

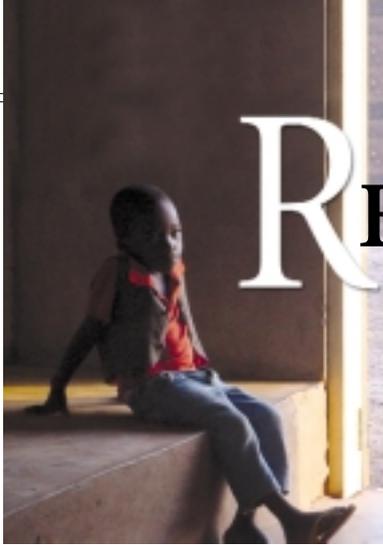
# AMAZING *Inside Report* FACTS

*July/August 2002*



Finding the Missing

*Peace*



# REFLECTIONS FROM GHANA

by Annie Kjaer

*Editor's Note: As many of you read in the last issue of Inside Report, Annie Kjaer led a team of Amazing Facts College of*

*Evangelism (AFCOE) graduates and volunteers to Ghana, Africa, to hold 26 simultaneous evangelistic meetings. Due to space limitations, we were forced to cut parts of her article that we really wanted to keep in. So we decided to run her inspiring and powerful "Reflections from Ghana" here, knowing you will be blessed. We also hope you'll catch the incredible vision of Hope for a Hemisphere, joining us in prayer and support as Amazing Facts illuminates the Dark Continent.*

## CARING FOR NEW BELIEVERS

Children are very important in the Ghanaian culture. "There is no wealth where there are no children," they say. This is true not only of the family, but also of the church. As God forms a child in the mother's womb and brings her out into the care and safe-keeping of a father's arms, so He is bringing precious souls to the arms of the church in America, Ghana, and around the world. Acts 2 tells us that the Lord adds to the church such as are being saved.

When we consider the needs of new church-family members, few words can equal the wisdom of the African proverb "Absence does not bring up a child." Children desire connection and closeness. Ghanaian mothers practice this as they wrap their precious bundles in cloth and carry them close, while fathers hold their toddler close and gaze down at their legacy. I understood it better when a trusting, happy little girl climbed into my lap and fell asleep during Sabbath worship.

Ghana's people reminded me that life is not about things and my accomplishments. Life is connection with God and people—not isolation. That's what people look for in God's house: They need a spiritual family—a family who loves them and holds them close. They need you. My personal journal expresses it this way: "When I give, I give myself." Until we give ourselves to others, we have not given anything.

In all our planning for evangelism and nurturing of new believers, let's remember that only love is strong enough to capture the wandering footsteps of the human son or daughter and keep them safe from danger in the fold of God's family.

## TO KNOW GOD, TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to go back in time and see Jesus face to face when He lived on earth?

If He looked at you, how would you feel? I imagine He would be very gentle, yet very strong. He would linger behind when others hurried away—take time to know me, dispel my fears, uncover buried tears and wipe them away, kindle my laughter, and share the joy of His presence with me. I know He'd carry my joys and sorrows as His own. And He would see through me, yet love me still. The Bible shows this picture of God in the life of Jesus, yet it is rare to find people who reveal God's character like this, people who love others the way Jesus does.

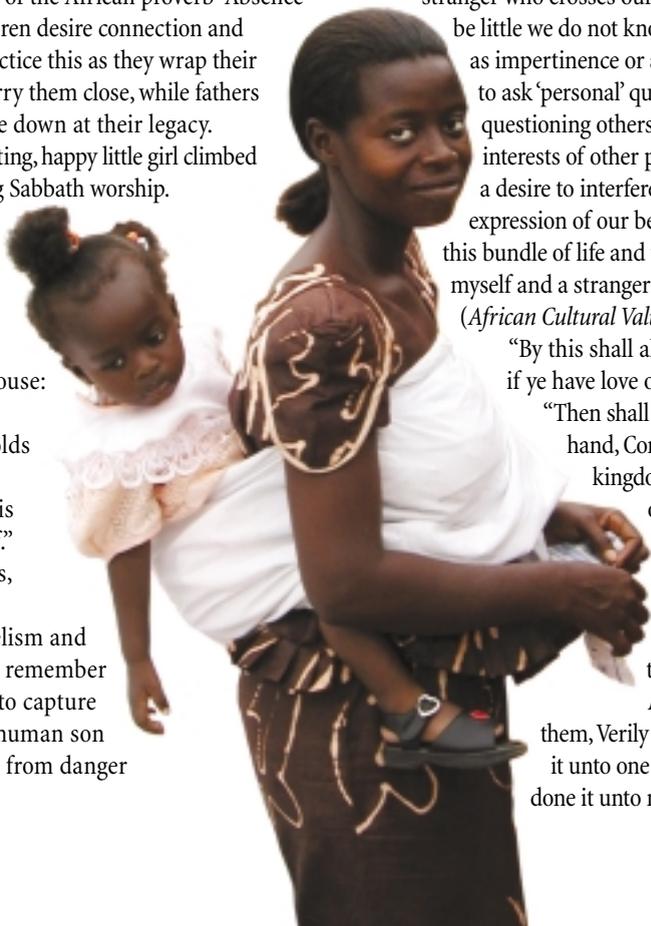
As I reflect on AFCOE's mission in Ghana, I realize that I've been touched by God's love through my Ghanaian brethren—touched in a deeper way than ever before. I've seen God's desire to know us through the friendship of Ghana. An African proverb says, "Humanity has no boundary" and "It is a human being that counts; I call upon gold, it answers not; I call upon cloth, it answers not; it is a human being that counts." Jesus counts time not by the steady ticking of the clock, but by the rhythmic thumping of the human heart. He cares about the thoughts and feelings, and He draws near.

Ghanaians share this love for people. "We will talk for hours with any stranger who crosses our path and by the time we part there will be little we do not know about each other. We do not regard it as impertinence or an invasion of our privacy for someone to ask 'personal' questions, nor have we compunction about questioning others in like manner. We are open to the interests of other people. Our curiosity does not stem from a desire to interfere in someone else's business but is an expression of our belief that we are wrapped up together in this bundle of life and therefore a bond already exists between myself and a stranger before we open our mouths to talk" (*African Cultural Values*, page 132).

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in. . . . Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee . . . a stranger, and took thee in? . . .

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:34-40). 



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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.

For more information, please call Amazing Facts Monday through Thursday 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Pacific.

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# Mail Bag



## God Is Wonderful

We love Amazing Facts and all you do for the Lord today. I called the library here, and they carry your book *The Richest Caveman*, and now I tell people they need to check it out and read it! Wasn't God wonderful to have a Bible there in that cave—we read through the Bible twice a year! *EF, Montana*



Your series of tapes on the life of David is excellent! Don't we serve an amazing and wonderful Creator? Your ministry is a blessing to so many, and I just wanted to thank you. Know that we pray for your ministry. *BW, e-mail*

## Back to the Father

Thank you for helping to bring my husband back into the truth. We've been married for 20 years, and I've been praying for 14 of them that he would come back to the Lord. He completed your Bible studies and also went through the studies on CD, and they helped him make his decision. He was re-baptized last December. *KJ, Nebraska*

## Liberating Truth

I am truly moved by your article "Never Enough." I thank God immensely for all of your time, sacrifice, and most important, very liberating truth! I am humbled and elated. *ST, District of Columbia*

I attended Brian McMahon's Amazing Facts seminar and saw a lot of new things in the Bible. I have a hard time when studying the Bible, but the way you have shown me at Amazing Facts really helps! *WS, Michigan*

## The Pure Word of God

I just came across your Web site today after listening to Doug Batchelor on TV. Amazing Facts presents God's Word so clearly and with great appeal! I just never seem to hear enough of Pastor Doug's presentations! I believe believers everywhere in the times we live in are genuinely starving to be fed the pure Word of God more than anything else in life, especially as we prepare to soon see our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! *LB, Delaware*

## A Very Special Rose

I am 14 years old and a high school student. I really enjoy the Amazing Facts ministry. My family and I watch Pastor Doug's Sabbath school and Bible questions and answers. I am currently enrolled in the Bible correspondence school. They are very helpful to me because classmates at school ask about my religion and Bible verses, and the Study Guides give me answers to come back with. I really like the way God preaches through you because it is in easy terms and there is always a modern story to go with what is being preached. May God richly bless you. *RH, Iowa*



## Internet ... the Right Way

I want to thank Amazing Facts for having all your pocketbook information available online. I'm a new Sabbath-keeper, and I'm quite "biblically challenged" at this point, so I print information that's on your Web site. Also, I want to pay a compliment to Doug Batchelor. It's so nice to see what I would call a "normal" person preach the gospel. He's down-to-earth and simple, but truthful. Thank you again for making information available so I can clear up certain things with those who have questions. *CM, Alabama*

I have nearly completed the course on BibleUniverse.com. It changed my life—my marriage is stronger, my family life is better, we no longer consume alcohol, we eat healthier, but most of all the change is coming from within—praise God! Your course has enlightened and encouraged me in my love for Jesus and His message. This dim little light gives thanks for this wonderful course! *SK, Virginia*

## Jewelry and Streets of Gold

When I first came into the church, I wore five earrings; I wasn't going to listen to anyone about them! But while watching Amazing Facts, Doug's wife asked him why don't we wear jewelry. He answered, "Why would you want to wear gold in your ears when we are going to be walking on streets of gold?" The very next morning, I got rid of 75 pairs of earrings, which I had been wearing for 35 years. I am so thankful how God worked through Amazing Facts! *SA, e-mail*



## Clarion Kudos

May God Bless your newest tool in the fight to shed light on a dark world. I like the ease of access and the no-paper-needed aspect of the *Clarion*. Keep up the good work! *DB, e-mail*

I did indeed read down to the last line! I really enjoy everything that Amazing Facts puts out, God truly has blessed your efforts. I am trying to witness in my area by advertising free *Panorama of Prophecy* CDs. I received mail twice from a non-church member involved in two local Bible study groups, and he recommends your Bible studies and wishes everyone would have them. I sent him 16 CDs to share, so please pray these ads will be blessed by God and, by the Holy Spirit's prompting, get the souls He wants to have these studies. *MS, e-mail*



Sign up for the *Clarion*, Amazing Facts' new electronic newsletter, at [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org)

Inside Report welcomes all correspondence regarding the magazine and other Amazing Facts ministries. Letters and other materials sent to Amazing Facts become the ministry's property and may be used—in whole or in part and edited for content, grammar, and readability—in future publications unless otherwise requested by the submitter. 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.

