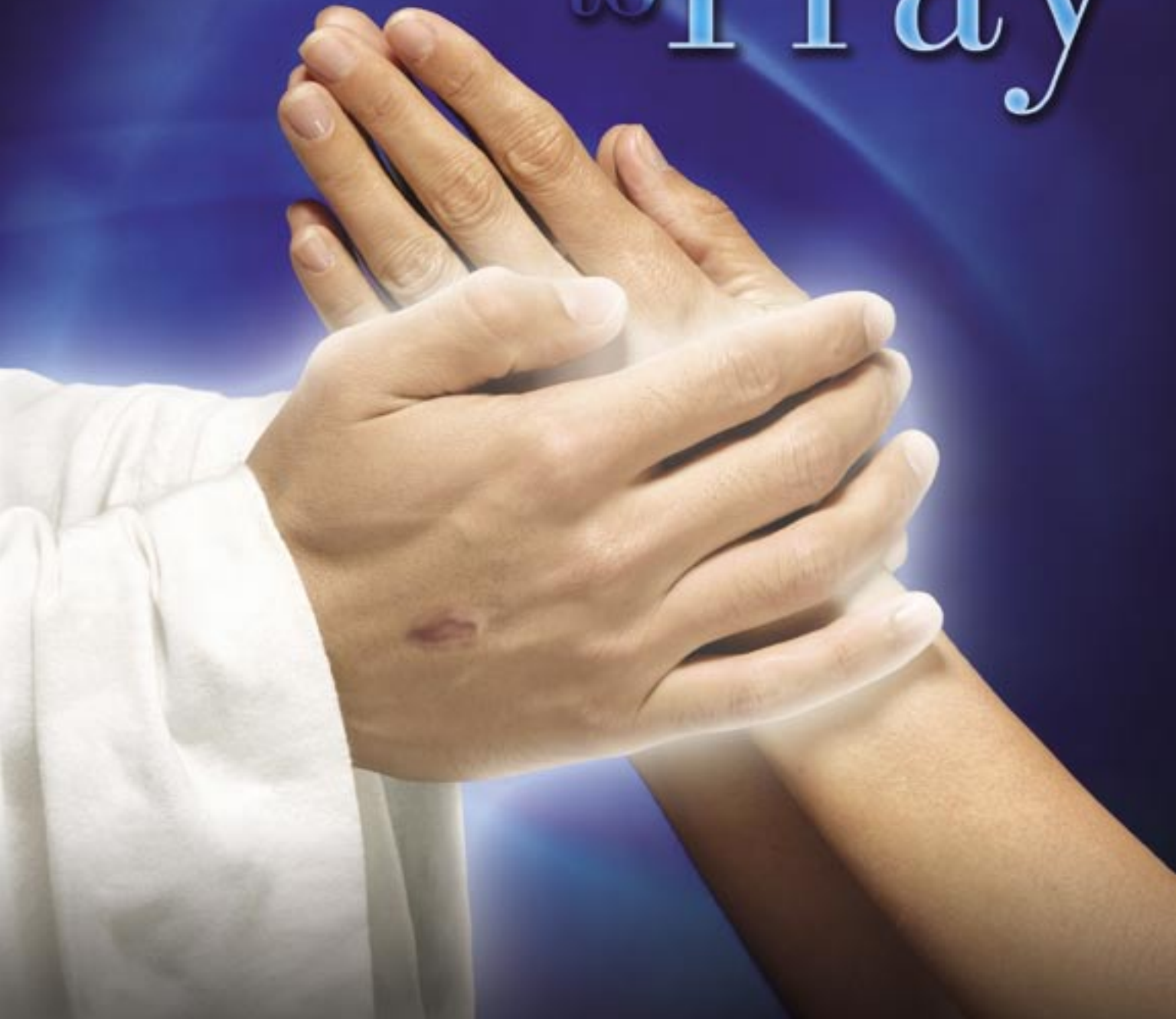
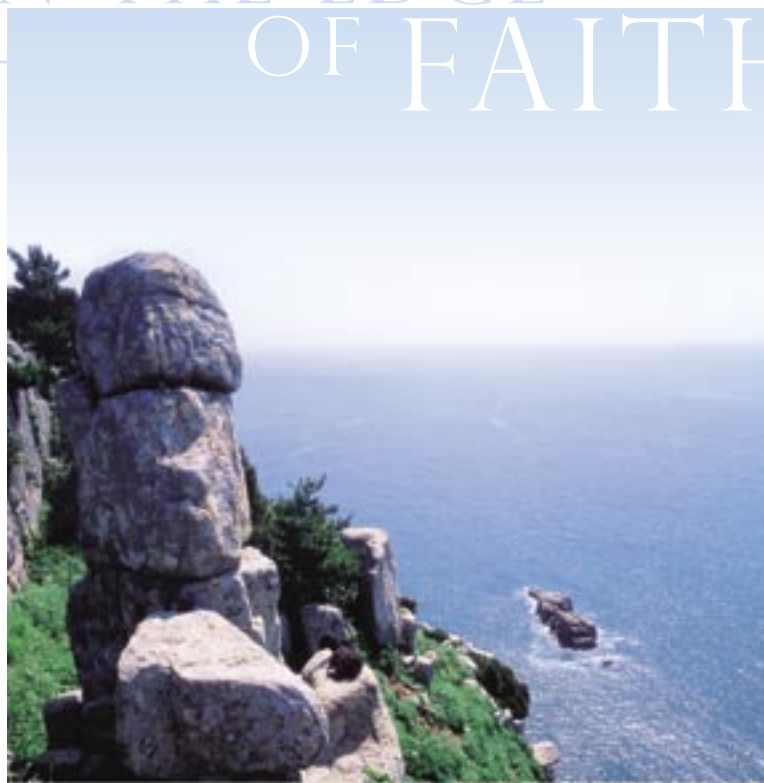


Teach Us to Pray



ON THE EDGE OF FAITH



BY ANTHONY LESTER

I've been with Amazing Facts for more than three years, and I've helped produce many *Inside Reports* that have been especially memorable to me. I think they keep getting better each

time around, but I still think it's safe to say that this issue is one of my favorites (at least in the top three!) because it's composed of the very things that ushered me into the church: evangelism and prayer.

About this time six years ago, evangelist Brian McMahon came to my hometown in Texas to preach a gospel that, simply, I had never heard, even though I had been a part of a Christian school, family, and community for many years.

Bible verse by Bible verse, the astounding new truths he revealed brought me to the edge of faith. Here I had been confronted with the unshakeable reality of our Lord—a God who expects something more than just passive belief from His followers, but also a Creator who is more loving, compassionate, and merciful than I could have ever imagined. For the first time, I learned about the God of the Bible.

Inevitably, as my soul was moved by this new revelation, I fell on my knees one night and trembled before Him. I prayed earnestly, mourning over the uncountable disgraces of my past and longing to be in the arms of His grace. Six years later . . . I am a life transformed, a testament to the effectiveness of public evangelism and the power of prayer.

Obviously, I'm not boasting. I need my feet washed, sometimes even scrubbed painfully, at the end of the day, and it is not me who does right, but His Holy Spirit who does right through me. Yet I am confident that Christ is finishing my faith,

as I walk in His Word and talk with Him every day. It's just that Amazing Facts gave me the information I needed to hear, and God's Spirit is doing the rest.

Likewise, millions around the globe also heard the last-day message for the first time during *The*

Prophecy Code. Praise the Lord—hundreds if not thousands have already been baptized! However, I also wonder how many have had those faith-shaking truths drive them to their knees, but have yet to give their hearts to Jesus. I know how scary new truth can be, especially when it goes against all we've been taught. They desperately need our prayers, like those I depended on from my family and friends. So please join me in praying for everyone who watched Pastor Doug share the three angels' messages in March.

Finally, I was once an evolution-believing skeptic. I wanted something to hold onto, but the god I'd learned about my whole life just didn't give me that, so I clung to something just as unsound, unbelievable, and untrue. Now I believe in a God who created our world in just six days.

If you're somebody who can't imagine how that could possibly happen to a real skeptic, I urge you to attend one of our seminars in your area. If not, invest in a copy of one of our seminars on video or audio. Yes, you'll find something like a religion there, but better than that, you'll find a way of life that is fulfilling, responsible, and reasonable to believe in.

But whatever you do, give it a chance. Ultimately, you have nothing to lose. At worst it gets you away from the wasteland that is television, and at best, it will be your first meeting with a God who is so ready to accept and love you that you will not be able to contain your joy. —

Inside Report is a bimonthly publication of Amazing Facts, Inc. It is provided free of charge to the friends and supporters of Amazing Facts on request. Contributors to the ministry will continue to receive *Inside Report* for six months from the date of their most recent gift.

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A free, color catalog of materials sold by Amazing Facts is available on request. It contains information and prices on all books, videotapes, CDs, audiotapes, and other soul-winning materials available through the ministry.

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Mail Bag

Revive Us, Lord!

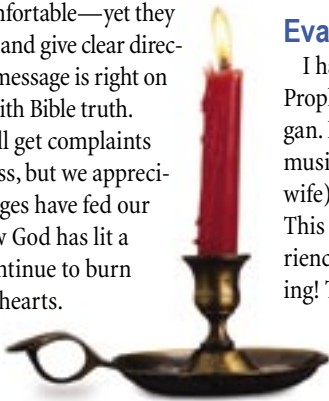
In one of your '04 *Revival!* sermons, you discussed worship style. You hit the nail on the head. Then you said we need to spend more time in the Word. I am a lifelong church member and Sabbath school teacher, and I needed to hear what you said. As a result, I pledged to spend at least 15 minutes a day reading my Bible. I have missed only three days of Bible reading since then, and sometimes what I read is so fascinating that I go on for 50 or 60 minutes. I guess that's okay! *R.C., California*

Proactive Revival

We are watching the '04 *Revival!* meetings that our friend taped for us. We've never attended meetings like this before and want you to know we've been mightily blessed. Thank you for doing something proactive toward bringing us to the place in history we long to be at—when the Holy Spirit will be poured out without measure. The messages have been right on, thought-provoking, convicting, and not necessarily comfortable—yet they are heart-warming and give clear direction. We know the message is right on because it agrees with Bible truth.

We know you will get complaints about your boldness, but we appreciate it. These messages have fed our souls, and we know God has lit a candle that will continue to burn brightly in willing hearts.

M.L., e-mail



One Man's Trash ...

One day I went outside to drop a piece of paper into the recycling bin right before it was to be picked up by the dump truck. In it I saw a colorful pamphlet that said 'prophecy.' I picked it up right away and found out that it was from *Amazing Facts*. Our favorite TV evangelistic program was coming to town! I rushed to call my sister, and we made the decision to attend this 22-session seminar every day. Her husband and my niece also followed, and the four of us were baptized in April.

We loved the way Pastor Brian McMahon exposed all the Bible truths. We will be eternally grateful. *M., California*



Evangelist at Work

I have been attending the "Our Times in Prophecy" seminar with evangelist David Morgan. I have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions, the music (most of it provided by Annie, David's wife), and the fellowship of the other attendees. This has been one of the greatest spiritual experiences of my life. This is so wonderfully refreshing! Thank you for providing us with David and

Annie, and the opportunity to learn to serve God. *D.G., Montana*

Life-Changing Revival

Thank you so much for '04 *Revival!* There have been changes in our lives, and even the youngest ones notice it. Tonight, we were reading at the table about the importance of training our children to know and love God's Word. Our three-year-old son began singing "Revive us, Lord. Speak so ... hear it." We praise the Lord for '04 *Revival!* and for His Holy Spirit moving in the hearts and lives of His people all over the world, including a three-year-old boy. *S.L., Arkansas*



Revival Blessings

I was blessed by '04 *Revival!* and didn't realize that it was exactly what I'd been hungering after for so long. I believe the church needs one every year. My life has not been the same since. I have gone from watching TV every minute I was home to occasionally a movie on Saturday night. I was drinking almost every night for almost two years; I even had two beers before I attended the first night of revival. I haven't had one since.

My relationship with Jesus is growing daily with hourly devotions and prayer for myself as well as my family. I have asked God to show me my sins, and found my attitudes toward people have been anything but loving. He is changing that! *T.C., e-mail*

Inside Report welcomes all correspondence regarding the magazine and other Amazing Facts ministries. Letters and other materials sent to Amazing Facts may be used—in whole or in part and edited for content, grammar, and readability—in future publications unless otherwise requested. We thank you for your thoughts, suggestions, and financial and prayer support in our endeavor to reach others for Jesus and equip them to do likewise.

