from the community evangelistic outreach. The poor church even rented a bus to help transport attendees during the series.

Even as the graduates appealed to the visitors to make a decision for baptism, they also encouraged the local church members to recommit themselves to Christ. Several responded to that call and many decided to be re-baptized.

Although Colombia is not a safe country for Americans, the Colombians we encountered were open to the Word of God. The AFCOE group praised the Lord for the safety and protection He provided throughout the trip.

## More Opportunities Await You

Imagine being part of an evangelistic series where you experience a soul come to the Lord, from the first day of contact through their baptism. There are few greater experiences for someone who truly loves Jesus, but at AFCOE, we can help you make it an everyday reality.

The question is, will you respond? Don Mackintosh's personal motto for AFCOE is "Go against the flow—come to AFCOE." The church needs well-trained people to fill urgent Bible worker positions in America and around the world. Now you can have the training for a fulfilling career in evangelism or simply to reach your own family and friends for Christ.

And did you know that AFCOE classes are accepted at many church schools? Now students don't have to choose between serving the Lord, sharing their faith, and going to college—you can do it all at the same time!

So is God calling you? Call 916-434-3880 for more information, and see the back page of this magazine for details of future AFCOE sessions.

Next spring AFCOE students will be conducting another series in Colombia, and we'll also visit Bucharest, Romania, to reach others for Christ. You can also ask about our upcoming special training and evangelism series with Mark Finley! 



# Special Recognition

## **In Loving Memory of:**

**S.L. (Buck) Alvarez** from Jane Alvarez, his wife  
**John Anthony** from Jerry Anthony, his son  
**D.J. Avey** from Evelyn, his wife, and  
his children and grandchildren

**Ethel and Tandy Bartley** from Peggy Ousley, their daughter  
**Micah Batchelor** from Pastor Doug and Karen Batchelor, his parents  
**Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Berry** from Demas and Verna Borba,  
their son-in-law and daughter

**Milton Bicek** from Betty White

**John Bidwell** from Ruth Sackett, his daughter

**Jerry Bighaus** from Bonnie and  
Ed Ensminger

**Suzanne Billups** from

Jacob and Joyce Joyner

**J.W. Bottle** from Bob  
and Treva Burgess

**Ardys Brown**

from Lucille Bush

**Shannon Burton** from  
Emanuel and Cathy Pavlik,  
her parents; from Spurgeon and  
Donnis Lail, her grandparents

**Bruce Bush** from Lucille  
Bush, his wife

**David Byrd** from Enid  
Henderson, his aunt

**Glen Byers** from Bonnie Byers,  
his wife

**Jake Carling** from Frank and Gayle Tyroff

**David Chapman** from Mae Chapman,  
his wife, and his children

**Floyd Chapman** from Ruth Chapman,  
his wife; from Gladys White

**Derwood Chappell** from Lucille Bush

**Agnes Christensen** from Kenneth Christensen,  
her husband

**Mr. and Mrs. Ben Christensen** from Kent  
and Dee Dickinson

**Larry Christensen** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**Seth Cox** from Mike and Carole Kelleher;  
from Mike Petri

**Betty Rees Coy** from Jack Coy, her husband

**Everett Craik** from Edna Craik

**Joe Crews** from Lu Ann Crews, his wife;  
from Pastor Doug and Karen Batchelor

**Ronnie Crews** from Lu Ann Crews, his mother

**Irene Curtis** from Ramona Mortenson, her mother

**Tor Dahlberg** from Sylvia Dahlberg, his wife; from Annie Taylor

**J.D. Davis** from Wanda Davis, his wife

**Marjorie Dickinson** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**Francis Donkor** from LaDonna McMurry

**Fred Duncan** from Marlys Davis

**Edith Durham** from Shelly Lowe, her niece

**Dorothy Emerson** from Frank and Ruth  
Waxter; from Bruce and Adele Wickwire

**Lloyd Fisher** from Gordon Tall

**William Fisher** from Dorothy Fisher, his wife

**Jewel Foutch** from Frank and Gayle Tyroff

**Jerry Freeman** from Hazel Freeman, his wife;  
from Margaret Eargle

**Bob Freitas** from Alyce Hall

**Bill Fulton** from Edith Fulton, his wife

**Clayton Eugene Garner** from Rusty and Jo Ann  
Garner; from R.W. Johnson, Gwendolyn  
Johnson, Felton Garner, and their families