# POP Goes Evangelism

by Scott Steward

**W**hen Amazing Facts debuted one of its most exciting witnessing tools ever in August 2001, no one knew just how popular it would become. As part of the ministry's ceaseless effort to lead people to Jesus and equip the laity to take the gospel to the world, we've sold more than 175,000 copies of *Panorama of Prophecy* (POP), our interactive Bible study CD.

We believe the Holy Spirit is using this multimedia instrument to help spread the three angels' messages though the United States, Canada, and beyond!

Just check out what one enthusiastic supporter has to say about the vast potential of this dynamic, one-of-a-kind evangelism tool ...

*I want to thank you for the Panorama of Prophecy \$1.00 CD-ROM. Our church ordered 100 to see if we could use them as evangelistic tools. I gave four out at work this morning and had five other people ask if I had any more. After giving out nine at work before noon, something else happened ... at lunch a few of the people I work with started the program! It has now been eight hours since I gave out my first Panorama of Prophecy, and we now have a Bible study of six people who are going to meet each week.*

Thank you for an evangelistic tool that:

- 1) Is very inexpensive
- 2) Is of such high quality
- 3) Has an attractive cover that grabs people's attention
- 4) Features quality topics
- 5) Has free software and a great resource library
- 6) And has so much more!



*You have answered my evangelistic prayers with this product ... God is using it!*

*Thank you and God bless,  
GSW,  
Michigan*

It just goes to show how anyone can have confidence in sharing the truth with neighbors, co-workers, and anybody else that God puts in their path. Pastor Doug Batchelor, president of Amazing Facts, says "People are

buying them by the dozens and giving them away to everyone they know."

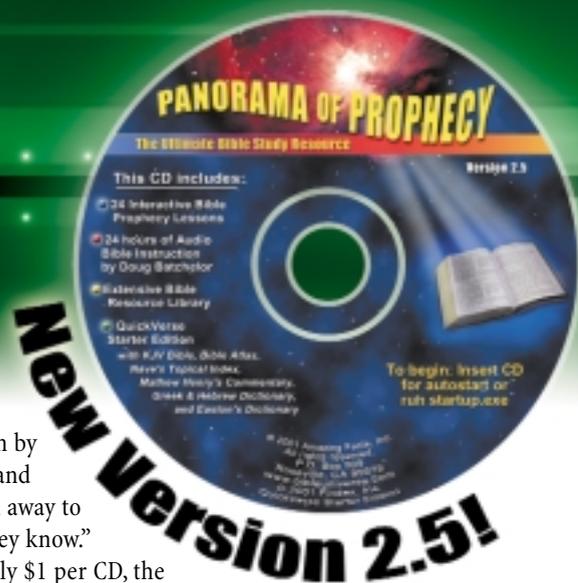
And at only \$1 per CD, the value of the investment is unbeatable. The powerful Bible study features the 24 *Storacles of Prophecy* lessons covering essential Bible truths, plus, a King James Bible, the *Conflict of the Ages* book series, more than 30 Amazing Facts booklets, and the starter version of QuickVerse 7.0 Bible search software—more than \$300 in resources!

"Some people are running classified ads in their local paper, giving them away at county fairs, or donating them to libraries. One person said he was trying the disk on his laptop during a flight when a flight attendant asked about it; she became very excited. He immediately gave her a copy," says Batchelor, adding, "Since its release, people have been writing Amazing Facts after completing the studies to ask where they can find a church that teaches the truths they've just learned. And now we're getting reports from around the world of people accepting Jesus, His truths, and requesting baptism!"

The studies are based on the 24 lessons used during NET New York '99. Users log on and follow a question-and-answer format, filling in blanks with Scripture. If the user doesn't have a Bible, one is available on screen. Multiple users can use the same disk. The program tracks each user's progress so that he or she can resume the study where they left off, and not get ahead of themselves. Each lesson builds on the previous one, preparing the user for more and more biblical truth. For example, the user will first understand the Bible and trust its reliability, and then learn what Christ taught on the topics of His second coming, death, heaven, hell, healthy living, and worship—before he or she tackles topics such as the mark of the beast, and God's end-time church.

"As users progress through the lessons, more and more of the vast library opens to them. This also prevents students who are learning of the Bible's reliability in the first lesson, from leapfrogging into the middle of a lesson on the antichrist," says Batchelor. He's also excited about new version 2.5, which features improved access and instructions, hoping that even more people will get involved in this incredible evangelistic opportunity.

If you would like to find out more or get your hands on this powerful tool for Jesus, call our resources department at 1-800-538-7275 or visit our online store at [www.amazingfacts.org!](http://www.amazingfacts.org!)



**New Version 2.5!**

## Finding the Missing

# Peace

By Pastor Doug Batchelor

*“But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.” —Psalm 37:11*

### **An Amazing Fact:**

*Do you know the strange events that led to the prestigious Nobel Prize? Alfred Nobel invented “safety blasting powder”—better known as dynamite, which is five times more potent than gunpowder. It made construction with explosives safer, more efficient, and cheaper. But military leaders also realized the value of dynamite. However, the man known as the “Lord of Dynamite” was a pacifist and was greatly troubled by the wartime use of his inventions. In 1895, a newspaper mistakenly published Nobel’s obituary while he lived! He was horrified to read that he’d be remembered as a man whose invention was linked to so much death and carnage. So upon his death, perhaps in an effort to alleviate his conscience and improve his legacy, Nobel’s will provided that the bulk of his vast fortune go to a fund that would annually celebrate advancements in science, literature, and peace.*



and the waves beat into the boat, but Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. “And he arose and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.”

This is a fascinating tale, because the disciples wake Jesus to ask Him a very strange question: “Don’t you care that we’re perishing?” Of course He cares—that’s why He came to earth! Jesus said, “God so loved the world . . . that they might not perish.”

Naturally, Christ was not distressed by the raging elements. In fact, He did not need to shout; rather, His words, spoken in faith, were potent enough. I imagine He might have even yawned, rubbed the sleep from His eyes, and stood to calmly survey the storm. I think He simply spoke, “Hush. Be quiet. Be at peace.” With that, the wind instantly stopped and the waters instantaneously flattened to a glassy calm.

That’s the way it is with God; He can instantly soothe all our fears.

However, when the disciples were rescued from their fear, they were still “exceedingly” afraid. But why after the storm was gone? Now they are wondering, “What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?” The elements had peace, but the disciples were still afraid. It’s clear their absence of peace was beyond environmental. Something else took away their peace—something on the inside. They did not know Jesus.

Like the disciples, we become anxious and lose faith when the gale blows. We wonder, “Does God care?”

### **God Is Peace**

A while ago, I was frustrated with a series of problems I faced as a pastor and parent. I wasn’t wringing my hands, but I did have many anxious moments. I woke up at night, my mind churning over this bundle of challenges. What bothered me most about this reaction was that I knew it demonstrated a lack of faith. I’ve learned so much more about peace since then, and I would like to pass on to you a few aspects of what the Lord taught me. Some of the best advertising for Christ is to exude peace no matter the external circumstances. Not only is God love, but He is also the essence of peace. I went through the Bible and found seven times when God is identified as a God of Peace. We don’t normally think of that as one of His titles, but it is—and I believe it is an important one. God does not bite His nails, nor does He pace the floor. God is never nervous, edgy, or restless.

### **Peace From Within**

Everybody desires peace. Many are longing for political peace. Others are craving mental, financial, social, and even physical peace. But most of the world seems to believe some external change in circumstances is what will bring lasting peace.

In Mark 4, we find the familiar story of Jesus sleeping through a storm. A great windstorm arose,

## Not Just a Word

The word “peace” is found about 430 times in the Bible, which means God has a lot to say about the importance of this theme. The Hebrew word for peace is “shalom,” which can be used to say “hello” or “goodbye.” In essence, shalom means peace, safety, well-being, happy, friendly, healthy, prosperity, and favor. The New Testament uses the Greek word “irane” for peace. This is where we get the name Irene. It can mean: peace, prosperity, one, quietness, rest, to set at one again, and to restore. Great words, aren’t they? They are sweet, endearing words. And the entire plan of salvation revolves around these words because we are alienated from God; we are at war. And Jesus, who is the pure Prince of Peace, has come to reconcile us. He came to make peace with the Father on our behalf, because our sins have separated us from God.

## True Peace

When people talk about peace, they say, “Let’s pray for peace.” What kind of peace do they mean? Usually, it’s global or civil peace. But is this primarily why Jesus came?