The Parable of the Rich Fool



Someone in the crowd said, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” Jesus replied, “Who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” Then He said to the crowd, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

Jesus then shared this parable. “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I’ll say to myself, You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink, and be merry.’

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

“This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

This story, found in Luke 12:13–21, offers us very clear practical lessons:

- Greed is dangerous,
- Life’s true meaning is much deeper than anything material,
- Material wealth can deceive us with a delusional sense of security,
- Hoarding is a mistake,
- A self-centered life is its own end,
- Life is a gift, brief at best and always uncertain,
- Our choices today determine our own future judgment,
- The Lord recognizes our personal needs, but He asks us to have an open heart and open hand for His ministry.

Bob and Cindy are at an interesting time in their lives: He is a 60-year-old electrician, and she is a 59-year-old teacher. They never earned big money at their jobs, but with hard work and wise money management, the Lord abundantly blessed their investment decisions.

Thirty years ago, they purchased their first rental house, then a second and third. In time they added some apartment complexes as well. Each of these properties has seen great appreciation in value.

However, the couple is growing weary of the time and energy being a landlord takes from their lives. They want a steady income without the hassles of being a landlord, but also hoped to avoid the capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Fortunately, they called our Planned Giving Department, and we were able to offer them a charitable remainder trust. This enabled them to bypass all capital gains tax, receive a large ordinary income-tax deduction, and have an excellent cash flow for the rest of their lives. It gave them everything they needed—a present income, tax benefits, and fulfilled their charitable giving hopes and desires.

As you might already know, our most common planned gift is a gift annuity. For a gift of cash, stocks, or bonds, you receive a guaranteed fixed rate of income for life, with rates much higher than present certificates of deposit, and large tax deductions both now and in the future. See the chart below.

For more information, call 1-800-436-2695, ext. 3005, for John Bridges, director, or ext. 3029, for Judy Schachten, secretary. You can also visit www.enduringlegacy.org.

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AGE	RATE
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60	5.7%
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%
85	9.5%
90	11.3%

Single Life Rate of Return

“A man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions ...”



Teach Us to Pray

PART 1

by
Doug Batchelor

An Amazing Fact:

During the battle of Valley Forge, revolutionary troops were entrenched on the battlefield, freezing and starving. One day, a farmer who lived nearby brought much-needed provisions to the troops, and on his way back through the woods, he heard someone speaking. He tracked the voice until he came to a clearing, where he saw a man on his knees, praying in the snow. The farmer rushed home and excitedly told his wife, "The Americans will secure their independence!" His wife asked, "What makes you say that?" The farmer replied, "I heard George Washington pray out in the woods today, and the Lord will surely hear his prayer. He will! They may rest assured, He will." The rest, of course, is history.



This country was built on prayer—a strong foundation if there ever was one. Revisionists would have you believe that the signers of the Declaration of Independence were all pantheists, deists, or agnostics who didn't have a lot of time for God. If that's true, then agnostics back then surely prayed a lot more than Christians do today. For instance, both morning and evening, our first President knelt before an open Bible to pray for God's leading. Perhaps one reason this nation is faltering morally is because God's people don't spend much time praying for her.

What I find especially fascinating, however, is that Jesus also needed prayer. Naturally, we assume that His faith was inherently strong, but the Bible tells us Jesus would arise early in the morning and go off by Himself to pray. Sometimes He would pray all night, as He did before choosing His apostles.

After reading that story, I realized that I don't pray enough and I don't pray very well. Yet prayer is so important. Indeed, every revival comes on the heels of prayer. For instance, God poured out the Holy Spirit at Pentecost after His new church was on its knees together for 10 days. And later, "When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 4:31 NKJV). We need to pray more as a church and in our own lives.

The Principal Business

Charles Spurgeon said, "All the Christian virtues are locked up in the word 'prayer.'" One of the main tasks of the Christian is prayer, to have direct communion with God.

William Kerry was a missionary to Burma, India, and the West Indies, but he was also a shoe cobbler. People sometimes criticized him for "neglecting" his trade because he spent so much time in prayer, supplication, and thanksgiving. Kerry answered, "Cobbling shoes is a sideline; it helps me pay expenses. Prayer is my real business." And God used him mightily to convert many. Martin Luther added, "As it is the business of tailors to make clothes, so it is the business of Christians to pray."

But how do we pray? I am asked this question a lot, but the truth is, even I have to ask, "Lord, teach me to pray." The disciples asked Christ this question when they saw Him coming from a session of prayer. His face was beaming with the light of heaven and energized by the Holy Spirit. No wonder they pleaded, "Lord, teach us to pray." Still, these men had been going to church, the temple, all of their lives. They had recited hundreds of prayers and had heard the priests pray out loud. Yet when they saw Christ, they knew they were missing something. Somehow they, like most of us, failed in their principal business.

Sadly, not very many know what it means to pray, and thus it is probably the most neglected opportunity and privilege we have. Yet every Christian needs the gift of prayer because it's the breath of the soul. Jesus said, "You do not have because you do not ask" (James 4:2 NKJV). He wasn't saying we never pray, but that we ask poorly. So how do we ask?

I think the best way to find out is to first look at the pattern our Lord gave us, which is commonly called the "Lord's Prayer." Of course, that's really a misnomer, because it wasn't actually Jesus' prayer. Jesus said, "After this manner therefore pray ye" (Matthew 6:9). It's a pattern for us to pray, so technically it's really a disciple's prayer. Let's briefly look at this blueprint for prayer to learn how God wants us to come to Him.

The Makeup of Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is comprised of seven petitions, which are divided up very much like the Ten Commandments. The first three petitions are God-ward, vertical, and the last four petitions deal with the horizontal relationships we have with others. Likewise, the first great commandment is to love the Lord, and the second great commandment is to love your neighbor. God should come first in our prayers; His counsel and will should be the great priority in our lives. But we must also not neglect our relationships on earth, which is why Jesus' model includes those around us.

In this study, we'll concentrate on those first three petitions, and in the next issue, we'll look at our prayers concerning our friends, family, and neighbors, and then find some biblical and practical answers to common questions about prayer.

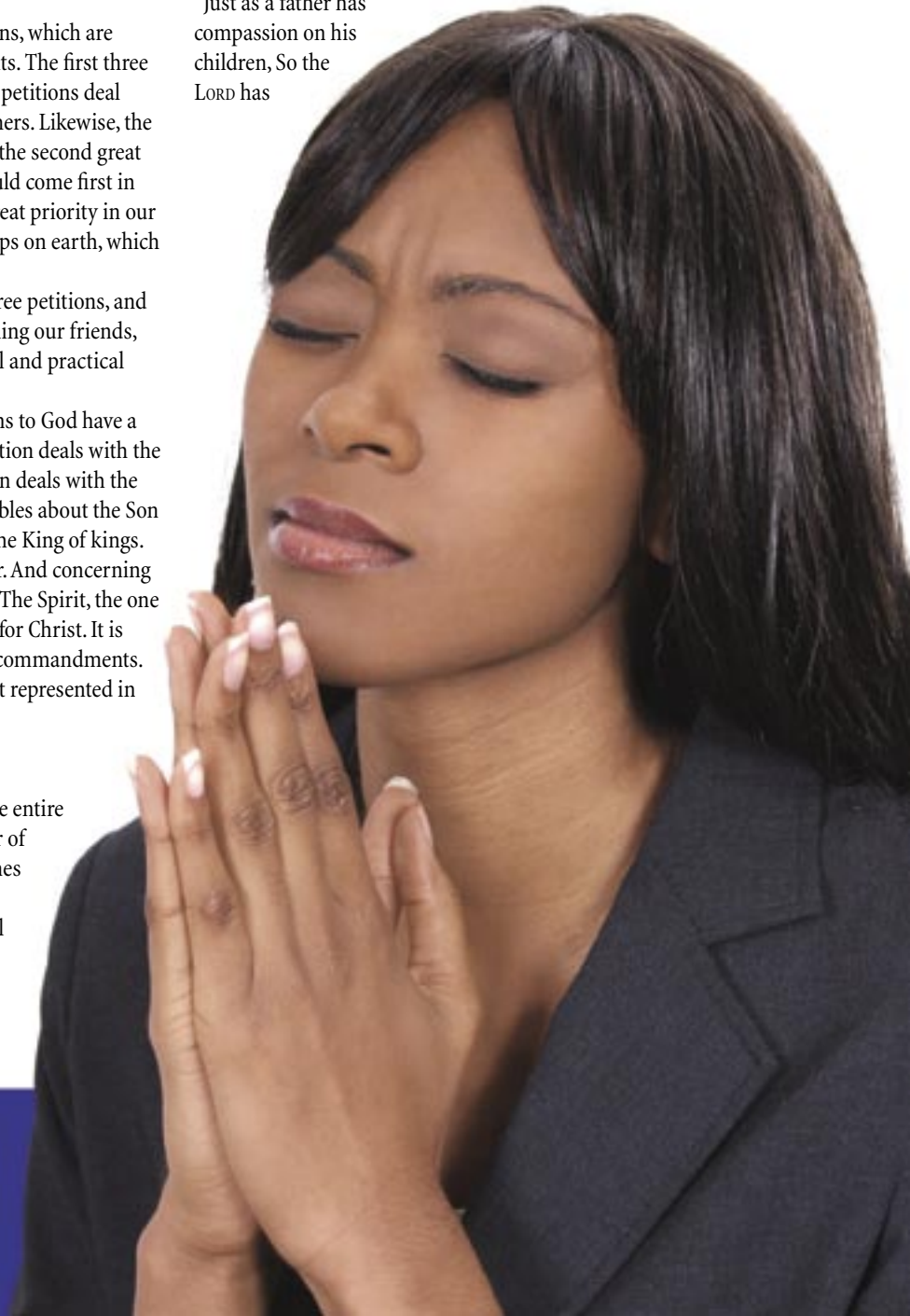
First, let's consider that these first three petitions to God have a unique relationship to the Godhead. The first petition deals with the Father, "Our Father, thy name." The second petition deals with the "kingdom;" that's the Son. Jesus spoke many parables about the Son going to receive a kingdom, and coming back as the King of kings. Without Him, we couldn't even come to the Father. And concerning "your will," who is it that leads us into God's will? The Spirit, the one who impresses on us the will of God and the love for Christ. It is the Spirit who gives us the power to follow God's commandments. And so you have the Father, the Son, and the Spirit represented in the first three petitions of the Lord's Prayer.

"Our Father"

God as a father is a theme that runs through the entire Bible. He is the creator of all life, and the protector of His children. In the Old Testament, His list of names include "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting *Father*" (Isaiah 9:6). He is powerful and omnipotent, yet He is also the all-sufficient provider. Taken together, He surely is the God of the universe ruling from heaven, but we can still approach Him personally as our Father.

Even better, "Our Father" tells us that we are received as children of God. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God" (1 John 3:1). God is willing to adopt us into His family. What a beautiful truth! "Our Father" says we can share in the inheritance He gave through Christ, that we are a part of the heavenly family. The Bible says, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father ... give good things to them that ask Him?" (Matthew 7:11). We can go to our Father knowing that He has the very best gifts in store for us.

The very phrase "Our Father" is clothed with love. He's someone who we can safely approach with love, even when He disciplines us. Proverbs 3:12 records, "For whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights" (NKJV). Psalm 103:13 adds, "Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has



compassion on those who fear Him" (NASV). This also means that we are a family of brothers or sisters, praying to our Father. He's not just my Father; He's your Father too.

This brings to mind another reason why this prayer is such a great pattern for us. Notice the word "I" doesn't appear in the entire prayer! We all typically pray frequently using "I" or "me," but in this prayer, it's a collective. In our culture, we get the equation upside down; it's you, then your friends, and then God. In the Bible, the priority is reversed. Love the Lord, then your neighbor, and then you. (If you need an easy way to remember, just think of J-O-Y. That's Jesus, Others, and You!)

"Which Art in Heaven"

Our pattern of prayer also tells us how near and how far our Lord really is from us. "Our Father" is a very intimate, up-close idea, but "in heaven" gives us a sense of His distance from us. We are separated from God, and we're acknowledging that by saying, "There's a problem: We're here; You are there." What's caused this separation? Isaiah says, "Your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God" (59:2).