**Earl Griffin** from Hazel Griffin, his wife

**Mode Griffith** from Beulah Griffith, his wife; from Grace Hudson

**Billie Griswell** from John Griswell, Jr., her husband; from  
Linda and James Chapline; from Jean Looker; from Loneta  
Pauly; from Dr. and Mrs. Charles Underhill

**Beth Habenicht** from Gary and Connie Ross

**David Haines** from Ollie Haines, his wife

**Alex Hall** from Alyce Hall, his wife

**Anita Hall** from Al and Pat Marion

**Linda Haney** from Priscilla McNeily, her sister

**Margaret Hardy** from Beverly Kisinger

**Don Hay** from Edna Hay, his wife

**Altus Hayes** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**Truman and Muriel Hendryx** from William and Courtney Seth

**Theodore Herr** from June Herr

**Elbert Herrick** from Doris Herrick, his wife

**Joseph Herzberg** from Thelma Herzberg, his wife;  
from Debra Fechik, his daughter

**Joseph Hillebert, Sr.** from Mildred Hillebert, his wife

**Rose Hinger** from Alice Hinger

**Ruby Hinger** from Alice Hinger

**William Hinger** from Alice Hinger

**Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hoffman** from Stephen and Donna Dickie

**Raymond Huber** from Gloria Huber, his wife

**Ruth Ipes** from Pastor Tom and Helen Ipes

*Amazing Facts recognizes contributions made as a tribute to the deceased or as an honorarium celebrating significant milestones in the lives of loved ones. Please type or print legibly to ensure correct spelling; we are unable to verify confusing spellings.*



**John Janzen** from Agatha Janzen, his wife

**Helmut and Emilie Jedamski** from

Waldrat Jedamski, their son

**Ben Johnson** from Stephen and Donna Dickie

**Howard Juhl** from Al and Pat Marion

J

**Bonnie Krehbiel** from Floyd Krehbiel, her husband

**Clarence Kreiter** from Loretta Kreiter, his wife

**Sylvia Kunze** from Wolfgang Kunze

**Cloyd and Beulah Kuster** from Roger and

Jean Ott, their son-in-law and daughter; from

Dick and Mary Peters, their son-in-law and daughter

K

**Timothy Lail** from Spurgeon and Donniss Lail, his parents

**Linda Lambert** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**Alberta Lammerding** from Pastor Doug

and Karen Batchelor

**Marvin Lang** from Olga Lang, his wife

**Chris and Anna Lastine** from Rozella Reule,

their granddaughter

**Everett and Pauline Lastine** from Rozella Reule,

their daughter

**Cheryl Lawrence** from Rozella Reule, her cousin

**George LeMert** from Sharon Haas

**William Letniak** from Lila Letniak, his wife

**Norman Livingston** from the Livingston family;

from Jean Dury and Allene Tattrie, his sisters;

from Mel and Jean Dury

**Alan Dean Long** from Pauline Long, his mother

**J. Murray Long** from Pauline Long, his wife

**Homer Lynd** from Teresa Lynd, his wife

L

**Sadanal Mahanyamma** from Stella Jesudason

**Lester Marcussen** from Elizabeth Marcussen, his wife

**Bill May** from Kent and Dee Dickinson; from Pastor Doug

and Karen Batchelor; from LaDonna McMurtry

**Lillian May** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**Al McClure** from Ila Genton

**Ora McLean** from Edna Craik

**Isaac and Alice Meier** from Everett

and Yvonne Dickerson

**David Michael** from Lucille Bush

**Dr. Charles Moore** from Doris Moore, his wife

**Edward Morgan** from Joyce Morgan, his wife

**Jay Mortenson** from Ramona Mortenson, his wife

**Bill Murphy** from Eula Collins, his sister;

from Beulah Keeler, his sister

**Ann Myer** from Arline Goertz

M

**J.N.** from Donald Hunt

**Dorothy Nelson** from Darrell and

Nita Wise, her son-in-law and daughter;