Many fear nuclear war, so they ask for world peace so nations don’t annihilate each other. Even with the current wave of disarmament, the nuclear nations still have enough weapons to exterminate life on this planet. And now an army of fanatical terrorists is trying to obtain nuclear weapons. That might leave you feeling a little edgy. If you didn’t know that God was on His throne, you might never sleep!

What about political peace? Jesus warns, “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword” (Matthew 10:34). Wars and crusades have been fought in Jesus’ name, so this can’t be the peace He’s offering. Herbert Hoover said, “Peace is not made at the council tables, or by treaties, but in the hearts of men.”

Some long for domestic peace, plagued by constant conflict in their homes—which have become battle zones. The Bible says it’s bad for a woman to marry a lazy man. And for a man to be married to an irritable woman, “It is better to dwell in the wilderness” (Proverbs 21:19). And yet even this domestic peace is not the real reason Jesus came, because He said, “For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the

daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law” (Matthew 10:35). The gospel of Christ can most certainly bring peace into a divided home, but it can just as easily bring division. Domestic tranquility is not why Jesus is called the Prince of Peace.

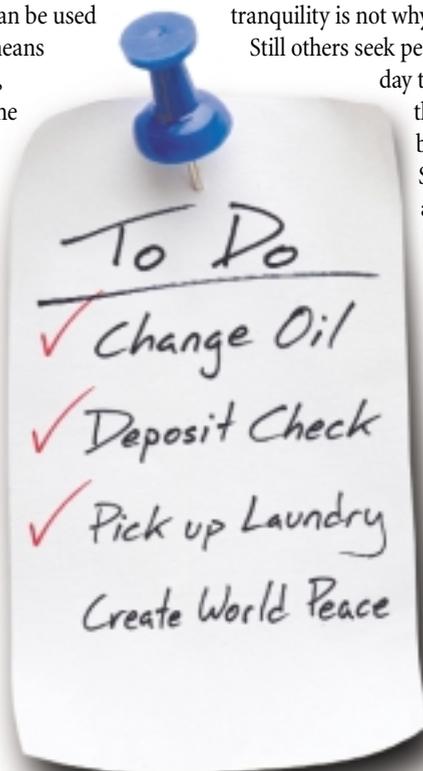
Still others seek peace through financial security. Every day they anxiously check the stocks, and if the market goes up, they’re serene; but when it drops, they’re agitated. Some are constantly fending off and stalling bill collectors. Who can have peace living like that? It’s hard to have peace when you’re daily drowning in debt. Some people think, “If I could just win the lottery, then I’d have peace.” But the Bible says peace does not come from the abundance of things a man possesses. Proverbs 11:28 says, “He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.” No. Real peace does not come from financial security either.

## False Peace

The devil wants us to pursue false peace through the popular counterfeits of finances, domestic affairs, and the world in general.

He even has some people looking for peace through cult-like religions or rituals, while persuading others to turn hopelessly to drugs for temporary sensations of peace.

Many are distracted and deceived by these false forms of peace. Ezekiel 13:10 says, “They have seduced my people saying, Peace; and there was no peace.” Many politicians have greased their way into office by promising peace. Before Jerusalem was destroyed, the religious leaders told the people, “God is going to defend us.” They claimed “Peace!” And they were destroyed. In Isaiah 57:21, we’re warned, “There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.” Though false prophets promise them peace, those without God won’t find it. In 1 Thessalonians 5:3, we read, “For when they shall say Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” We need to especially be concerned when we hear world leaders shouting, “Peace and safety are on the horizon.” It is a popular platitude, but that’s not the kind of peace God promises. All these conditional concepts of peace change



**An Amazing Fact:** One of the best-selling over-the-counter remedies in North America is antacid—eaten like candy by millions feeling too anxious. In fact, we spend nearly \$2 billion each year fighting stomach ailments often related to stress. Ironically, regular use of antacids might have a debilitating effect on the human body: It’s been linked to esophagus erosion, diarrhea, constipation, and a host of other digestion problems—along with preventing protein absorption and disrupting other medicines’ effectiveness. Like most drugs, antacids really only treat the symptoms of what’s really going wrong inside us. A better diet, exercise, a thorough check-up, and most important, trust in God may be the ultimate steps in ridding oneself of this dangerous pill-popping problem.



so quickly. Remember Job? He lost his financial, physical, and family serenity suddenly. But he did not lose his peace (Job 22:21). Conditions will always change, so we shouldn't be caught off guard by trusting in false peace. The devil can use these illusions to make us complacent and then he pulls the rug out from under us!

## The Enemies of Peace

So where do you find abiding peace that gives you rest no matter what your circumstances? "All men desire peace," someone said. "But few people desire those things that make for peace." Often those seeking peace insulate themselves against it by falling victim to its enemies—such as fear, greed, ambition, envy, anger, and pride. Anyone embracing these traits can't have peace. They must let them go to make room for and nurture the peace of God. We cannot cling to pride or greed and then say, "God, grant me peace." Those enemies must first be evicted from the heart.

Peace is also something you'll miss by aiming directly for it. It's like happiness: If you spend your life trying to make yourself happy, you'll lose it (Matthew 16:25). You find happiness by serving and loving others. So if peace is something you're looking for in and of itself, you'll never experience it.

## Where to Begin

I'm amazed by the Bible story of Peter sleeping like a baby even while on death row. That's incredible! He had a peace that surpasses understanding. How would you like to find that kind of peace where you don't need to be anxious even though your life is on the line? Martin Luther said, "True peace is not merely the absence of some negative force. It is rather the presence of some positive force." Ridding yourself of negative forces will provide peace only temporarily. Eventually, some other crisis will sprout to displace your temporary tranquility—a constant roller coaster of peace and worry. True, abiding peace must be something more.

I once saw a bumper sticker that said, "No God, No peace; Know God, Know peace." I thought, "That's clever!" Because that's exactly where true peace comes from: knowing God. Job 22: 21 says, "Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace." How do we acquaint ourselves with God? Through communion; His Word. By allowing Him to speak to us, we'll find peace. And we are promised that when we pray,

"The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7). He'll give you this peace that surpasses understanding when you begin to know Him.

## The Source

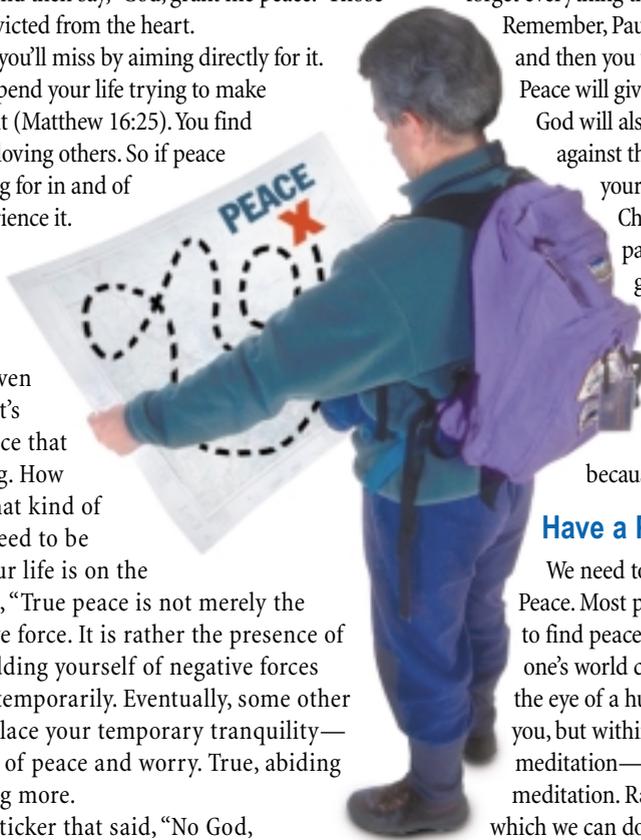
Thomas Jefferson once said, "When you start becoming anxious . . . count to ten. If that doesn't work, count to ten again." That's quaint, sound advice; but the real power of peace is found in the promises of God's Word. Christ met every one of Satan's temptations with that Word. Knowing Scripture gave Jesus the power and peace to overcome. An attitude of gratitude can also become a source of peace. Focus on those things for which you should be grateful. Sometimes, we get agitated because we have forgotten our blessings and ponder our problems. We become discontent by focusing on what is wrong and forget everything that is right. Thank God for what you do have.

Remember, Paul said, you pray, you supplicate, you request, and then you thank. After thanking God then the God of Peace will give you that incredible peace (Philippians 4:6, 7).

God will also guard your heart and mind through Jesus against the devil's attacks of distress, designed to destroy your peace. The strongest witness is when a Christian can demonstrate peace even when passing through trial. When you're peacefully going through a storm, you have a converting influence on others. David said, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety" (Psalm 4:8). Even though King Saul and an entire army were hunting to kill him, David could sleep because he knew God was with him.

## Have a Peace Summit

We need to have a peace conference with the Prince of Peace. Most people are centered in self, which is like trying to find peace at the epicenter of an earthquake. To have one's world centered in God is real peace. He's the calm in the eye of a hurricane. The storm might be raging around you, but within all is still. Peace also comes from meditation—and I'm not talking about transcendental meditation. Rather, the Bible tells us to meditate on God, which we can do in so many ways. At our mountain home, my family can see a beautiful valley cascading below. A friend built us a beautiful oak swing on the porch—and my wife spends much time there, just meditating. One day, I began feeling restless because of mounting unfinished projects. But finally, I thought, "I need to try that!" So I joined her up on the swing. We gently rocked back and forth, and I surveyed the



**An Amazing Fact:** May 30, 1868, marked the first Decoration Day, designated as a time of remembrance for Americans who died in their nation's defense during the Civil War. Later, this date became known as Memorial Day and was expanded to include all service men and women who fought and died for the United States in war.