In the garden, God asked Adam, "Where are you?" In our prayer, we're confessing to God that we are far away from Him in the same way that Adam ran from God. We've been separated from paradise. But we have

hope. Did you know that the first three chapters in the Bible tell how sin came in through the serpent and that we've been separated from heaven and paradise; however, the last three chapters of the Bible tell how the serpent is destroyed, paradise is restored, and we're once again together with God?

Another reason the Bible says "which art in heaven" is because we need to make a distinction between our earthly fathers and our heavenly Father. Our earthly fathers are frail, carnal, and sinners by nature of being human, but the God in heaven is perfect. All of us have a natural, subconscious tendency to superimpose on God our relationship with our earthly father. For instance, those who have earthly fathers that are overly indulgent end up thinking that God the heavenly Father is also permissive. Those who have earthly fathers that are stern generally have a picture of the heavenly Father as an exacting judge.

That ought to make us think. We need to spend a lot of time in prayer asking God to overrule the mistakes we have made with our children. Yet when the Bible says, "Our Father which art in heaven," it's telling us we need to look past our flawed earthly relationships and know that He is our perfect model and that we can approach Him directly. You don't have to see God through the broken glasses of your family experience.

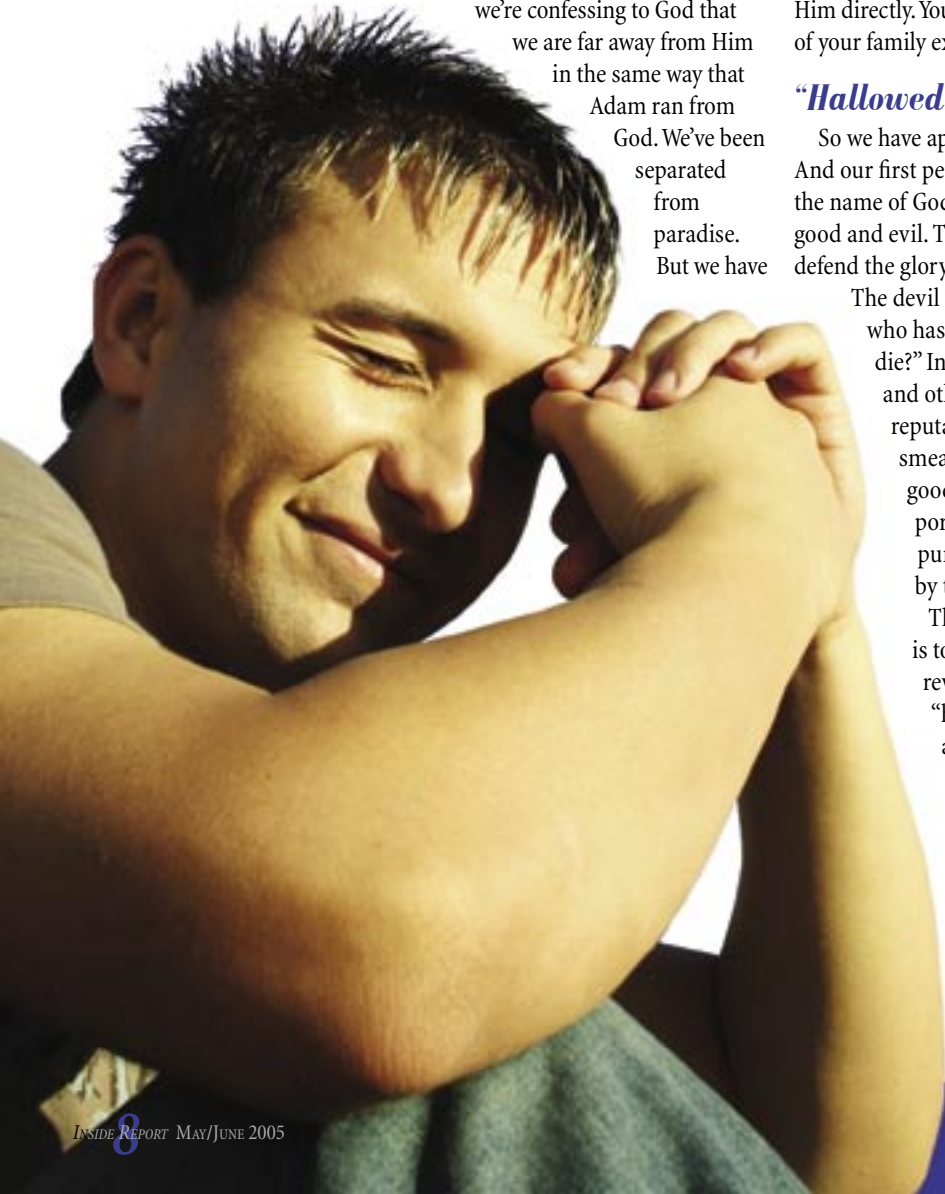
"Hallowed Be Thy Name"

So we have approached God because He's our Father in heaven. And our first petition to our God is "hallowed be Thy name." Now the name of God is a central issue in the great controversy between good and evil. The whole purpose of the plan of salvation is to defend the glory of God.

The devil has slandered God's name. Do you know someone who has said, "If God is love, then why do innocent children die?" Insurance companies call earthquakes, floods, and other natural disasters "acts of God." What kind of reputation does that give God? The devil is a master at smearing the character of our Father. He has God, the good, wonderful, loving, longsuffering, merciful One, portrayed as a cruel, indifferent tyrant arbitrarily punishing His creatures. God's name has been defiled by the devil.

Thus the purpose of the Christian, by God's grace, is to defend the name of God as much as we can, to reveal who He really is. Unfortunately, we need to pray "hallowed be thy name" because we're not very good at it. Even in the Bible, we see God's own people do more to dishonor His name than the full-fledged pagans. And times really haven't changed much since antiquity.

Remember, we said the Lord's Prayer somewhat mirrors the Ten Commandments. The third one commands, "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his





But someday the meek will inherit the earth and God's literal kingdom is going to rule over this world with a very real and physical kingdom. Do you think we would need to pray, "Thy kingdom come," if God's kingdom were already established? When Jesus was about to ascend into heaven, as recorded in Acts 1, the disciples asked, "Will You at this time restore the kingdom?" Jesus answered, "It is not for you to know times or seasons" (Acts 1:6, 7 NKJV).

name in vain" (Exodus 20:7). Using God's name in profanity is only one small part of breaking this commandment. But taking God's name is like a wife taking her husband's last name. When you're a baptized Christian, you take the name of Christ, but if you live like the devil after you've taken Christ's name, you're taking His name in vain. Who does more harm to the Christian cause, the pagans or professed Christians who live like the world?

Christians should be advertising for the goodness of God, but in many cases Christians do more harm. Instead, all around the world, we see professed Christians are attacking and killing others, such as in Ireland, Africa, and Croatia. What does that do to God's name? Jesus says, "Love your enemies . . . overcome evil with good" (Matthew 5:44; Romans 12:21). Christ is slandered because of the bad behavior of those who take His name in vain. So "hallowed be thy name" is asking God to help us, in word and deed, honor His precious name.

"Thy Kingdom Come"

We are in the middle of a battle between two kingdoms. An enemy kidnapped the world when Adam and Eve surrendered the dominion that God had given them over the earth. Ever since, the priority of God's children has been to "seek ye first the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33).

Of course, we must make two distinctions when we speak of God's kingdom—the spiritual and the physical. We know that the spiritual kingdom of God is very much alive in the world today, because Luke 17:21 says, "The kingdom of God is within you." When Jesus began preaching after His baptism, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:15). This aspect of the kingdom is available now. If you have accepted Christ into your heart, then He reigns from His throne in your heart. Paul says, "Let not sin . . . reign in your mortal body," but rather let Jesus be your King and rule over all that you do (Romans 6:12). That's the first kingdom we should seek for: God's spiritual kingdom within our hearts.

The central message in the book of Daniel is that all the kingdoms and idols of the world, whether they are made of gold, silver, bronze, or clay will all disintegrate before the Rock of Ages, the kingdom of God. "The God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever" (Daniel 2:44 NKJV).

For the time being, we are ambassadors of another empire, advertising for a kingdom that will someday fill the earth. Christ said, "I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me" (Luke 22:29 NKJV). When the thief on the cross turned to Christ and said, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom," he accepted Christ as his King (Luke 23:42 NKJV). That's why he'll be in the kingdom, because he had the spiritual kingdom that begins in your heart.

The phrase "the kingdom of God" is found 70 times in the New Testament. Why? Because there are two kings at war, Jesus and the devil, who says he's the prince of this world. That's why we still need to pray that His kingdom will come: first within us, then someday around us.

"Thy Will Be Done in Earth as It Is in Heaven."

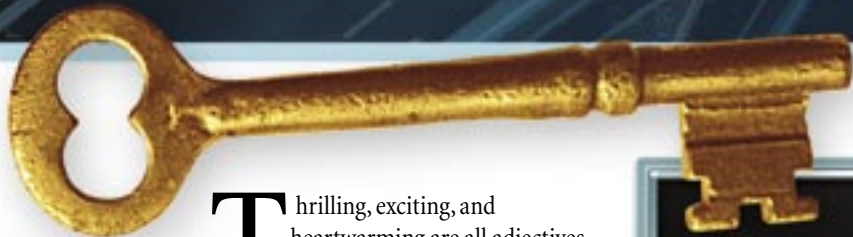
Contrary to popular belief, God's will in this world is not always being done. I respectfully disagree with the notion that everything that happens is in accordance with the Creator's will. When something bad happens, like a tornado, you inevitably hear someone say, "Well, it must have been the will of God." I don't believe that's what the Bible teaches, and if that's really true, why would God have us pray that His will be done?

Conversely, not everything that appears to be good is from God's storehouse either. Sometimes the devil may even cast prosperity in someone's path to stall or derail their longing for God. You and I

Continued on page 15.

THE PROPHECY CODE

Bible Secrets Unlocked!

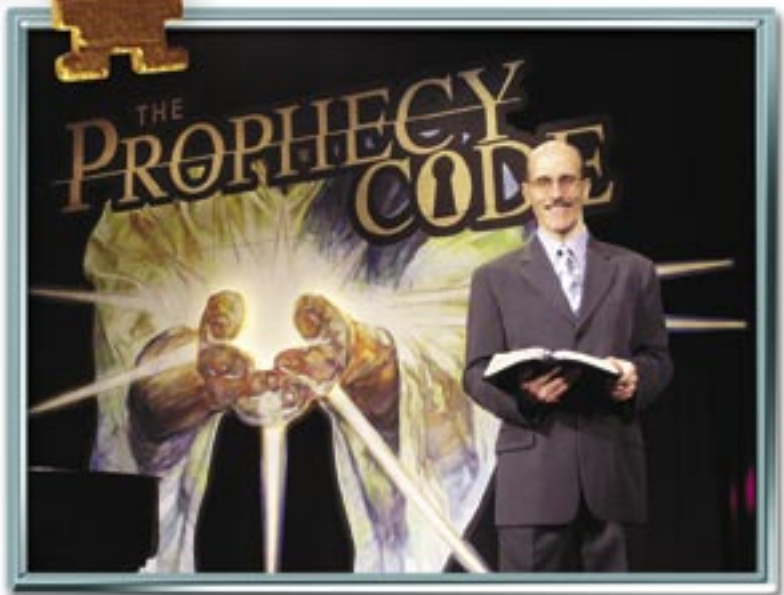


by Jim Ayer
North American Event Coordinator

Thrilling, exciting, and heartwarming are all adjectives that describe *The Prophecy Code*, broadcast in March live from the church's worldwide headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. But an even more fitting description is "Spirit-filled." The stirring, eye-opening three-week series unlocked important Bible truths in the light of prophecy, giving hundreds of thousands around the globe a unique perspective that touched their hearts, minds, and souls.

As a result, our team of AFCOE students, Bible workers, volunteers, and pastors in the Washington, D.C., area have been extremely busy visiting those who indicated their desire for a better life through Jesus Christ. By the end of the series, the visitation list had grown to more than 800 people, many of whom have expressed their desire for baptism and further study. To meet this unprecedented response, Bible workers, sponsored by local churches and conferences, are following up for months to come.

From the north, south, east, and west came the "hungry of heart" to find direction in a world of chaos. Night by night for weeks, they traveled, some for hours, to hear the straight Bible truth from Pastor Doug Batchelor. Not unexpectedly, the production encountered many technical glitches, from camera problems to malfunctioning



computers, but with prayer and determination, we overcame these problems to reach thousands at the broadcast site. On many nights, we had to direct large crowds to overflow rooms and sites.