from Gertrude Gowell, her sister-in-law

**Lucrecia Newman** from Bernie Quinn

**Jim Nunn** from Ken and Dottie Dunlap

N

**Geraldine Olmstead** from Robert

Olmstead, her husband; from Tom Kuhn,

her son; from Kim Swett, her daughter

**Cecil Orser** from Pastor Glen

and Blanche Farnsworth

O

**Max Padgett** from Wilma Padgett, his wife

**Bonnie Palaniuk** from Marilyn Gepford

**Alfred Jake Papendick** from Mary Lou Pride

**Bernice Penner** from Marlys Davis

**Virginia Pierce** from Frank and Gayle Tyroff

**Sara and Donald Pinkney** from Helen Martin Griffiths

**Chalmers Poole** from Alice Poole, his wife

**Merlin Poole** from Alice Poole, his mother

**Lynn Price** from Beverly Price, his wife

P

**Max Qualley** from Barbara Qualley, his wife

Q

**Sam Renk** from Helen Renk, his wife

**Earl and Grace Reuss** from Barbara Qualley

**Bill Rigutto** from Lois Rigutto, his wife

**Pansy Ruddle** from Francis Ruddle

**Harry and Irma Rushold** from Marlin and Udene Allen,

their son-in-law and daughter

R

**Gene Sackett** from Ruth Sackett, his mother

**Robert Sackett** from Ruth Sackett, his wife

**Margaret Sauza** from Edna Craik

**Kataie Saylor** from Ron and Lenore Roffey

**Don Schlinkert, Jr.** from Don and Gladys

Schlinkert, Sr., his parents

**Harold Schneider** from Elsie Schneider, his wife

**Norma Schneider** from Joyce Marks

**Koni Scott** from Floyd and Vonsella Scott

**Deanne and Shannon Setterlund** from Dr. and

Mrs. William Tym

**Amy Sheffield** from Lola Genton

**Vesper and Ruth Sias** from Mary Lou Pride, their daughter

**Gerald Silvestri** from Pastor John and Anita Silvestri

**Lenora, Mary, Frances, Verna, and Myrthle Slate**

from Sarah Slate, their sister

**Pauline Smith** from Beverly Walden, her daughter

**Bobbie Stone** from W.M. Stone, Jr., her husband

**John Stratton** from Donna Stratton, his wife

**Hank Surdahl** from Ron and Dorothy Thall

**Ronald Swanson** from Marilyn Gepford

S

**Allen Tattrie** from Jennie Tattrie, his grandmother

**Duane Tattrie** Jennie Tattrie, his mother

**Roy Tattrie** from Jennie Tattrie

**Dr. Francis Thiel** from Dorothy Hughes

**John Thiel** from Dorothy Hughes

**Barbara Trevillian** from Al and Pat Marion

**Glenn Tribwasser** from Sharon Haas

T

**Arthur Vanderboss** from Barbara

Mayes, his daughter

V

**Clint Waldo** from Elaine Waldo, his wife

**Rollie Weekly** from Wayne and Loretta Weekly

**Ruth and Ralph Willard** from Wolfgang Kunze

**Jean Wilson** from Kent and Dee Dickinson

**John Wolfe** from Helen Cantrell

W

**Dr. Roderick Yip** from Joe and Lillian Casillas; from Calvin

and Lorraine Clarke; from Ms. Diane Gillen; from Carol Ann

Higgins; from Mark and Lisa Johnson; from Rudy and Ann

Johnson; from Barbara J. Julier; from Steve and Cynthia

Kinzer; from Lily Klauer; from Ray and

Phyllis Lanini; from Leonard Kuninobu;

from Dr. and Mrs. Bennett Lau; from Leonard

and Beverly Poletti; from Maxine Query;

from Thomas and Joan Stirewalt; from Sondra Truman;

from Dr. Randall Waring; from Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Zane;

from Rick and Suzanne Zragen; from A&N Plumbing

Y

**Bill Zima, Jr.** from Patricia Zima, his mother

**Bill Zima, Sr.** from Patricia Zima, his wife

Z

### **In Honor of:**

**Joseph Krpalek** from Anne Krpalek, his wife

**Elaine McKay** from Chuck Metzger, her son

### **Happy Birthday to:**

**Maybelle Crawford (100th)** from Pastor Doug

and Karen Batchelor

**V. Mae Port (96th)** from Lucille Bush

**Ota Babcock** from Bob Babcock, her husband

**Paul Rau** from Ralph and Florence Grose, his father- and

mother-in-law

**Michelle Warman (40th)** from Leah and Warner McClure

### **Happy Anniversary to:**

**Ed and Esther Brummett** in honor of their 65th wedding anniversary

# Who's in Your Peanut Gallery?



by Emily Thomsen

I work as a health education consultant for a Christian ministry that, among other things, actively promotes the health and well-being of its members. In a recent meeting, my boss asked us these questions: Does it matter to God whether we are healthy or not? And why do we focus so much on nutrition and exercise when health and wellness actually encompasses so much more than that?