Nearly 1.5 million Americans have died in wartime service, fighting to bring peace and stability for their homeland. Of course, no human war has ever provided lasting peace—since the signing of the World War I Armistice in 1918, for every year of war, there have been just two minutes of political peace. However, the Bible tells us that at the conclusion of the greatest war ever fought, humanity will know true peace forever.

meadows and the birds. Then I heard that still, small voice. The Bible tells us to be still and to know that He is God. I found myself at peace.

Behold God's creation, and you'll find real rest. Isaiah 26:3 says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." This is true meditation: keeping your mind fixed on God. I like to call this condition a "calm-plex." And when you stay your mind on God, you can have that calm-plex.

## Connecting the Peaces

I saw a sign in front of a church that said, "If life is a puzzle, look here for the missing peace." It suggests that along with reading the Word, meditation, prayer, and trust, you need to learn about that missing peace in the church environment.

Peace can be contagious. We learn much about the peace of God by fellowship with others who know the Prince of Peace.

Peace also comes from obedience—by knowing you're in God's will and surrendering to Him.

Philippians 4:9 says, "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." That's an important biblical message. "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace" (Psalm 37:37). Many people haven't associated peace with obedience, but the Bible is clear: "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them" (Psalm 119:165).

In fact, when I counsel a fretful soul, I usually ask, "Is there something you're doing that is not in harmony with God's will?" Often they'll admit to being disobedient in some area. Would you want your children to be at peace if they were disobeying you? Likewise, God loves you too much to let you have peace when you are disobeying your conscience and His will.

Jonah is a great example of this—running west when God said go east. He soon found himself in the storm, having lost his peace when he went directly against the will of God. The Bible is full of similar stories that remind us of this principle. "The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever" (Isaiah 32:17).

## Peace Is a River

Isaiah 48:18 says, "O that thou hadst hearkened to my [commands]! then had thy peace been as a river." Isaiah doesn't say, "Your peace would have been like a creek." Do you know why? A creek dries up. But a river doesn't; it is continual. (Rivers may fall or rise some, but they always flow.) It's constant, just like peace. It just keeps on moving—it's always there, available, and ever flowing.

Erwin Lutzer said, "Emotional peace and calm come after doing God's will, and not before." I once stole from my employer when I was 15 years old. I never forgot. It wasn't much money, but years later, after I was born-again, the Holy Spirit said, "Doug, you need to go and pay

them back." I didn't want to, and so I lost my peace. I tried to explain my conscience away, "Oh, that was 20 years ago and such a little amount." I had accepted Christ, and God had forgiven me—so why was it bothering me?

I think it has to do with progressive peace. To stay at peace means you must continually walk in God's will as He reveals things ... always flowing forward. Many Christians have new truths revealed to them but say, "I don't want to walk like that because it's different." And sure enough, they lose their peace! If God reveals new light, you can't refuse to walk in it. The Lord finally graced me with strength, and I returned to the place where I once worked. I went in, my hands sweating. Ironically, the employer I stole from was no longer there—no one knew where he went. But I found my peace. You see, God didn't want my \$15. He wanted my willingness to make things right. And once I was in God's will for me, I had my peace back again. I was a river once more. "When peace, like a river attendeth my way, it is well with my soul."

## Peacemakers

God has called you to be at peace, but He also wants you to be a peacemaker. He wants you to share that peace with others. Don't keep it to yourself because, like happiness, it's something you retain by giving it away. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

How are we to be peacemakers? Are we to become politicians with a seat at the United Nations? Not particularly. As Christian peacemakers, we are to invite people to make peace with their God. That's the foremost responsibility. In Luke 10:5, Jesus sends out His apostles to preach. He instructs them to say "Peace be to this house" when they entered a new home.

And we are to give this benediction to a world in turmoil. As we invite the Prince of Peace into our hearts, we are then called to communicate Him to an anxious and fretful world.

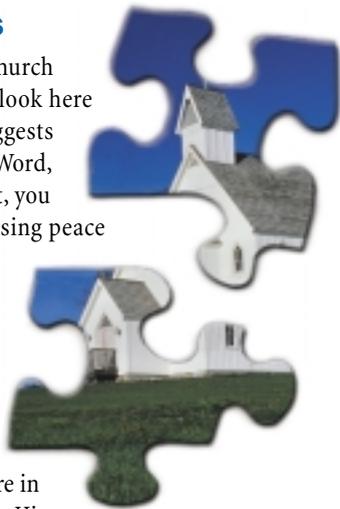
When the priests would bless the people, they would say, "The LORD bless thee, and keep thee; The LORD make his face to shine upon you, And be gracious to you. The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you [shalom]" (Numbers 6:24). We are a *nation of priests*. Christ came to bring us peace, so He sends us to bring other people peace.

## The Rock

Do you want to find peace? Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is the missing piece. The gospel opens with an angel singing, "Peace and goodwill toward men." Christ entered the world with a proclamation of peace.

And He concluded His ministry the same way. Before ascending to heaven, He appears to His disciples in the upper room and says, "Peace be unto you." And He repeats this for them again and again. This is why He's called the Prince of Peace. Ephesians 2:14–17 says this about our King: "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation ... thus making peace [and]

*Continued on page 13.*



# Amazing Facts

## EVANGELISM TEAM



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



Doug Batchelor



Gary Gibbs



John Bradshaw



Richard Calderon



Rich Cavaness



Byron Corbett



Eric Flickinger



Lowell Hargreaves



Brian McMahon



Jason Morgan



Sam Palmer



Jack Pefley



Dennis Priebe



Verne Snow

### Doug Batchelor

August 7 – 10

National ASI  
Columbus, Ohio

### Rich Cavaness

July 19 – August 24

Show Low Primary School  
1350 North Central Avenue  
Show Low, Arizona

### Eric Flickinger

July 19 – August 24

Magnolia Church  
Magnolia, Arkansas  
Call 870-881-9299 for details

### Jason Morgan

July 27 – August 24

Clarksville Church  
Clarksville, Arkansas  
Call 501-754-3244 for details

### Dennis Priebe

July 12 – 13 Minocqua Lakeland Church, Wisconsin

July 20 LeCenter Church, Minnesota

August 9 – 10 Middleton Church, Idaho

August 16 – 18 Bonners Ferry Church retreat, Idaho

August 24 Inchelium Mission Church, Washington

August 30 – 31 Raymond Willapa Harbor Church, Washington

### Gary Gibbs

July 27 & August 3

How to Give Bible Studies

6045 Camellia Avenue  
Sacramento Central Church  
Sacramento, California

Call 916-457-6511 for details

(More information on page 17.)



*If this list looks a little short, it's because many of our evangelists take a little time to rest and revive during the summer. They typically conduct six major evangelistic series each year. Please keep these dedicated workers in prayer. And please remember our teams in India and the team preparing for the big event in Cameroon. They encounter all kinds of obstacles and attacks from the enemy and are worthy of your support. Our team of Amazing Facts evangelists baptizes more than 1,000 souls every year!*

**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.

## An Introduction to Eric and Hildelisa Flickinger

**O**ne of Amazing Facts newest evangelists, Eric Flickinger joined the ministry in 2001. In 2000, he graduated from our College of Evangelism and trained with John Bradshaw and Lowell Hargreaves. He also assisted Doug Batchelor in the Philippines. Eric was born in Germany to a military family, and he attended the Armed Forces Central Europe International School. Eric later graduated from the University of Florida with degrees in German and Business Administration.

He married Hildelisa in 1996, and she introduced him to a Sabbath church. After much searching, Eric was baptized in 1996. Born in Puerto Rico, Hildelisa was the last of 24 children (same parents)! She received her master's in Food Science and Nutrition in 1995. She worked at the Veteran's Administration Hospital for six years, working in Intensive Care, Acute Medicine, and the Cancer Ward.

Committed to serving Jesus, the two decided to leave their jobs and pursue soul-winning full time with Amazing Facts. Here is their exciting report detailing the Holy Spirit's success through their hard work!

## Jesus Is Alive in Alabama

February found us in the little town of Guntersville, Alabama. Surrounded by beautiful lakes, this little resort town was about to uncover some very amazing Bible truths! Many residents of Guntersville and the surrounding areas braved wintry weather to attend opening night. The Lord richly blessed as people from varied walks of life came searching for truth.

Two of these souls were Chris and Jennifer, a young couple with a very peculiar story. Chris was serving in the armed forces when his unit got called to duty in the Gulf. The recently wed couple was not thrilled at the idea of being separated so soon. Aboard the plane, Chris earnestly prayed to God, asking that if his plane got turned around, he would give his life to Jesus. He then fell asleep. When he woke up, he found himself back home! Miraculously, the plane turned around in mid-flight after his unit was ordered back. Over time, God continued to work in their lives, and they were both baptized at the conclusion of our series. Jennifer

writes, "Please keep us in your prayers so we can be witnesses to our families and friends and that ... they will see the truth as we have."

Mark and Dana had an unexpected turn of events during a recent vacation. Mark had long been searching for truth and prayed to God for help. Totally unplanned, they found themselves at a roadside flea market. There they met a man who gave him Pastor Doug's *Millennium of Prophecy* videotapes! Through these tapes, Mark and Dana learned about God's will and began attending a Sabbath-keeping church. At the end of our series, they gave their lives to Jesus and were baptized.