One man who has been struggling with the decision to keep the Sabbath for five years finally made his decision to be baptized. Another person approached a Bible worker to say he quit smoking and wanted to get his life together and serve God. Others are already making plans to speak with their employers about getting Sabbaths off. At the time of publication, 40 people have been baptized, with more than 200 planned in the near future. Just imagine what the numbers are going to be around the world!

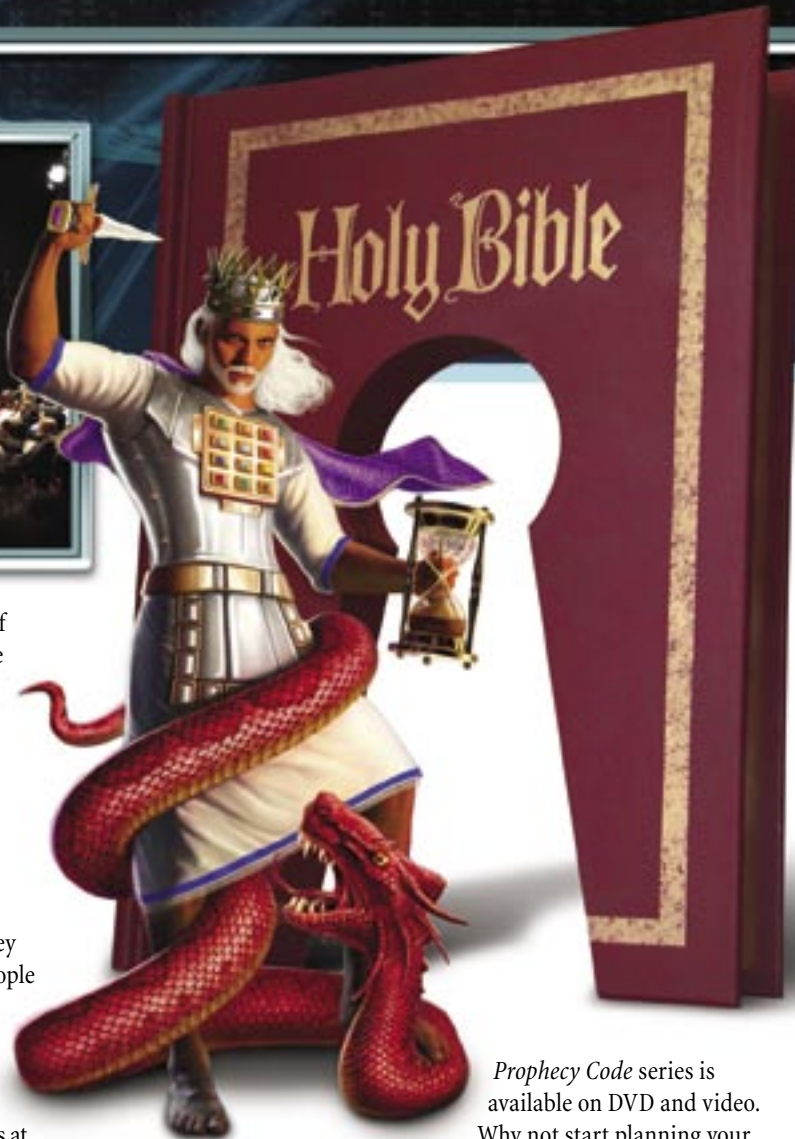
At the Speed of His Light

This same transforming Spirit working in Washington, D.C., also worked through the series to dramatically reach souls at downlink sites and on the internet around the globe. Indeed, responses have been flooding in from everywhere—from Portland to Amman, Jordan, hearts and lives were touched and changed by the love of God.

During the series, 23,232 people visited the *Prophecy Code* website, sending more than 4,232 Bible questions and 1,087 prayer requests. They also speak of changed lives, surrender of the will to God, and



The dedicated Prophecy Code crew.



victory over soul-destroying habits. Every week, hundreds of new e-mails flood Amazing Facts' inboxes in response to the unprecedented series.

With the partnership of Hope TV, ACN, 3ABN, ADvenir, and others blanketing the planet, *The Prophecy Code* was perhaps the largest NET satellite series ever. Only time and eternity will tell us the final tally of souls saved from the clutches of sin and death.

At a downlink site in Mexico, the church had problems getting the satellite signal, but they maintained interest by showing the *Final Events DVD* and using our resources. They started following the series by internet and baptized six people and generated 64 new interests seeking more Bible study and preparation for baptism.

Soup and Salvation

Although they are a small congregation, they have big hearts at a small church in Maine that hosted the series in their sanctuary. Their plan and preparation included advertising *The Prophecy Code* meetings on radio and in print. They provided supper of tasty soups and salads to the attendees. During the program, they experienced severe snowstorms that cut down their starting group of 16 guests, but by building friendships at the dinner table they continued to hold 12 interests throughout the meetings. Roxanne writes, "We are so pleased. I realize 12 people doesn't sound like much but it is to us. Even if it had only been one or two, it would have been worth all the effort. Thanks to all of you."

Roxanne, it was worth it to Jesus too! Thank you and your team for working with Amazing Facts. And a big *thank you* goes to everyone who worked hard and participated in *The Prophecy Code* to make this series an historic event.

Everyone Making a Difference

My own tiny church in Northern California has five precious souls preparing for baptism. The pastor was so excited, he told me, "We need to do this all the time!" Consider this: *The*

Prophecy Code series is available on DVD and video. Why not start planning your

next series now? Amazing Facts has all of the tools to help you do successful friendship evangelism in your home or local church.

The book of Zephaniah says: "The great day of the LORD is near, and hasteth greatly" (1:14). It is time to act now. One Christian writer said, "Church members ... are to be ever ready to spring into action in obedience to the Master's commands. Wherever we see work waiting to



One of the first baptisms!

be done, we are to take it up and do it, constantly looking unto Jesus. ... If every church member were a living missionary, the gospel would


speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to all peoples, nations, and tongues” (Testimonies, vol. 9, pg. 32).

Here at Amazing Facts, we are witnessing firsthand the power of the Holy Spirit working in incredible ways to change the hearts and lives of thousands upon thousands of souls! Praise the Lord that He has made it possible for all of us to join Him in finishing this great work. If you are not already working with Him in these last hours of earth’s history, we hope you will “go with God” as He calls you to this sacred work of being a soul saver.

Your Prophecy Code Testimonies

New York

“I have been greatly blessed with the seminar series here in Mt. Sinai, Queens, New York. And I’m delighted to say that out of all our visitors, 15 have requested more Bible studies! So far, four have expressed the desire to be a part of our next baptism. God has been doing a great work in this part of His vineyard through NET 2005!”



Several supporters e-mailed us about some free advertising in Canada on their national radio station, airing an Amazing Facts’ produced *Prophecy Code* commercial and giving our web address! On the program *The Current*, hosted by Anna Maria Tremonti, the tone was decidedly derogatory on a station that regularly avoids Christian content and scoffs people of faith. One supporter said we couldn’t even pay for this kind of advertising. So we praise God for using those who would curse us to bless us, as hits on our website spiked shortly after it aired.

Here is a partial transcript from that broadcast: “Ahh ... the end of civilization as we know it. This has long been a phrase used to describe the ultimate demise of something big. ... Now, if you ‘Google’ the phrase ‘the end of civilization,’ you’ll come across a number of other apocalyptic scenarios, depending, of course, on your definition of apocalypse. So if you don’t know exactly what signs to look for when contemplating the end of the world—don’t worry. There’s help. From March 4 to March 26, an online Armageddon “clearinghouse” of sorts, called the prophecycode.com, is holding seminars that promise to better prepare you for the end of civilization—yup—as we know it. We end the show with their sales pitch.” (The full 60-second *Prophecy Code* commercial aired here!)



Pastor Doug flips onstage during health talk.

Oklahoma

“Our small church in Altus, Oklahoma, wants to thank Amazing Facts, 3ABN, Hope Channel, and all those who worked so hard to make *The Prophecy Code* possible and send it around the world. You folks must be exhausted. But thank you very much, and God bless you all. We have two solid interests, one of which is to be married soon. She has been sharing the truths she’s learned with her gentleman, and they are looking for a church!”

Oregon

“Yes, God’s Spirit has been poured out here in the Illinois Valley, Cave Junction, Oregon! The church is filled every Sabbath and many are new believers. This Sabbath we will have a baptism of 15, and others are still studying. When the call was given on Sabbath, 28 precious souls came forward indicating their interest in baptism. We have 30 gospel workers that are giving out lessons and booklets. Everyone is so excited about the out-pouring of God’s Spirit, truly it must be part of the latter rain!”

Tennessee

“We hosted via satellite your *Prophecy Code* seminar at our health food store for our customers. One (a Sunday school teacher) who attended came by this evening and informed me of the following two items. He stated that all of his newly found knowledge came from your meetings and the literature we printed from your website; he’s even using it to teach his Sunday school! He also informed me that his church has a large vacation Bible school program for both children and adults. He is the instructor of the adult program and has decided to present a new approach this summer using his notes from *The Prophecy Code*.”

California

“For the past seven months, we have been jumping from church to church, confused about the different traditions and doctrines they present. It’s the true desire of our hearts to obey God, to follow His commandments, to please Him in every way; but since we are so new to the faith, we worried about being misled. Thankfully, after watching every single one of these meetings, we have decided to attend our local Sabbathkeeping church. We had been very confused about the concept of “eternal hell” as it really didn’t make sense! So the presentation on that topic also guided us to make our decision as well. So, I thank God for directing us to watch these *Prophecy Code* meetings, because they answered my many questions about just about everything and they have guided me to visit a church I had not even considered visiting until I saw these presentations. I pray that you will continue blessing many lives and that God will continue directing you to share His truths. Pastor Batchelor has such a special, down-to-earth way of making these complicated issues so much easier to understand.”

Behind the Scenes

What's new at Amazing Facts...



Amazing Facts Increases Web Awareness

Our radio stations are now listed in Microsoft's Windows Media Directory. This has helped increase our daily site traffic by more than 3,000 people per day! Says Andrew Taylor, director of information technology, "Praise the Lord! Most likely, all of these users are unfamiliar with the end-time church's message." This directory is available by default to every computer with Windows XP/Microsoft Internet Explorer. In addition, *Amazing Facts Central Study Hour* and *Everlasting Gospel* can now be watched live from our home page!

Revival 2005

When Amazing Facts broadcast *Oh for Revival!* last year, we didn't know what kind of response we would get. But praise God, lukewarm hearts were set on fire for the Lord all across the globe. So to keep the flame burning, Pastor Doug Batchelor will host an all-new revival 2005 in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area from November 4–12. Keep reading *Inside Report* for more details.

Be a Ministry Website Partner

Amazing Facts has developed an exciting new internet program that will help you and your website ministry become stronger in your outreach efforts—without much more work on your end.

Now our online Bible schools and e-commerce sites can be incorporated into other website skins! This means you can now offer two incredible Bible schools to everyone who visits your website. You can even track and nurture (optional) your Bible students!

You'll also be able to offer all or selected Amazing Facts products on your e-commerce site without the hassle of managing a store yourself. Imagine! You get to offer trusted, nurturing resources from Amazing Facts (but it will look like it's from you) without the incredible investment in time and money that would be required to develop your own!

And best yet, it's already working for others! To get more information about this program and to apply for eligibility, call 916-434-



3880, ext. 3010, or e-mail internetpartner@amazingfacts.org. Together, with the Holy Spirit, we can accomplish so much more for the Lord!

Enduring Legacy

Amazing Facts is now offering a wonderful new e-mail and internet service that will bless and enrich your financial planning. We have created a free weekly e-mail newsletter and developed an extensive website that provides vital information for wise estate-planning strategies, social security, retirement savings plans, financial updates, and much more. Go to enduringlegacy.org to sign up for the newsletter and get all kinds of practical and spiritual advice on being the best steward of God's precious resources.

Final Events Goes Global

Amazing Facts has released the PAL DVD version of *Final Events*, meaning that the reach of this incredible end-times resource is now worldwide. As you may know, PAL is a television system that much of the world uses. The United States uses NTSC, a system that displays 30 frames per second, while PAL viewers see 25 frames a second. Although much of the world can view our current DVDs, this will help open the door for many others, including Argentina, Australia, China, England, Ethiopia, Fiji, Germany, Qatar, and more!