Christians are well-acquainted with the concept of our bodies as temples in which the Holy Spirit dwells. "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 NKJV).

A well-nourished and fit body allows you to "do" the rest of life much more effectively. Good nutrition and physical fitness lay the foundation for health and wellness. Healthy people live longer! Not just that, but they experience a higher quality of life in their later years. That means you'll be around longer to accomplish your individual God-given purpose. Healthy employees miss fewer days of work and are significantly more productive

on the job. That also means you'll be able to accomplish more of your individual God-given purpose!

Rather than being clouded by pain and discomfort, the mind of a fit and healthy person is free to pursue other things—such as listening for God's voice and discovering that individual's God-given purpose.

If in fact your health does matter to God, then doesn't that make health in and of itself a part of His purpose for your life? God not only calls you to a specific purpose, but He provides you with the resources necessary to accomplish that purpose. For

example, time, energy, talents, money, and the support of family, friends, and other believers.

So what keeps us from exercising and eating healthy when we know it's so essential to living well? The enemy's oldest, most common (and effective!) ploy is to keep us so busy doing "good" things that we neglect the "best" things. (See Luke 10:38-42.) We become "humans doing" rather than human beings.

As a wellness coach, I frequently hear lack of time used as an excuse for not exercising, and even for not making ideal eating choices. I frequently use that excuse myself! In that same meeting, my boss made another poignant point: *God will never ask you to accomplish more than is humanly possible in the amount of time He gives you.* In other words, there is always enough time to do what God



asks you to do. He gives us each 24 hours a day; if we believe that He wants us to be healthy, then there is no such thing as not having time to exercise and eat healthy—*unless we are focused on the wrong things.*

That begs the question: If I am not finding time to exercise and eat healthy, what is filling my time that might be outside of God's will, and why?

We all have what you might call a peanut gallery of people watching our lives, whose expectations we are trying to fill. Who is in your gallery? It may be your grandmother, your spouse, your boss, your parents, your children, your neighbors. ... How much are these people's expectations, spoken or unspoken, shaping your life? What things are you trying to accomplish that you might be able to let go of and still be doing what God asks you to do?


A good friend and former professor of mine explained once that she begins her day by making a to-do list of the things she wants to accomplish that day. Pausing a moment before rushing out to attack the list, she prays over it. "God, please help me to accomplish what you want me to accomplish today. Help me let go of what's on



this list that is not important to You, and be open to the new things that present themselves to me that are important to You."

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God,

which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2 NKJV).

Spend some time today considering how you might arrange your life to better accomplish God's purpose for you—and be sure to make time for your health foundation! 

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to confidently share truth from the Bible.



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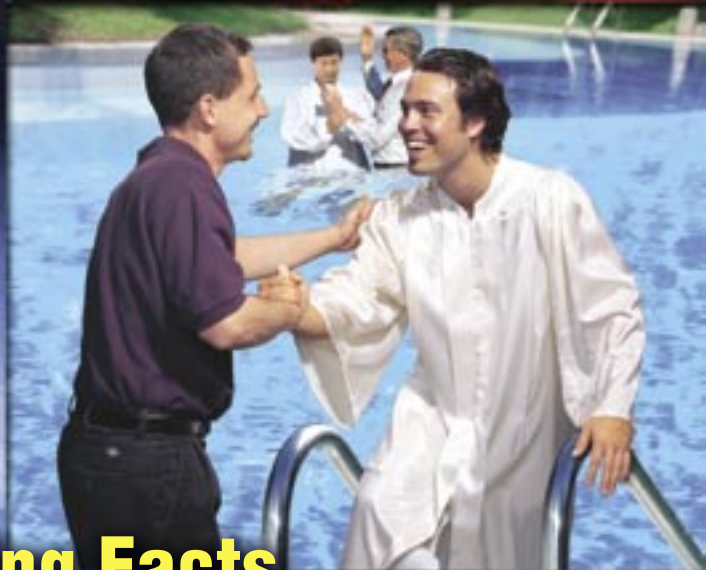


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