*Continued on next page.*

## California Greet Evangelist Brian McMahon

Bakersfield, California, welcomed Brian McMahon and all the participants of the Amazing Facts Bible Prophecy Seminar.



Church, gathered to participants and

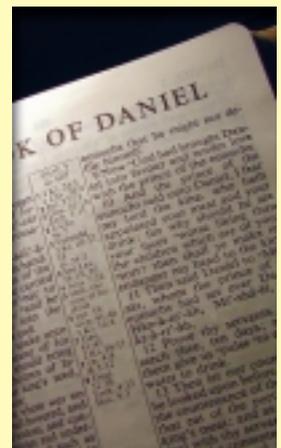
A series of seminars was held at the Best Western Inn and nearly 100 people attended faithfully, hungry for the "new heavens and the new earth" we are promised. Brian

concluded the series by presenting the last lecture at the Hillcrest where members meet the faithful visit with them around a banquet table covered with home-baked goodies, fresh fruits, and vegetable platters. Hot cocoa, warm handshakes, and hugs were passed around to members and guests alike who battled gusty winds that tossed paper plates into the air!

One couple, Steve and Patty, came from a very divergent religious background, crossing many denominations. They recently moved to Bakersfield from Tehachapi. They listened raptly through all the seminars and said they had been praying and seeking a church. "Too much of what other churches taught wasn't even in the Bible," says Steve. "An invitation came in the mail one afternoon, and we knew we had to attend these meetings."

Brian McMahon was last in Bakersfield more than four years ago and led an Amazing Facts Bible Prophecy Seminar at Hillcrest Church. At its conclusion, several dozen people were baptized, and, "We have many who have made the decision to walk fully with Jesus Christ and join the Sabbath-keeping church by baptism," says church member Charlene Sargent.

*Report submitted by Cheryl A. Hurt.*



## Amazing Facts Wins Souls in Iowa

Lowell Hargreaves completed a successful prophecy seminar series in Council Bluffs, Iowa. More than 15 people were baptized at the conclusion of the three-



week series that covered such important topics as the Sabbath, health, and the soon return of Jesus Christ.

Roger, standing at a staggering 6'6",

had been attending for a year the church where the seminar was held. But while attending the meetings, he finally made his decision to be baptized. He gave the pastor a huge bear hug after the baptism! Steve and Julie were not Sabbath-keepers, even though Julie grew up in the church and her father was a church leader. She was even working on the Sabbath. But after the meetings, she made a decision not to work on the Sabbath—and she and Steve were baptized.

Another couple, Bob and Kelly, were baptized on Sabbath morning and then married on Sabbath afternoon. Bob's brother Tim was also baptized. Amazingly, these three attended the seminar solely through the advertising! Praise God for His Holy Spirit. Roger and Brenda also heard about Lowell's meeting through advertising, and have committed themselves to keeping the true Sabbath. Connie also found it difficult to attend the seminar because of work, but she was determined to obey even if it cost her job! She's even planning to start her own business.

Joseph and Kate attended the seminar faithfully, and both were baptized on a very special day. It was a big step for Joseph, because his family strongly opposed his decision. Praise God they made the commitment to follow the new truths that God has revealed to them. Ed and Pam both gained victory over their smoking habit through the seminar and had the joy of burying their pasts through baptism.

Without your help, Amazing Facts would be unable to reach these and other searching souls through our public evangelism seminars. Please pray for the health and happiness of our



evangelists, who travel abroad for much of the year revealing the power and love of God's truth to people everywhere. We thank you for your sacrificial support that will help make the kingdom full of Jesus' flock.

*Continued from page 11.*

A total of 11 precious people were baptized at the end of this series. We know that many more seeds were planted in Guntersville. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work in the lives that were touched by God's amazing love through His Word.

## Salvation in Siloam Springs

In March, we conducted a prophecy seminar in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Weather in this part of the country can be quite unpredictable during that season! We experienced 0 degree nights and a snowstorm—and then 70 degree weather a week later! Needless to say, it is difficult to conduct an evangelistic series in the midst of inclement weather. Nevertheless, God richly blessed and many people discovered new Bible truth by attending our series.

## Rick's Story

This is the story of one man who attended this seminar:

"Before I found the Lord, I was a drug cook. I spent four months in a work release program, going to work during the day and to jail at night. I needed to have a job to stay in the program, so I went to a car lot that was hiring and explained my situation to the owner. He gave me a chance. He said they had one hour of Bible reading



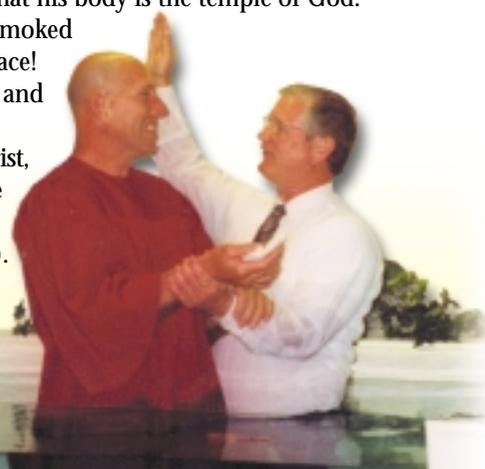
every day from 8 to 9 in the morning. I asked him, 'So what time do I need to come in to work?' He said, '8 o'clock'!"

One night on my way back to jail, I saw a young teenage girl crying desperately because she was being arrested and put in jail. My heart was so touched that I prayed she would meet Jesus—and I also gave my heart fully to the Lord. I knew that Jesus could turn that girl's life around as he was doing with mine.

After I completed the work-release program, I began attending the local Sabbath-keeping church. I knew about the Sabbath because the owner of the car lot had discovered the Sabbath truth through his studies. I have volunteered my time renovating the church and worked side by side with the pastor and others who offered me their love and friendship."

We are happy to report that Rick, along with other precious souls, was baptized at the conclusion of our meetings. He also claimed victory over smoking, realizing that his body is the temple of God. "I got on my knees and haven't smoked since!" How precious is God's grace! It frees us from the prison of sin and gives us brand-new life.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).



Continued from page 9.

putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who are afar off, and to those who are near" (NKJV). We are at war with God. But Jesus unites us. Jesus brings peace between the Father and us.

A few years ago, Karen and I went scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef. We got caught in a storm on this small charter boat. The captain said our lives were at risk and whatever we paid didn't matter. He then steered the boat behind a huge rock near an island. And as we were anchored behind that rock, the storm raged around us—but that night, we were sheltered from the wet gale by this

island rock, and we slept peacefully. During the night, the anchor slipped and we were rocked awake violently.

But the captain simply got up and steered us back behind the rock. It was soon calm once more.

Jesus is our Rock. The world is full of storms, and we'll find true shelter only under His wings. "Peace

I leave with you," Jesus says. "My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth ... unto you" (John 14:27). God wants

you to have peace! It's not political, social, physical, domestic, or financial peace.

It's an internal peace that

God gives, not like the world gives. It's a

peace like a

river, a peace

that passes understanding.

## Peace, Perfect Peace

In the world, you're going to have tribulation, but be of good cheer, because Jesus has overcome the world for you. Christ said that no matter what's happening in the world, you can have peace. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace" (John 16:33). Jesus is the best example of peace; He didn't allow outward circumstances to destroy His inner peace with the Father. He is the epitome of peace—the very essence. His peace wasn't contingent on physical relief from hunger or torture; rather, it sprang from a deep internal well. It wasn't reliant on His finances or social acceptance. His own people forsook Him, but He still had peace. It wasn't conditional on domestic bliss either, as His own family misunderstood Him.

Jesus' peace was such that He withstood the test of everything the world and the devil threw at Him. All the legions of hell assailed Him to take away His peace, and they couldn't touch it—because it was hidden in God. I want you to have that kind of peace—a peace that no devil can rob. If you want it, you can have it through a trusting relationship with God, communion in prayer, fellowship with His people, and through building on His Word.

Now you know the source of true peace in this life, but a more perfect peace is surely to come. Someday, there will be nothing but total peace everywhere. Isaiah 11:6 promises "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion . . . and a little child shall lead them."

This means peace in creation, peace in our relationships, peace in the whole world.

The promise is simply waiting for the peacemakers to claim it. 



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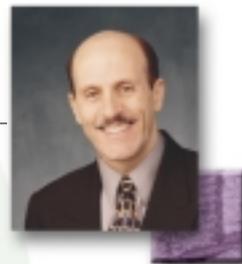
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# BIBLE Answers

with Pastor Doug Batchelor



## *Can a person find favor with God by living biblically but not going to church?*

First, it's important to note that there will be many people in heaven who were not affiliated with a church, either because they did not have that opportunity or another reason that prevented them from that privilege. But one of the most important principles of Christianity is that we are saved into the body of Christ, which is another name for the church. In Acts 2:47, the Bible says, "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." When you are baptized, you become part of Christ's body and enter into the church.

I would also ask this question in return: Why would a person say they love God and His truth, but they don't wish to fellowship in love with His people? That's one of the reasons God wants us in church—because it has people with similar faith and beliefs. It helps bolster our faith and makes us accountable to one another. It is also an excellent environment to increase our capacity to love one another. People learn their most important lessons of love in the context of their biological families, and church families follow the same dynamic—especially when it comes to new believers. It is certainly a part of God's plan. If a person says, "I believe in God and the Bible and want to be saved and baptized, but I don't want to go to church," it sounds to me like a man saying to his bride, "I love you, I want to marry you—but I don't want to live with you." It's saying you want the benefits of marriage, but not the relationship that goes with it. Part of the Christian experience is having a relationship with the church—the fellowship of believers.