BIBLE Answers



with **Pastor Doug Batchelor**

Q *Is God more likely to answer the prayers of a group of people than if only one person prayed?*

A The Bible seems to teach that there is added impact for corporate prayer because Jesus said that where two or three are gathered in His name, He is with them (Matthew 18:20). And 2 Chronicles 7:14 says, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

So it seems the collective prayers of many may have more impact than a lone voice. Beyond that, the prayers of even a single righteous person avail much. A fervent prayer of one righteous person is probably of more value to God than a 1,000 prayers of unconverted hypocrites (James 5:16). It's not only the quantity, but the quality.

There's another way you can ask this question: Would a thousand people praying have more impact than one person? I think that part of the reason we gather at church and pray is that there is strength in our corporate petitions. God hears the cry of a nation.

Remember, Pentecost came after group prayer.

Q *Should I always kneel when I pray?*

A In my opinion, kneeling is the best reverent posture for formal or personal prayer. Our body language says something about how we respect God. But the Scriptures are filled with examples of people praying in various positions. God hears us when we pray, whether we are swimming, driving, or lying down.

However, most examples of prayer in the Bible involve kneeling, sometimes even full prostration on the ground (Ezra 9:5, 6). This indicates a spirit of deep humility before God. The Christian practice of bowing one's head in prayer may be linked to Exodus 12:27: "So the people bowed their heads and worshiped" (NKJV). And in the story of the publican and Pharisee in Luke 18, Jesus says, "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

Solomon knelt when he first prayed at the dedication of the temple, and then he stood when he gave the benediction and


blessed the people. If your church is standing during the invocation, but is kneeling at some other time in the service, I wouldn't create a spectacle by kneeling when everyone else is standing. This would draw too much attention to you and would be very distracting to the other worshippers.

Still, God doesn't want us to be ritualistic like the Pharisees either. The attitude and posture of our heart is the most crucial element, and though ideally there should be a kneeling prayer some time during the service, simply bowing one's head can also indicate a spirit of humility. "And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen!' while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground" (Nehemiah 8:6 NKJV).

Q *Is praying for money right?*

A It would not be wrong to pray for money as long as our motivation for doing so is pure and unselfish. Since our ministry is dependent on donations, we have prayed for money here at Amazing Facts many times and the Lord has certainly answered in incredible ways. At the same time, we need to be submissive to God's will and recognize that He knows what is best and may choose to bless us in ways other than financially.

Of course, God does hear and answer every prayer. However, sometimes it is not always in, what we would call, a miraculous way. Sometimes, instead of giving us a big gift of money when we think we need it, He simply gives us an idea in our mind of things we can do to earn that money ourselves. Or He sends us an article or radio program on how to budget our money, so that we learn sound principles of money management and can do more with the money we already have. God can work in a thousand different ways that may not be what we originally had in mind, but which will do us more good in the long run.



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. You can also request a free program guide by phone or mail.

Continued from page 9.

have no idea what's going on behind the spiritual veil, which is why we have to pray, "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

You and I naturally have our wills twisted and confused by our carnal desires. We need to pray that God's grace and His Spirit will guide our wills into conformity with His. We also need to learn what His will is for us, and we find the best expression of that in the Word. For beginners, the simplest form of God's will is called the Ten Commandments. "I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart" (Psalm 40:8 NKJV). So when we pray "Thy will be done," we're really praying that His will be done in us through submission and obedience.

Of course, Jesus is the perfect example of doing God's will here on the earth. In John 6:38, He proclaims, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me" (NKJV). In the garden of Gethsemane, facing separation from the Father, Christ petitioned God three times with, "Not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42). Is it always easy to do God's will? No. If it was a tremendous struggle for Jesus, we will also need to pray, "Thy will be done."


A Greater Will

When God created most things, He merely spoke them into existence. But when He made Adam, He took dust from the ground, formed it with His hands, and breathed life into it. He made humanity from the earth. So when we pray, "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven," we're also admitting we're really just clay. "In earth" also means in us. We're humbling ourselves before God, recognizing that in our rebellion, our wills are perverted. When we pray "Thy will be done," we're giving Him permission to use us according to His purpose.

The Lord will never force His will on you because of the precious gift of freedom. He's not going to force you to pray, "Thy will be done." You have to choose to do it, to surrender your will, to be His servant, and give Him permission to activate His power and plan in your life. When you understand that secret, you'll unlock the storehouses of heaven's power.



But be advised, it works the other way too. Many of us are harassed by the devil because we give the devil our will. You may choose who your master is. And when we through constant surrender comply with the temptations that the devil puts in our path, we start giving him increased power to activate his desires in our lives. And ironically, when we exercise our freedom to submit to the devil, we, inch by inch, lose our freedom! The devil possesses our natures, and we become his slave.

Yet it is possible to be filled by God's Spirit. Would you like that experience? Most of us are struggling somewhere between the willing spirit and weak flesh, but when you understand that by you choosing and saying, "Lord, I want you to be my God. I want you to take control. I surrender my will. I'm giving myself to you. I am powerless on my own," you are then giving Him the power to release His will in your life. He's waiting, but He can't force it on you. So remember that when you pray, don't forget to say, "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." 

In the next Inside Report, Pastor Doug will address the parts of the Lord's Prayer that deal with ourselves and those around us. Plus, he'll also tackle the practical issues in our daily prayers, like posture, time, and other questions Amazing Facts receives regarding prayer in the Christian's life.

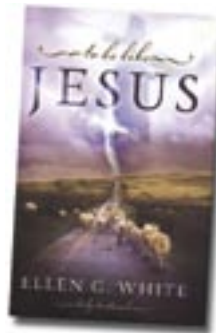




The Last Elijah Message: Essentials for Revival

Doug Batchelor. This beloved collection of teachings has helped thousands re-discover the secrets of revival in a time of spiritual laziness. For all who want to lift up their church into God's care.

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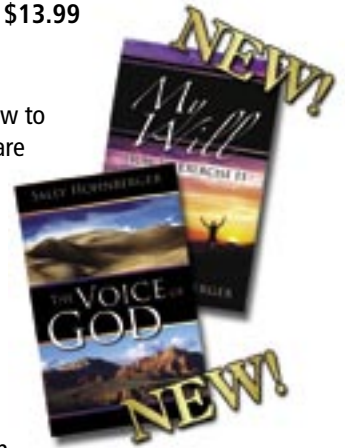
Thomas Davis. Are you ready? Are you sure? This heart-searching, challenging journey explores the experience each Christian needs if they are to receive the blessings of the coming latter rain. Shows how our unreserved response is needed before God can proceed in our sanctification.

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Leslie Kay. Published especially for *Oh For Revival*, this powerful yet practical how-to guide shows you how you can experience God's renewing power! Foreword by Doug Batchelor. Bulk pricing available.

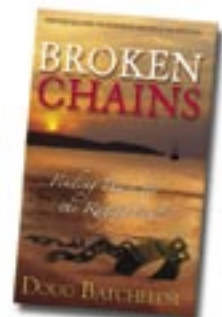
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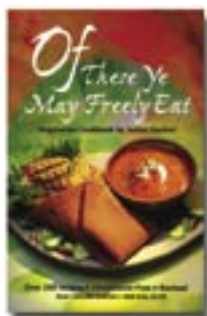
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God At Risk

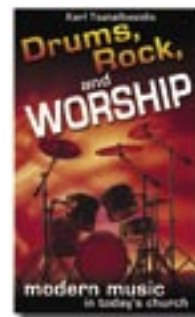
Herbert E. Douglass. Get a unique and intriguing look at the cost of freedom for God in the great controversy—and the amazing risk He took giving humanity free will. For the first time, you'll see the remnant church message in all its cosmic dimensions, with staggering detail and faithful, eye-opening commentary. (480 pages.)

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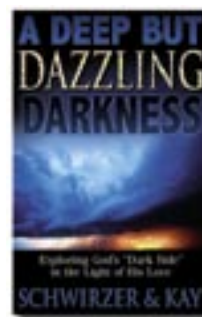
Doug Batchelor. Get faith-affirming support for the most controversial teachings of God's end-time church. An awesome book to share with seekers who have lingering doubts about the Sabbath, Ellen White, the judgment, and more.

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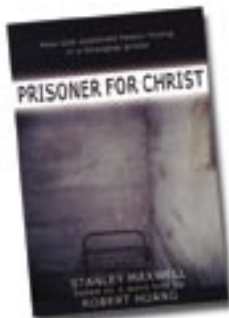
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Book of Bible Answers, Vol. 1

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It's finally here! Get more of Pastor Doug's amazing facts that you can use to help others understand the Bible. It's a great way to share Christ with your secular-minded friends and neighbors!

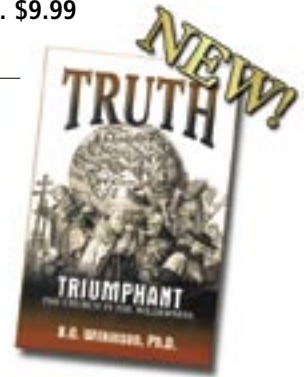
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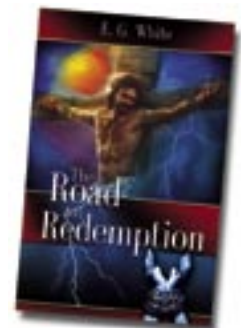
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The Israel of the Alps DVD

This fascinating documentary traces the forgotten history of the Waldenses, who suffered intense prosecution while clinging to God's Word. See how they lived and shared their faith, helping to plant the seeds of Reformation. A faith-building story without compare! (85 minutes.) **DV-IOTA ... \$20.00**

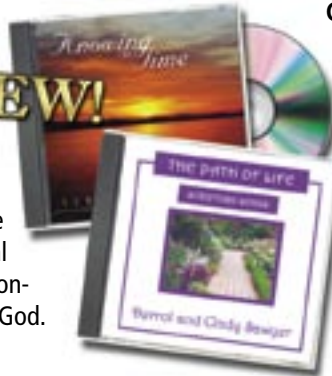


Education Audio CD Set

One of the world's most treasured guides on educating children is now available on audio-CD! Get a penetrating look at true education with the ultimate goal for all to understand more about God. Full of tremendous guiding principles that every parent, student, teacher—and everyone else involved in educating our children—can use in the great school of life. **CD-EDU ... \$39.95**

Knowing the Time CD

Derrol and Cindy Sawyer. Be encouraged and inspired with the brand-new collection of 19 Scripture songs that will refocus your attention on your relationship with the Lord. Perfect for listening on your Sabbath walks or during your devotional times! **CD-KTT ... \$15.98**



Our Resting Place DVD

Leave the fast-paced world around you and discover a better life with the Hohnbergers, who left their hectic lives to find true peace and joy living God's way. You'll learn the eternal principles that can revitalize your marriage, reconnect your family, and empower your walk with God. **DV-ORP ... \$28.00**



The Path of Life CD

Derrol and Cindy Sawyer. Inspiring messages straight from the Bible set to music appropriate for worship and meditation. A unique collection that will delight and entertain every music fan. **CD-POLS ... \$14.95**



Ministry Spotlight

Your Giving at Work

By Cyndee Holm

Here's an insider look at our Correspondence Department, a little-known but powerful ministry of Amazing Facts changing lives for Christ each and every day.


Mountains of mail arrive at Amazing Facts every day, and an able crew is ready for its arrival. After an initial sorting process, a large portion of the letters goes to the Correspondence Department. Jackie White, who has been with the ministry since 1988 and moved to California when Amazing Facts relocated from Maryland, reads through each letter and determines how best to meet their needs. Most of the letters she receives are from television viewers who have watched the ministry's broadcasts and are responding in some way, usually with a request or question. Jackie personally handles all the requests for free offers that have been made on our broadcasts and sends out requested materials. She prays over prayer requests as they come in, as well as passes them on to be read and prayed over in staff worship. Although hundreds of letters pass through her hands each month, she knows that each one represents a unique individual who is loved by God, and none are passed over as unimportant.

Many letters are from individuals asking questions about the Bible, or who are seeking spiritual encouragement for a problem. Jackie passes this mail on to me. I came to Amazing Facts in 1998, and I really think I have the best job in the house. I have always loved writing letters, but I was never able to use this talent as a spiritual gift. Now God has given me this priceless opportunity to share my knowledge of Him with others on a daily basis, and I am so delighted to be able to do it. I have a degree in theology that is also a great help in finding answers to some of the often-puzzling questions that come in. Since much of the mail is personally addressed to Doug Batchelor, I meet with him about once a week. Pastor Doug will answer the letters verbally into a recorder, and I transcribe them and send them out.

Another aspect to the Correspondence Department is the e-mail generated at the Amazing Facts website. Hundreds of e-mail questions

come in each week, and it is a major challenge to answer them all in a timely manner. Most of them are forwarded to Arlene Clark, who works part-time from her home. Arlene has been an Amazing Facts employee since 1988 and enjoys sharing the truth of God's Word. When the number of e-mails became overwhelming, she was delighted when Ron Bottsford, a retired pastor, was found to assist her as a devoted volunteer. His pastoral and counseling experience are a great background for doing this work. Barbara Gage, another knowledgeable Bible scholar and volunteer, also has been helping in this area.

All those who answer mail have some excellent resources with which to work. One drive on our computer network is dedicated to letters that have been categorized by topic. With this resource, we don't have to re-invent the wheel every time a question comes in. If the same question has been answered before, the answer will be there in a computer folder for ready access. There are also some wonderful resources on the computer that aid in research—Bible dictionaries, commentaries, and concordances are just a touch away. Amazing Facts has a great deal of literature available too, such as booklets, Study Guides, and more that can be sent to give greater understanding on various topics.

The most rewarding part of the job for everyone in the Correspondence Department is the opportunity to read letters from people who write to share how much they have been blessed by the Amazing Facts ministry. There are times when our eyes fill with tears of joy as we read personal stories of how God has transformed a life. Often someone is writing in to tell of their excitement over being recently baptized, and everyone shares in that joy. "Amazing Facts is not about uplifting one person, or giving out opinions," says Jackie. "Our purpose is to direct people to the Bible and a knowledge of God Himself. We always try to keep that uppermost in our minds as we answer these letters." 



A SPECIAL INVITATION

BY MAC CONNELL

This letter from Mac Connell, who was baptized in 2002 at a Hampton, Virginia, Amazing Facts prophecy seminar hosted by Lowell Hargreaves, was sent out to his friends and family when Lowell returned for a new series in 2004. Mr. Connell was the prayer coordinator for the meetings.

Greetings,

I hope this note will find you well and ready to receive a heartfelt invitation to a very special event.

The attached brochure announces an upcoming Amazing Facts prophecy seminar to our area, and I want to tell you how I was truly helped by a similar program. Amazing Facts is a ministry based in California that is involved in proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world. You may have come across one of their television programs.

Most of you know me very well, and how after returning home from military service my heart began to be turned to study earnestly the things concerning God. My Bible studies began and have continued through today. Early on it became clear that the Bible is the place to safely seek God—mainly because men, even this man, can blow around in the winds of doctrine. Trusting in men is not the way to go, but the Bible has proven to be God's Word to me.

Better than 25 years of trying to walk in truth led me through several churches seeking my place in God's will. One wonderful realization occurred in Russia in May of 1995 when God showed me that His best for me involves being a pray-er before Him. This is important to this invitation because since then God has led me to pray in several areas, including for you and our city. Well, in February, my mailman delivered a brochure to me.

The colorful brochure announced an upcoming prophetic seminar with images easily recognizable to anyone who has studied Scripture's prophecies. My first thought was, "Oh boy, what is this?" and I set it aside to pray whether I should even go. But a few days later, I really felt that God wanted me there.

My first motive in attending was simply to assess what was coming into my city. I was fully prepared to enter into the defense of Hampton from heresy. So the first meeting found me in the front row, early. Much prayer had prepared me to listen, hear, and take notes. Imagine my surprise when after only 20 minutes I knew this meeting was exactly where He wanted me to be.

The most incredible and comprehensive view of Bible prophecy that I had ever seen unfolded before me in a series of 30 meetings, and things finally made sense after 25 years of study! I discovered



that my most deeply held beliefs were not really biblical in this new light. Anyone who knows me knows I claim to believe in the Bible. But I was shocked to discover how much of my religion was based on manmade traditions. I repented!

Now over a year and a half later, my journey of discovery continues. Of a certainty, choosing to fully turn to God is the adventure of adventures! The Amazing Facts prophecy seminar is an opportunity that you can take advantage of beginning this Friday, and I want to encourage you to do just that. Because most of us may not even have 25 years to study, and because I sincerely want you to find the peace, confidence, and joy that I have—please make plans now to attend.

I will also tell you straight up as one who has covered some mileage in these matters: This is a rare and precious opportunity to experience Bible prophecy from a highly inclusive perspective that will really make sense of many things that may seem very perplexing right now. In addition, you don't have to rely on what a man alone is saying. This entire program is totally Bible centered.

The fact is also important to convey that my experience with Pastor Lowell and his family has led me to the conclusion that he is indeed a man of God for this time. I am not asking you to trust him, or me for that matter; but from my heart, I encourage you to step out in faith at this time to taste of the Lord and to see that He is good. He loves you, and so do I.

Be well and be ready—Revelation 14:7!

Amazing Facts EVANGELISM TEAM



You are invited to meet the members of Amazing Facts evangelism team at any one of the following locations—and please invite a friend! This schedule is subject to change without notice, so please call Amazing Facts to confirm appointments or get more information.



Doug
Batchelor



Emanuel
Baek



John
Bradshaw



Byron
Corbett



Eric
Flickinger



Lowell
Hargreaves



Tyler
Long



Brian
McMahon



Jason
Morgan



Jack
Pefley



Dennis
Priebe



Adam
Ramdin



Jason
Sliger

Doug Batchelor

July 4
“If I Had 15 Minutes to Speak”
America’s Center Exhibit Hall
St. Louis, Missouri

August 17-20
Zhijiang Hotel
Hangzhou, China

Emanuel Baek

July 22 – August 27
Walnutport, Pennsylvania
Call 610-767-8939 for details.

John Bradshaw

September 9 – October 15
Arroyo Grande, California
Call 805-489-6622 for details.

Byron Corbett

September 9 – October 15
Anoka, Minnesota
Call 612-421-4020 for details.

Eric Flickinger

July 22 – August 27
Tullahoma, Tennessee
Call 931-455-9816 for details.

Lowell Hargreaves

September 9 – October 15
Budapest, Hungary

Tyler Long

July 11 – 31
ASI for Jesus
Sacramento, California
Call 916-457-6511 for details.

Our evangelists attend training, enjoy Christian fellowship, and relax with their families this time every year, so please keep them in your prayers as God continues to lead them. Although we don’t have many details for many of their future meetings, here’s a sneak peek at where you can find them next.

Brian McMahon

May 25 – June 4
Kupang
West Timor, Indonesia

September 24 – October 8
La Sierra Spanish Church
La Sierra, California
Call 916-434-3880 for details.

Jason Morgan

September 9 – October 15
Chadron, Nebraska
Call 308-432-3147 for details.

Jack Pefley

May 25 – May 28
Ukiah Junior Academy
180 Stipp Lane
Ukiah, California

June 8 – June 11
Citrus Heights Church
6210 Watchel Avenue
Orangevale, California

Dennis Priebe

May 27, 28
Mentone Church, California

June 3, 4
Victorville Spanish Church,
California

June 10, 11
Mojave Church, California

June 17, 18
Las Vegas Present Truth Church,
Nevada

June 24, 25
St. George Church, Utah

Adam Ramdin

July 22 – August 27
McCook, Nebraska
Call 308-345-3202 for details.

Jason Sliger

July 15 – August 13
Puna, Hawaii
Call 808-987-5303 for details.

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like to schedule an Amazing Facts evangelistic series or a weekend of revival meetings in your church, please contact the evangelism department at Amazing Facts by phone at 916-434-3880 or by mail.



Active Faith and Prayer

By LaVonne Long

The Lord has blessed a wonderful town—and another great church! Tyler and I witnessed God working in a mighty way during our prophecy meetings in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Though we opened in a church with a small budget, we had a congregation that was on fire for evangelism.

We arrived in Pine Bluff a week early and took church members door to door to invite the good people who have been involved with the Amazing Facts Bible School and It Is Written Ministry—60 addresses to visit in all. The best form of evangelism needs more than handbills; it needs Christians willing to take those handbills door to door, inviting their neighbors and friends. When we step out in faith to personally invite people in the community, the Lord will really bless.

We opened with a very small crowd of 15 on opening night. There were only adults, and no children! So that night, the children's evangelism team prayed for some kids to come out, and God answered their prayers. We also prayed for more adults, and on the next night, 15 visitors returned, plus the Lord blessed us with 17 more! For the rest of the meeting, children were always in attendance, and our crowd never fell below opening night attendance.



One of the best experiences I had was with my door-to-door partner the first week we arrived. She was not yet a member of the church, but had been faithfully keeping the Sabbath since she completed in-home studies with church leaders. (Nothing beats friendship evangelism!) We had about 15 addresses to follow up, and everyone who answered their door was pretty positive.

However, one man stood out as being more skeptical of what we were doing. He hurriedly took the handbill, and closed the door. We didn't feel like he was rude, but a couple nights into our seminar, we got a call from Mary Lou, the AFCOE registrar, regarding a phone call she received from a man in Pine Bluff. He was calling about two ladies who came to his home that he felt he treated rudely—he was calling to apologize! He felt so bad, but said he was in such a hurry because he was on an important phone call.




He ended up leaving his phone number with Mary Lou, who gave it to Tyler the next day. Tyler called this man, Roy, right after he got off the phone with Mary Lou. Roy came out that same night, and didn't miss a single seminar after. When he heard the Sabbath message, he went to his employer to get the day off, and they were happy to give it to him because they had been looking for someone willing to work on Sundays! By the end of the meetings, Roy made the decision to be baptized! If the church wasn't willing to work before the meetings, to step out of their comfort zones and invite others, this man would not have come at all! Christ, in His Great Commission to the church (Matthew 28:19), says we need to go out to the entire world—and this includes Pine Bluff—for Him. When we accept the call to go for God, He will bless our efforts. We also found out from Mary Lou that she had been offering Roy's name up in prayer at the Amazing Facts worship time in California. She was just as thrilled as we were that Roy made the decision to be baptized.

In all, six people were added to the church and more are still studying in a group Bible study with the church leaders and attending church services. Also, 20 people graduated from the Amazing Facts Bible School! God worked wonders in Pine Bluff, and we had heavenly success.

God is also doing wonderful things through Amazing Facts each meeting we have. All we need is to have the active faith and prayer life that this small southern church in Arkansas has. It has been exciting to be a part of it, and we are even more excited to see where God will lead us next!

LaVonne is the wife of Amazing Facts' evangelist Tyler Long.

Evangelists at Work



Ever since Joe Crews began hosting live seminars for the ministry, live public evangelism has been the soul of Amazing Facts. Back then, the ministry would flood a local area with radio broadcasts and then follow up with a prophecy seminar. The results were astounding, and Amazing Facts saw a great opportunity to train and hire evangelists to travel the country giving soul-winning Bible seminars.

Today, a team of dedicated evangelists continues to give clear and convincing messages that lead to hundreds of baptisms every year. As evangelists and churches join together for community outreach, congregations are energized and new souls are won to the kingdom.

As you'll see in these reports, with your financial support and prayers, God is harvesting souls for His kingdom through our evangelists.

The Riches of His Grace

Hildelisa, evangelist Eric Flickenger's wife, reports:

We have been blessed to witness the miraculous ways in which God changes lives. Through our evangelistic meetings within the past year, many have had the opportunity to learn about Jesus and experience His transforming power. In Texarkana, Texas, we met Michael, a young man who had been raised by Christian parents but had really strayed into the world. He had been deep into drugs and crime. But the Michael we met was a totally changed young man on fire for the Lord. To hear his story, you could not believe that someone who had gone so low and so far could respond to the call of Jesus. I am so glad that Jesus sees far more than our human eyes can.

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins,

according to the riches of his grace” (Ephesians. 1:7). Jesus sees what we could be once we accept His power in our lives. He sees what He can accomplish through us as witnesses of His transforming power through the riches of His grace! At his baptism, Michael requested to be held under the water until he said a prayer, totally leaving his past behind. It was a good thing he had practiced holding his breath, because it was quite a long prayer!