I lived as a hermit once—up in a cave and away from society. In that kind of solitude, you have a tendency to become eccentric. Isolating oneself from society and lacking social contact begin to affect your mind; your brain sort of atrophies. You become socially inept. In the same way, it's important for Christians to be social with fellow believers in corporate worship and gatherings to avoid becoming spiritually eccentric and inept. It's part of God's gift—so I encourage all Christians to find a biblical church in which they can grow into mature members of God's family.

## *Did Jesus use His divine power to do only good on earth?*

Absolutely. However, it is important to keep the following in mind. Whenever He did use His divine power to glorify the Father in heaven, He only used that power that is also available to you and me—His people. Jesus said, "The miracles I

have done, greater things than this will you do because I will go on to the Father. As the father sent me, so sent I you" (John 14:12,13; 20:21). Christ raised the dead, and His apostles raised the dead. He also healed and taught people, and He instructed His disciples to do the same.

Christ also never used His supernatural power for any self-ish reasons. He could have used His power to save Himself. He could have refreshed Himself from sleepiness when He lay in the boat, but He chose to remain tired. He could have used His power while He was thirsting on the cross, but He had a greater mission than Himself.

## *How could a God of love make a statute in Leviticus 25 allowing slavery? Was slavery a curse against blacks? What does slavery say about God's character?*

I don't believe it was ever God's plan for anybody to be or own slaves. We must remember that many of the ordinances in the Bible are meant to protect civilization and people from activities or customs of which God didn't approve.

For instance, there was rampant polygamy in Bible times. Part of the reason for this practice was that war was a way of life and there were probably 10 women for every man. Unfortunately, it was shameful for women to never have a family. In Isaiah 4:1, it says that during those times, seven women would take hold of one man. Yet because polygamy is often discussed and apparently unpunished throughout the Bible, this doesn't mean it was God's will. In the same way, Jesus said divorce was not God's will, but He made that provision because of the hardness of men's hearts. He made these laws to protect the second wife—and he also made laws to protect slaves. He isn't endorsing slavery.

Some of the curses that you find in prophecy deal with nations warring with Israel. Curses never have a relationship to a race of people. There are prophetic curses against Ammonites, Edomites, Jebusites, Babylon—not races, but pagan nations at war with God's people. The Ethiopians were at war with Israel at different times in history, but Moses married an Ethiopian, and an Ethiopian eunuch who converted to Christianity (Acts 8:38) brought Jesus to his country. Nothing in the Bible shows that God approves of segregation based on

Pastor Doug uses the **QuickVerse®** Bible-search software during *Bible Answers Live*. This dynamic resource enables you to simplify your biblical research with powerful searching capabilities, an easy-to-use interface, and innovative options for expansion and personalization—all at an extremely affordable price. Find it at [www.quickverse.com](http://www.quickverse.com) or on our online catalog.

race. As a matter of fact, Acts tells us that God made all nations of one blood (Acts 17:26). You won't find support in the Bible for racism.

We also must understand, before we determine what a merciful God is all about, that slavery comes in different forms. The Word of God is the only thing that can set us free, so whether we are in slavery to another individual or to Satan or a sin, our freedom is based solely on whether we allow His Word to work within us. We can be locked up in prison, but we can still know freedom.

Some people walk through life imprisoned by the devil. But God allows what we will allow. He doesn't force anything on us. He tells us what we need to do to live a full, happy life, and we need to acknowledge that we can walk free. Otherwise, we'd be slaves to God. People too often focus on the little mysteries that puzzle them, oblivious to the glaring truth.

God hates slavery. There will be no slavery in heaven. There was no slavery before sin. After sin, God had certain laws to accommodate the hardness of humanity's heart that could allow such a vile practice.

### **Who is the woman in Genesis 3:15? Is she Mary?**

This verse is talking symbolically about the church—Eve here is a symbol for the church. I believe God is making a prophecy about a battle that would rage in our world between the serpent, the devil, and the woman—the church from the Garden of Eden—until Jesus comes back. Go to Revelation 12, and you'll find the serpent trying to devour the baby of a woman. The serpent bruising the woman's heel in Genesis means the devil will impede the progress of the church by biting its heel. But it says that the woman—and later it says the seed of the woman and then later her baby, who is a symbol of Christ—would crush the serpent's head.

At the cross, Jesus crushed the head of the serpent—the devil. Snakes will thrash around awhile after you crush their heads, and they can still bite even after that point. The devil was crushed at the cross, but he's still thrashing around and snapping his jaws and squirting venom. His head was mortally crushed, but he has wounded the heel of the woman, the church in Jesus.

But don't take it from me alone! The New Testament also indicates that the woman in this passage is a symbol for the church (Acts 7:38).

### **With whom did Jacob wrestle? Was it an angel or was it God?**

The word "angel" is used several different ways in the Bible, and simply means messenger. In the story, it first appears that Jacob wrestles with an angel. But later, he says, "I have seen God," because of what the angel says to him. For instance, this messenger gives Jacob a new name. You read in Revelation that Jesus is the one who gives us new names, so I believe that Jacob wrestled with the pre-incarnate Son of God.

The story (Genesis 32) is that the Lord comes to visit Jacob, who is fearful that Esau and his commandoes are coming after him. More than a little tense, he prays in the darkness, but someone touches him. He spins around to overpower the stranger, but the superhuman strength of the visitor reveals that this is not a mere earthling—it isn't Esau, or even a human at all, but God. In the end, God says, "You have to let go because the day is breaking." Jacob answers, "I won't let you go unless you bless me." Of course, Jacob isn't presuming that he can outwrestle God; instead, he's pleading for mercy. He says to God, "I want to know my sins are forgiven before I let you go." In other words: "I'm not going to let go of my faith."

It's also important to clarify that Scriptures say, "No man has seen God" at any time. But you also see several places in the Old Testament where people talked to God—like Abraham and Moses. And now you have Jacob actually wrestling with the Almighty. Take Manoah and his wife when they see a messenger from heaven. They say, "We have seen God. We're going to die." Who is this messenger?

You know, Christ existed before His Bethlehem incarnation, which is why He says, "Before Abraham was, I am." And I believe it was Christ who appeared many times to these patriarchs. In John's Gospel, He says, "No man has seen God the Father." The member of the Godhead not seen by mortals is the Father, because many people have seen the Son.

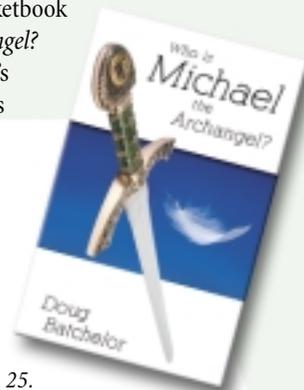
The story also seems implicit in saying the two wrestled physically, and not just spiritually. Jacob didn't have Jesus in a "head lock," but he might have just latched onto the Lord's feet, trying to free himself until realizing he couldn't overcome the supernatural visitor. He had wrestled with God until sunup. We also know that when the angel touched Jacob's thigh, it shrank and he hobbled the rest of his life. It was a divine touch. 

If you would like to know even more about the most amazing messenger described in Scriptures, you can order the fascinating pocketbook *Who is Michael the Archangel?* It's one of Doug Batchelor's most recent works, and it's only 85 cents!

### **Who is Michael the Archangel?**

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See ordering info on page 25.



**Tune in Sunday nights to Bible Answers Live, Pastor Doug's live, nationwide call-in radio program. You'll hear biblical, straightforward answers to difficult Bible questions. To request a free program guide detailing times and stations, write or phone Amazing Facts. You can also visit our Web site at [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org).**

# Behind the Scenes

## What's new at Amazing Facts...

### Steve Nelson Fills Web Void

Amazing Facts eagerly welcomed Steve Nelson to its ever-growing Internet department in December. As Webmaster and designer, he is in charge of developing and maintaining the popular Amazing Facts Web site—keeping friends updated on current ministry news and making it easy for seekers to find important gospel truth on the site.

Steve comes from Sonoma, Calif., where he owned and operated a successful Web site development firm. He sold it in 2001 to pursue the Lord's work. He has been married for eight years to Samantha, who maintains several nonprofit and church Web sites. Born and raised Sabbath-keeping Christians, they were recently re-baptized in 2001.

Steve also enjoys photography, music, and traveling when not confined to his desk. He continually thanks God for allowing him to use his talents to express God's glory to others through his gospel-spreading work at Amazing Facts.



### Media Department Muscles Up

Michelle Kiss joined the Amazing Facts media department in December as a media assistant. Her responsibilities include creating TV/radio reports, sending audiotapes to radio stations, coordinating the *Bible Answers*

*Live* radio program on a rotational basis, and assisting with quality control for television.

Born in Southern California, Michelle graduated from California State University in Sacramento with a journalism degree. Prior to joining the Amazing Facts team, she worked in public relations. She has been married for two years to David, who owns and operates his own floor installation business. She has been an active member of the church since she was a child, and has enjoyed sharing her talents for God through singing and by teaching Sabbath school to the youth in her church.

Michelle looks forward to doing her part at the ministry, helping to transmit the gospel truth of Jesus through radio and television.



### The Next Step for Hope

Pastors Doug Batchelor and Gary Gibbs traveled to Yaounde, Cameroon, in May to meet with local leaders, hold educational and revival meetings, and to help finalize preparations leading to the *Hope for a Hemisphere* event in November.