In Dodge Center, Minnesota, we met Gary, who only started coming to our meetings on the third week of the series. To our surprise, he had already heard almost all of the prophecy seminar topics. You see, a year earlier we had done a series of meetings in Mason City, Iowa, about one-and-a-half hours from Dodge Center. There we met Joyce, who owns a health food store in town. After the series was over, she began sharing audiotapes of the meetings with customers who came to her store. Gary was one of them. He was being changed by what

he heard. Now a year later, Joyce informed Gary that the speaker he was so familiar with through the audiotapes was speaking live not far away. He continued coming through the end of the meetings, driving approximately three hours almost every night!

Gary not only got baptized at the end of that meeting, but he is also one of the speakers of the follow-up program in Albert Lea, Minnesota, where we also held an evangelistic series. There we met and had the privilege to see baptized a most entertaining person, Larry, a professional world-class juggler! He not only attracts kids and adults alike, but he also uses his talents to tell others of Jesus. It's amazing how the Holy Spirit can use us where we are and with





Some of our most amazing seminar experiences are when entire families give their hearts to Jesus and together follow Him in baptism. Such was the case with the Boettcher family in Dodge Center (above) and Danette's family in Lafayette, Louisiana (opposite page, along with evangelist Eric Flickenger and Pastor Brian Laue).

what we have. As He did with Moses thousands of years ago, He asks us today, "What is that in thine hand?"

The following story gives hope and encouragement to all of us who have shared the message of salvation but have not seen the fruits of our efforts and prayers. Richard and Sheila had attended an evangelistic series in Lafayette,

Louisiana, in the 1980s but did not act on what they had learned at the time. But the seed had been planted. At our latest meetings, they attended almost every night and joyously took the step of baptism. It was finally time to reap those seeds! We should never give up praying for souls because it's never too late for Jesus to work on the heart. So let us claim God's promises and "not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9).

of 25 years and am being rebaptized. I now walk a straighter path with ease, thanks to Jesus Christ and the ministry of Amazing Facts.

If you are reading this and are not in a personal relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I suggest you seek this same information with all your heart. Attend a prophecy series if you can! It will change your life no matter who you are, where you are, or what your spiritual knowledge. Praise the Lord, and thank you, Amazing Facts!

The Ray of Hope

Lance Daniel, who attended Eric's meetings in Montrose, Colorado, writes the following:

I am a 35-year-old, average, middle-class American. I have always believed in the Holy Trinity and was baptized at the age of 12, but I did not walk with Christ after I turned 14. The last five years, I have been feeling a call for spiritual knowledge, and have been reading books in spiritualism and Buddhism. But usually, these searches ended badly and I gained nothing in spiritual achievement. Then one evening, my girlfriend who I've been living with for eight years showed me a brochure we received in the mail, titled "Ray of Hope."

I opened the brochure and was excited to see it was advertising a seminar about Bible prophecy, so I told my girlfriend that we were going to attend. This was no small feat for us, because she has a severely handicapped son who requires around-the-clock assistance, but our help came through in the end and we were able to attend. The first week was just as they said: "Amazing Facts." I was astounded and overjoyed at receiving all the new information. I was so taken that after the first week, I ceased to be a chronic marijuana user of 20 years. At the end of the seminar, my girlfriend became my lawfully wedded wife. I also gave up a tobacco habit



The Hand of Providence

And finally, seasoned evangelist Lowell Hargreaves and his family report exciting results from a recent meeting in Virginia.

We just finished a series in Hampton, Virginia, with 16 baptisms. Praise God! The most exciting part was seeing many of those baptized in our 2002 meetings who were working as helpers in this seminar! Their efforts really paid off for Robert Picklo, one of the people baptized this year. When serving in the Korean conflict, Robert met and visited with a Sabbathkeeping chaplain from whom he learned about the Sabbath and other Bible truths. Unfortunately, the war eventually separated them and he never got to hear about God's remnant church.

When he returned to the States with a Korean wife, he had three daughters, all of whom eventually began attending church. They often urged him to attend, but he always refused, saying, "If I ever find a Sabbathkeeping church, then I'll join." When our seminar came to Hampton, Robert began attending regularly with his daughter. When he heard about the Sabbath again, he knew he had finally found the church he'd been looking for. He and his daughter were baptized, and his other two daughters are looking forward to baptism in the near future.

But Robert still needs your prayers. He has terminal cancer. Yet although he often is in pain, he has a positive attitude about life and is a friendly outgoing Christian. —

If you would like an Amazing Facts evangelist to come to your community, please call us at 916-434-3880.

Unloading

Their Burdens

Out with
the old ...
In with
the new!

Amazing Facts prophecy seminars do more than just teach seekers about Daniel and Revelation, the state of the dead, and other Bible doctrines essential for the end-times. Most important, they are a gateway to learning about Jesus and His grace. With the Holy Spirit, people around the nation are convicted through clear reasoning and the wonders of Bible prophecy to follow Jesus.

Yet our evangelists know that God's Spirit wants to take their experience even further. The philosophy behind our teachings is not just showing that Jesus saves people in whatever condition they come to Him ... but also His power to save them from the sins that have ensnared them for so long. That's why in every seminar, our evangelists challenge their audiences to make a commitment to live better, holier lives before God. The following stories testify how the Holy Spirit is working powerfully to accomplish these life-transforming miracles.

A New Life in Shreveport

Jason Sliger, one of our newest evangelists, shares great news of a transformed life from his prophecy seminar in Shreveport, Louisiana:

Lucy came to me with a question burning for an answer. "Jason, I went through my things last night and found that some of them need to be gotten rid of. What should I do with them?" Just the night before, I had preached on Christian standards and how God would have us be careful of what we watch, what we listen to, what we wear, and what we read. Lucy went home and was convicted to be rid of the things in her life that were not pleasing in the sight of God.

Lucy is only 21 years old and attended just a handful of meetings, yet the Lord was working on her heart that she might surrender fully



to Him. She was raised in a Christian home but was not practicing religion at all. However, a friend of hers, a church member, invited her to attend the meetings. Lucy was hooked!

I answered, "Lucy, you can bring all the things that you want to get rid of and I will take care of them." She seemed very happy with my proposal, and the following night after the meeting, Lucy approached me with two bags in her hands. As I took the bags from her, I asked, "Is this everything? You don't want to have any provisions for the flesh to fall back into sin" (Romans 13:14). She thought for a moment and then said, "Now that you mention it, I think I still have a few things I shouldn't have." Once again, I offered to take whatever she needed to throw out and dispose of them for her.

That night, as I drove home, I made a stop at the local dump and took a look inside the bags to see what God had convicted Lucy to throw away. I was amazed to see what this young person was giving up for her Lord. A large collection of music CDs and movie DVDs were all in there, and they must have cost a lot of money. But it didn't matter to Lucy—she had a new friend with better plans for her. With a heart full of joy, I threw the bags in the trash. On the way home, I thought, "This is what evangelism is all about: changing lives for God."

The very next night, Lucy came to the meetings with another big bag of things she no longer wanted in her life and gave them to me. But Lucy had something else she wanted to tell me. "I want to be baptized!" Her face was full of joy—the kind of joy only possible for someone who has experienced freedom from sin through Jesus.

The following Sunday, the church pastor and I met with Lucy and she explained that for years she had struggled with depression; she just couldn't ever get over it. But today? "I don't experience depression anymore." Lucy smiled in acknowledgment that true freedom from Satan comes through a surrendered will to God.

Two weeks after the meetings ended, Lucy was baptized! She now attends church and prayer meetings regularly and is full of the joy that her newfound Friend has given to her. What a powerful impact one invitation by a church member can have on someone's life. Why not give that invitation to someone you care about today? You just might be an important instrument in changing their lives for the better.

No More Wasting Away

The following powerful testimony from David is another example of how God uses Amazing Facts to help others overcome sin. David attended evangelist David Morgan's prophecy series in Ankeny, Iowa.

I have spent the last two days doing nothing with my life, though I should have been doing something. It began yesterday playing video games on my computer, eating unhealthy food, and filling my head with garbage. It definitely felt like I was throwing out more of my

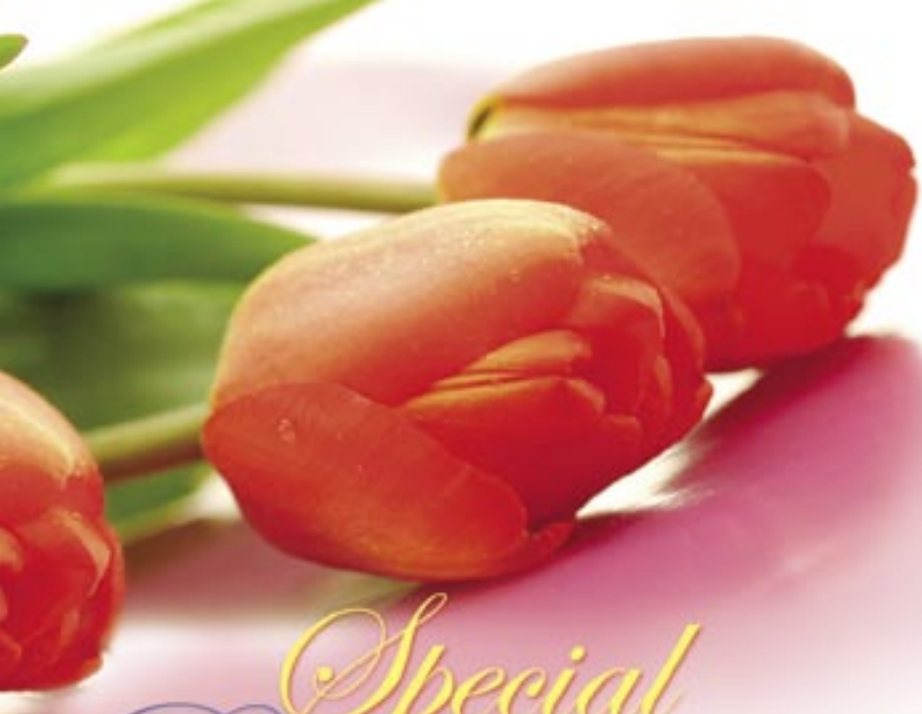
mind than taking in. I woke up this morning with thoughts of things I should accomplish, but I let sin overtake me, and I lounged in my chair playing on the computer and watching TV, including movies that I purchased recently. The end of another day has come, and my life remains void. Nothing has been accomplished. God has not been praised. Life has not changed. Bills need to be paid. I have let myself down by not listening to God's voice. I have repressed that voice so many times that if I had a dollar for every time I shunned His voice, I might be a millionaire.

But Saturday was the day I prayed to God and told Him my life would be His. Now is the time to *show* God, though He already knows my heart. Tonight I shall demonstrate to myself how serious I am about putting sin away. I have placed all my movies and video games into the dumpster. Why not give them to someone else? Sin should not be passed on.



I struggled with placing recently purchased movies into the garbage; I had to ask God for strength, because they are my possessions. The thought of "Will I regret this later?" ran through my mind. After removing the movies and games from my shelves, I felt a sense of relief. I was doing something good—the right thing. These mind-consuming products that envelop our time and thoughts distract us from focusing on eternal matters. I now pray for strength that God will help keep me from these obtrusive influences.