They were joined by media director Cheridah Walters, who worked with local supporters on the logistics of the global broadcast and shot video footage for use during the meetings.

God worked miracles for the team, leading them to locate a hard-to-find sound system for the 60,000-seat stadium. And a car carrying Pastors Doug and Gary was struck hard from behind. By God's grace, no one was seriously injured! It is clear the devil doesn't want this global project to succeed, so please keep praying for our team as we continue to prepare for this epic evangelistic event.



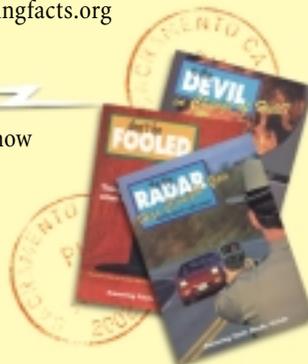
African Fender-Bender!

### Amazing Facts Bible School Report

The Amazing Facts Correspondence Bible School is as strong as ever, and the new online school is receiving tremendous response! By May, we had more than 45,500 participants enrolled in the correspondence class and 17,000 graduates. More than 45,800 lessons have been graded since the year began! And the online course continues to grow, with more than 15,500 active seekers. Please keep praying for all those enrolled in the online and correspondence courses—that they may grow in Jesus and be convicted to follow the Lord where He leads. Tell all your friends to visit [www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org) and join the Bible School!

### News Flash

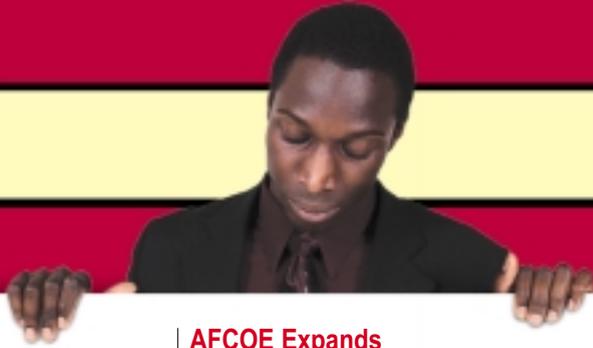
The Correspondence Bible School is now shipping Bible Studies first class—that means quicker turnaround for those eager to learn important Bible truth in these last days!



### You're Needed in Africa

The medical ministry is the right arm of church work. With this in mind, Amazing Facts is putting together a team of dentists, doctors, eye-care professionals, and assistants to go before the *Hope for a Hemisphere* project in Yaounde, Cameroon, in late October. Pastor Doug will open the Cameroon series on November 8 in the largest outreach of its kind in Cameroon history, and you can help!

If you would like to spend two weeks of your vacation time in Cameroon helping needy university students with medical, dental, and eye needs, please call Jim Ayer for more information at 530-926-0007 or 530-926-6677. Your work will be an incredible contribution to reaching souls for the Lord.



## New Warehouse Means Better Service

Due to the tremendous volume of catalog and other product orders, Amazing Facts has recently upsized and upgraded its shipping warehouse, meaning better and faster service for friends and supporters. The new mailroom is more than double the size of the old one—now 1,600 square feet! This new space allows easier movement and access to materials for warehouse staff. Barry Champion, publishing director, explains, “We now have a faster and more efficient workflow.”

The ministry’s mailroom averages more than 30,000 pieces of mail each month—an exiting but also challenging volume to handle! Recent improvements have cut order turnaround time substantially, but with the new additions, Barry expects to have products pulled and mailed within 24 to 48 hours. We’ve also upgraded mailing equipment to keep current with the tremendous volume.

Of course, Barry believes God’s best gift to Amazing Facts are its devoted volunteers. “We couldn’t handle the volume of mail without our dedicated friends. We can’t thank them enough!” God has also blessed this improvement project—from new dry walls, wiring, air conditioning, and more—with quick completion. As he explains, “What was once a six-month project turned into less than three!”

The upgrade will also help Amazing Facts staff handle the expected increase of orders with the upcoming catalog, due out in mid October. More than 300 new products will be featured with old favorites. Barry adds, “Friends can now look forward to better service, increased efficiency, and faster turnaround because we want to make

sure they get their resources quickly so they can share the good news with friends and family.”



## AFCOE Expands

With the resounding success of Amazing Facts College of Evangelism four-month Personal and Public Evangelism Course, the school is expanding in hopes of creating more opportunities for those called to the Lord’s work. Here’s just a brief look at what’s available:

### *AFCOE Condensed Course (2-week course):*

Especially designed for pastors, church leaders, and professionals or laypersons with some ministry experience, this course offers instruction from seasoned soul winners in pastoral evangelism, the evangelism cycle, personal witnessing, awakening spiritual interest, giving Bible studies, and more.

*Introductory Course: The Bible Worker (1-month course):* Get started in personal evangelism. Study the science of winning souls and learn to give effective Bible studies, share your personal testimony, teach others to overcome bad habits, organize a community outreach program, bring people to decision, prepare for an evangelistic meeting, and welcome new believers into God’s family. For anyone interested in making friends for eternity, this course will give you a wonderful start!

*Youth in Action: Literature Ministry and Bible Work (3-month course):* Especially for the young and young at heart, this course will help you connect to a world crying out for God. Curriculum includes friendship evangelism and door-to-door book sales, as well as all classes from the Bible Worker Course (see above).

Of course, Amazing Facts popular four-month course still offers the best training and value for those seeking part-time or full-time work in ministry. It includes comprehensive training in all aspects of private and public ministry, such as personal witnessing, Bible studies, homiletics, public evangelism, church growth, and so much more!

## Jumpstart Your Outreach

with AFCOE



AFCOE’s Annie Kjaer says, “The great thing about dreaming big for God is that He will open doors! But sometimes when people feel a burning desire to learn soul winning, they don’t know where to start. But AFCOE might just be their first step!

We believe these new programs will open doors for so many and help turn their dreams of soul winning into reality!”

For more information on AFCOE’s program offerings, please e-mail us at [afcoeregistrar@amazingfacts.org](mailto:afcoeregistrar@amazingfacts.org) or call 916-434-3880, ext 3049.

Call now to register before these new and inspirational classes fill up!

## How to Give Bible Studies—a Sacramento Church Event

On July 27 and August 3, Sacramento Central Church will host one of AFCOE’s most popular classes: How to Give Bible Studies. Participants will learn how to share their faith, give Bible studies, and understand the Bible better. The course is free and goes from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. If you’re in the area, please come by! Call 916-457-6511 for details.

## Media Buyer Opportunity

We’re seeking a talented media buyer with five-plus years of experience working on national and international radio and television broadcasts and spot buying. Responsible for negotiating, scheduling, and buying media services. Knowledge of response-tracking systems a plus. Candidate should be fully familiar with media standards and practices with proven ability to identify and reach target audiences. Position requires a history of Christian dedication and willingness to relocate to Sacramento area. Please call 916-434-3880, ext. 3020, for more details. You may also e-mail [joef@amazingfacts.org](mailto:joef@amazingfacts.org).

# Hope in the Midst of Sadness

by Chester Clark III

Early this year, Amazing Facts College of Evangelism's (AFCOE) Annie Kjaer and Steve Allred traveled to Quachita Hills Academy for a week of intensive seminars directed at young students eager to learn more about evangelism. But before the event, tragedy struck the class. Chester Clark III, a member of the Academy staff, reports on how the Lord worked to turn heartbreak into something meaningful.

“Lord, what are we to do now?”

We had coordinated this important gathering to encourage and convict our young students of their role in the great commission, believing God would do something extraordinary in their lives. And He did, but just not how we thought.

On the day that the seminar with Annie and Steve was to begin, a respected and loved student tragically died in a car accident on the way back from vacation. Struggling through my grief, my mind was filled with questions: Could we continue as planned? How would the students and staff, dealing with grief and loss, benefit by a seminar on soul winning? Yet I knew somehow that God had brought Annie and Steve to our campus at just this time for a purpose—and as the week progressed, this divine purpose was soon made abundantly clear.

As Annie and Steve taught practical tips on how to meet others where they are and lead them to the Savior, the only Hope for lost humanity, I saw the incredible power of God's Word strengthen and heal the hearts of both staff and students. It's amazing how learning about Jesus' own ministry can soothe a heartbroken soul. God brought AFCOE to the Academy at this time of need to immerse us in Scripture, which like leaves from the tree of life are for the “healing of the nations.”

A primary goal in training our young people is to help them recognize their calling to be soul winners, regardless of the career they choose. The weeklong seminar showed how we can make witnessing a part of our daily lives. Steve's and Annie's personal and real-life experiences drove their powerful lessons home in an unforgettable way.

With small-group discussions, homework assignments, and an interactive teaching style, Annie and Steve taught us how to turn run-of-the-mill secular conversations into captivating spiritual dialogue, recognize and deal with conviction, give personal Bible studies, and be a part of the ongoing evangelism cycle. They even showed how to help others gain victory over habits that have enslaved them for years. Though the program was geared to our students, even more experienced evangelists learned something new.

Through their training, the instructors often turned our thoughts to the wonderful plan of salvation. We were

reminded that a changed life is a *miracle*—that new birth is the work of the Holy Spirit washing away sins through the blood of Jesus. And as they taught us to share these life-changing concepts with *others*, the Holy Spirit spoke to *our* hearts as well. Courage was renewed, decisions made, and victories won even here on our campus.