For some people, drugs and alcohol destroy their minds, but my drugs are things that take over my mind and usher me into another world, so I won't have to think much about anything else. This is just as devastating as drugs or alcohol. One movie that I bought just the other day was in my hands, and though I had already seen it, I know that I was looking back like Lot's wife. Had I waited much longer, would I have held on to the movie? Lot's wife looked back on all that was being destroyed by God and cherished those very things. I pray that I will not do the same. For if I hold on to the things of this earth so tight that I can't let them go now, how will I be able to release them from my grasp when Jesus returns? ■



Special Recognition

In Loving Memory of

Frances Ahlers from Jeanette Beretta; from James and Nancy Grasty; from Leonard and Edith Johnson; from Gloria Kawashige; from Joan Leforestier; from Geraldine Mechler; from Eiichi and Michiko Okamoto; from Esther Oliver

Frances Alden from Ralph Ridgway

Judy LaVerne Allen from Lewis and Marje Sommerville

S. L. (Buck) Alvarez from Jane Alvarez, his wife; from Ralph and Velma Libby

Zosie Babylon from Franklin and Elaine Bradshaw; from Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dunk

Micah Batchelor from Agatha Janzen; from Donna Sawatzky

David Beane from Lola Genton

Ray Benson from Dorothy Palmer; from Elizabeth Thomann; from Bobbie Sue Wohlers

Tim Berger from Brittany Leavitt

Arthur Bitzer from Dennis and Joan Bitzer

Audie Mae Blair from Jean Oliphant, her daughter

Walter Blehm from Kent and Dee Dickinson

William and Lillie Bolt from Samuel Wiant; from William and Freeda Wiant

Carl and Anna Brockmann from Ethel Simeone, their daughter

Shannon Burton from Emanuel and Cathy Pavlik, her parents

Bruce Bush from Lucille Bush, his wife

Pearl Buttler from Marty and Debbie Varsubsky

Glen Byers from Bonnie Byers

David Byrd from Enid Henderson, his aunt

Joseph Calkins from Judy Schachten, his grandmother

Joyce Hilliard Carson from Leon and Vivienne Rich

Pam Carter from John and Pearl Westerberg

Henry Carubba from Catherine Ritchie

Laverne Cate from Esther Cate

Derwood Chappell from Jean Chappell, his wife

Mackay Christianson from Esther Christianson

Tom Christianson from Esther Christianson, his mother

Stephen Paul Daniel Clatterback from Mary Frances Flynn, his mother

Tamara Coleman-Wallace from Alma Gyland Bingner

Claudia and Luther Conley from Alfred and Nancy Harding

Zepha Conner from Beulah Griffith

John Connovich from Mary Jo Long

Harold Cornell from Bobby Drusky; from Twig and Diana Drusky; from David and Judi Hartman; from Dale and Olivene Hoover; from Danny and Mandie Hutchinson;

from Richard and Betty Pace; from Todd and Lisa Parrish

Betty Rees Coy from Jack Coy

Hal Crays from Laurinda Crays, his wife

Joe Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his wife; from Mr. and Mrs. William Lowe; from Catherine Ritchie

Ronnie Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his mother

Lou Dahlberg from Don Kirkwood

Tor Dahlberg from Sylvia Dahlberg, his wife

Edith Darham from Shelly Lowe, her granddaughter

Robert Darnell from Lu Ann Crews

J. D. Davis from Wanda Davis, his wife

Artie Robinson Derting from Catherine Ritchie, her daughter

Hyko Dewind from Lucille Bush

Marjorie Dickinson from Kent and Dee Dickinson

Earlena Dudley from Ed and Esther Brummett

Dr. Robert Dunn from Oileen Duncan

Bernice Elijah from Jim and Judy Blackwood

George Elliott from Leon and Vivienne Rich

Gene Epple from Charlotte Widner

Betty Feyen from Bob and Treva Burgess

William Fisher from Dorothy Fisher

Edward Flower from M. Florence Flower, his wife

Pauline Fogg from Frank Kaluoda

Patricia Foley from Marion Meyers

Lawrence Ford from Agatha Janzen

Jewel Fouch from Frank and Gayle Tyroff

Jerry Freeman from Hazel Freeman, his wife

Bill Fulton from Edith Fulton

Agnes Garrison from John and Idy Freeman

Ruben Geigle from Esther Henderson; from Carol Morris

Betty Gerard from Bonnie Lorenz

Ruth Gesler from Debra Rosen-Collins

Diana Griffin from Jim Griffin

Mode Griffith from Beulah Griffith, his wife

Frances Ellen Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, her daughter

Washington Hames Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, his daughter

David Haines from Olga Haines, his wife

Alex Hall from Alyce Hall, his wife

Lola Hardie from Wanda Davis; from James Hardie

Dr. Winfield Bill Hardy from Lewis and Marje Sommerville

Doris Harris from Mary Frances Flynn

Joe Harris from Charlotte Harris, his wife

Catherine Hartnell from Kent and Dee Dickinson; from Eldon Stratton; from Herb and Anna May Waters

Don Hay from Edna Hay

Joan Heinbaugh from Vernonne Heinbaugh, her husband; from Bonnie Lorenz, her sister; from Jerry, Karen, Jeremy, Mindy, and Denny Johnson

Kenneth Henderson from Enid Henderson, his wife

Weiland Henry Jr. from Weiland Henry

Joseph Herzberg from Thelma Herzberg, his wife; from Michael and Debra Fechik; from Kathy Woodhall

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 due to volume. Due to space limitations, a maximum of five names will be printed per donation per issue.

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J. Murray Long from Pauline Long, his wife
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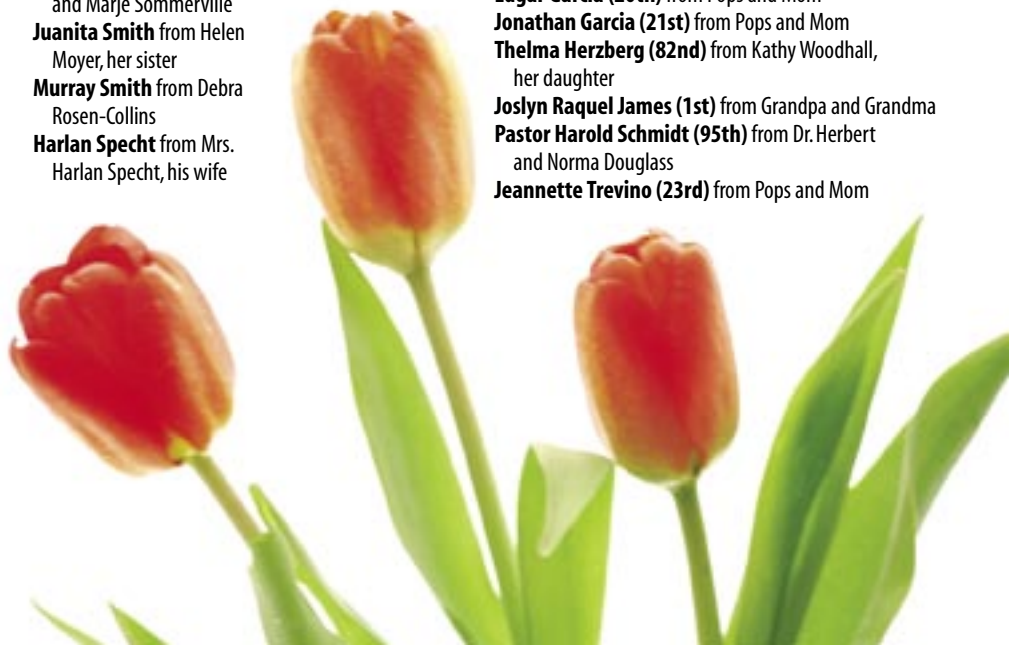
Bill Zima Jr. from Patricia Zima, his mother
Bill Zima Sr. from Patricia Zima, his wife

In Honor of

John Vrbeta from Victoria Vrbeta
Neal Wilson from Dr. Herbert and Norma Douglass
Kenneth Wood from Dr. Herbert and Norma Douglass

Happy Birthday

Nathan Batchelor (9th) from Bonnie and Ed Ensminger,
his grandparents
Tillie Ensminger (90th) from Lileen and Ken Troutman;
from Edward and Bonnie Ensminger
Florence Frank from Jim and Mary Lou Crutcher,
her parents
Edgar Garcia (20th) from Pops and Mom
Jonathan Garcia (21st) from Pops and Mom
Thelma Herzberg (82nd) from Kathy Woodhall,
her daughter
Joslyn Raquel James (1st) from Grandpa and Grandma
Pastor Harold Schmidt (95th) from Dr. Herbert
and Norma Douglass
Jeannette Trevino (23rd) from Pops and Mom





by
Frances Piper de Vries, ASN

“Prayer, made in faith, will heal the sick person; the Lord will restore him to health, and the sins he has committed will be forgiven” (James 5:15 TEV).



As Christians, we believe in the power of prayer. We believe that God can and does heal people as a result of prayer. We're not alone. A 1999 poll found that 80 percent of Americans believe that prayer improves recovery from disease. But does science support this belief?

Actually, more than 130 studies have been done on prayer and its effect on health. Studies of petitionary prayer (prayer for self) document many benefits, including positive effects on blood pressure, asthma, heart attacks, and headaches.

The benefit of petitionary prayer is most statistically demonstrable when it comes to depression, both “everyday” depression and the depression associated with illness. A study of 1,000 seriously ill men in Veterans Administration hospitals found that “religious coping,” including prayer, decreased depression, though it didn't prolong life span. Another study found that prayer accelerated recovery from “anxiety disorder,” a mild form of clinical depression. Other academic, peer-reviewed studies have also found that prayer reduces depression.

What may surprise some people is that benefits of prayer occur regardless of the religious beliefs held by the person doing the praying.

Larry Dossey, MD, former chairperson of the Mind/Body Interventions panel at the NIH's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, and currently executive editor of *Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine*, says, “These experiments suggest that prayer that

heals is indeed universal, that efficacious prayer exists in non-Christian and even in non-theistic religions.”

Skeptics claim that the placebo factor is in effect. Christians might add that Satan is also able to manipulate health and disease. Another possibility



worth considering is that God cares less about one's religion and more about one's desire to connect with Him. Dossey claims that “by demonstrating that the prayers of a great many faiths are correlated with health outcomes, the prayer experiments have contributed to respect and understanding among faiths. These studies should be celebrated because of the universality toward which they point.”

The first two explanations may be valid to some degree, but it would be presumptuous to believe that God only responds to the prayers of Christians. Scripture says that God has given everyone a measure of faith (Romans 12:3), that He overlooks the ignorance of those who don't know better (Acts 17:30), and that He will pour out His Spirit on all flesh (Acts 2:17). Furthermore, He actively seeks out each one of His children, including the lost (Ezekiel 34:11–16; Matthew 18:12–14; Luke 15:4–10, 19:10). Truly, He is gracious and merciful to all His children!

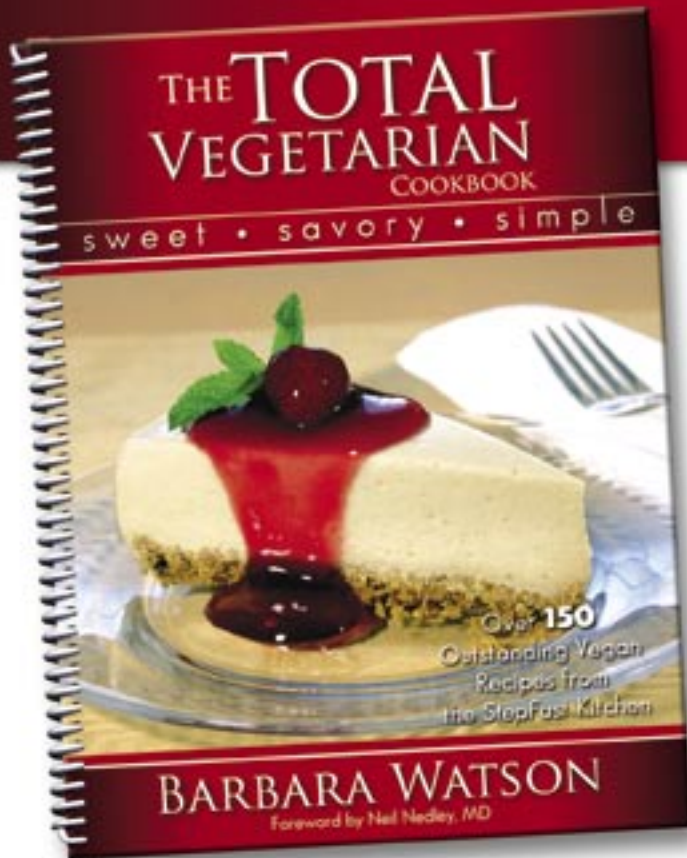
When it comes to studies on prayer, many thorny issues arise and they provoke quite a bit of controversy. Prayer can't be measured or isolated in a laboratory. Researchers can't agree on how to collect data or how to interpret it. Adding to the tangle, God's agenda frequently differs from ours. He has eternity in mind when He answers our prayers, and what may seem best to us may actually be harmful, or at most, second-best in His eyes.



Hector Avalos, an assistant professor at Iowa State University, asserts that these and all such projects are of no value because when it comes to the divine, “there can be no such thing as a controlled experiment.”

Certainly, no medical study can prove that God exists or that He intervenes in our lives, but we don't need such studies to know for ourselves. God is anxious to reveal Himself to each one of us. He wants to be involved in our lives, not only in times of illness or crisis, but also in our daily routines.

How about conducting your own personal study on prayer? Experience for yourself how much He cares about you and what's going on in your life. Even if your faith is small as a mustard seed, He will honor it. “You will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am’ ” (Isaiah 58:9 NASB).



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