It soon came time to practice what we learned. On Sunday afternoon, the student body and staff loaded into busses to conduct door-to-door surveys in the nearby communities. By the end, we collected nearly 90 requests for Bible studies! What a wonderful problem it is to coordinate all those students and their Bible-study interests! The Lord truly blessed our efforts.

In the weeks since, additional Bible study contacts have requested personal Bible studies. We are thrilled to have so many interests who are enthusiastically studying God's Word! We're thankful to the Lord for sending the AFCOE team to the Academy at such an important time.

Our students and staff are more anxious than ever for the sky to be unfolded, the graves opened, and Jesus revealed to all as the King of kings! We know that on that beautiful day, right there alongside us will be the loved one we lost so tragically—and she'll know that the Lord used her life, even after her death, to move and save so many. It's amazing how the Lord can turn such sorrow into a new path filled with joy and hope.

Our constant prayer is that as we put into practice what we learned during the training seminar, many others might also learn the good news of His return and be made ready to meet Him. “Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come!”



Anthony Lester  
Inside Report  
P.O. Box 1058  
Roseville, CA 95678

February 27, 2002

Dear Anthony,

Enclosed you'll find a picture of Debianna Herbert, the 16-year old student who was killed in the tragic car accident on January 6, 2002. She was a dedicated soul-winner who just the night before wrote a letter to a relative pleading for them to turn their life over to Jesus. When we were in NYC sharing on the streets and from door to door after September 11, Debbie found someone to witness to even on the one evening we took off to see the Empire State Building. Her life is an encouragement to each of us here at OHA.

God bless,

Chester V. Clark III

# David's Lasting Legacy

When considering the great accomplishments of King David, most people talk about his amazing victory over Goliath, his special gift for music, or his poetic prowess revealed in the many psalms he penned. However, one of the most outstanding acts of devotion in David's long reign is often overlooked.

During David's eventful life, the Lord blessed him with substantial wealth. But as he looked ahead, he was deeply concerned that after his death, sufficient funds would be available for completing the temple of God. He wanted to return to God the blessings bestowed on him so abundantly.

"Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might gold for things to be made of gold, silver for things of silver . . . wood for things of wood, onyx stones, stones to be set, glistening stones of various colors . . . and marble slabs in abundance. "Moreover, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, my own special treasure of gold and silver" (1 Chronicles 29:2,3 NKJV).

For more than 30 years, Amazing Facts has been faithfully working to build up the temple of God with living stones—souls saved through evangelism—by preaching a clear and powerful message of salvation from sin through Jesus. "You also, as living stones, are being build up a spiritual house" (1 Peter 2:5 NKJV).

As you look in the future in your estate planning, please remember to make provision for building up the temple of the Lord, just as King David did, by remembering the ministry of Amazing Facts.



Doug Batchelor

Q. How do I help Amazing Facts in my estate planning?

A. **By designating Amazing Facts, Inc. as a beneficiary in your Will or Trust.**

Q. What other means of giving are there in my estate planning?

A. **Gift Annuities are a benefit to both you and Amazing Facts.**

Q. What is a Gift Annuity?

A. **Gift Annuities give you a guaranteed fixed income for life. It is an irrevocable contribution of money and securities which then guarantees the payment. The benefits are:**

- Increases your income for you and/or your spouse**
- Immediate income-tax deduction**
- Avoid capitol gains**
- Estate tax savings**
- Stress-free investment**
- Fulfill your charitable intent**

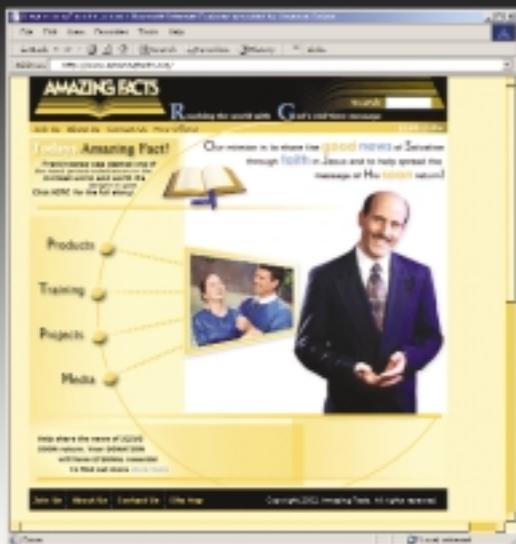
SAMPLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES*		Single Life
AGE	RATE	
60	6.4	*Recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities, July 2001
65	6.7	
70	7.2	
75	7.9	
80	8.9	
85	10.4	
90+	12.0	

If you would like more information, contact us at

**1-800-436-2695** and ask for

Pastor John Bridges  
Planned Giving Director  
ext. 3005

or  
Judy Schachten  
Secretary  
ext. 3029



## A New Look @ Amazingfacts.org

An enhanced Amazing Facts Web site, which debuts in July, has eye-catching appeal and an elegant, streamlined interface.

Web developer Steve Nelson utilized user-feedback from ministry friends to develop these changes, and add enhancements, creating a more exciting Web experience than ever! Some of the improvements include:

- **Find related products and information easier and faster**
- **A single-point navigation system**
- **A catch-all search engine to get where you want fast**

We hope the new look will bring even more people to Jesus, and then offer them resources to help spread the gospel!

The Amazing Facts site, as always, has a vast resource of free materials and the ability to purchase all of our products online—plus a way to subscribe to the *Clarion*, our online ministry newsletter, where you'll get special deals you can't find anywhere else.

Please pray that our rollout is a big success, and that every ministry facet points eyes to Jesus.

# On the Road

with John Bradshaw



by Anthony Lester

**T**hey seem just like any other couple in any suburban home—they're in the middle of a conversation about water, whether 'distilled' is better than 'spring' water or even the tap. Typical stuff. But in fact, they aren't typical. They aren't even in their own home. They're "on the road," living out of suitcases

in the house of a host family. New Zealand native John Bradshaw is an Amazing Facts evangelist. With his wife Melissa and 2-year-old son Jacob, he travels the world conducting prophecy seminars to share the gospel. They face challenges and receive blessings all along the way.

As someone directly affected by Amazing Facts seminars, I wanted to get a behind-the-scenes look at what the life of an evangelist entails. The ministry employs 11 other evangelists who have lives much like the Bradshaws, but it just so happened that John was in nearby Sacramento conducting a seminar. It was my best opportunity for the *Inside*

*Report*, so I sat down with him to see how his life, faith, and family play a role in his work for God. Melissa also joined us.

**Anthony Lester.** So just where is the best tap water?

**John Bradshaw.** We're experts on drinking water in the States; some of the best is in Long Island, New York. We've been to places with awful tap water; it's stuff you wouldn't offer a stray dog.

**AL.** Where do you live?

**JB.** We have a home in North Carolina, though we've only been there for a few days this year. Melissa is home more often, but not a lot.

**Melissa Bradshaw.** We have some time off in the summer, but since we've been married, we haven't been in any one place for more than six weeks—whether home or at a meeting.

**AL.** How did you hear about Amazing Facts?

**JB.** I heard some tapes by Bill May. They just blew me away—touched my heart like few sermons had. So when I arrived in the States, I asked about him and learned he worked at Amazing Facts. I was told he was looking for evangelists— young people to hold prophecy seminars. A friend even asked if I might be interested then. I said not at all. But the rest, well, is history. I've been with Amazing Facts for seven years.

**AL.** What about that history? How did you become an evangelist for Amazing Facts?

**JB.** I went through an Amazing Facts College of Evangelism program in Maryland. After that, Bill asked me to join them, and I thought, "Yes, that's it! That's what I'd love to do!" But I had to return home to support my mother when my dad took ill. But Bill left it open for me. Ironically, Bill was dying from cancer as well. But after my father died, I returned to dive in headfirst. I trained with Kim Kjaer and did a seminar with Jack Pefley. It's been fun. I wouldn't want to be doing anything else.

**AL.** You travel everywhere together, even with your son Jacob.

**MB.** Yes. Except when John does pre-work at a church. I also don't go overseas with him, but at every Amazing Facts seminar, yes.

**JB.** I wouldn't do it without them.

**AL.** What are some of the challenges having a family in tow?

**JB.** Not having evenings is a real challenge. Most dads, even if they don't see their kid in the morning, are still home by 5:30. Or they get the weekends. But I don't get those either, because I preach on Sabbath and Sunday is a workday. So I give as much morning time as I can. I try not to start work until eleven because I have late days. And that's difficult, because I want to start at eleven, but the rest of the world starts at eight. This morning Jacob and I went outside to play ball. He's great.

But it's not so much a challenge; it's more along the lines of being unconventional. We don't have normal evenings ... dinner on the table or crashing in the living room. So we have to be creative. Finding meaningful family time can be a challenge, but finding a post office is worse.

**MB.** He doesn't really have an office either. He works from home, and it can be distracting—Jacob wants to see what's on dad's computer.

Working from home is not easy.

**JB.** But the blessings outweigh the challenges. The upside is that we meet new people, see new places, and experience different things. We are doing something we really enjoy. There are a lot of real positive aspects. I also couldn't bear to be away from Jacob. You don't want to miss your son growing up—he changes so fast! You've got to have your family. I don't want to be away from them for six weeks.

**MB.** Also, we're here for support. If he has a bad day, he wouldn't have anybody to cheer him up.

**JB.** But we never really think about the benefits or challenge of having my family with me or not. It's just a given. That's the way it is.

**AL.** But you like the traveling; it's easy to see that.

**JB.** Yeah. Settling down at a home could be nice. But I like the variety. Everything is new. It's great for Jacob too. We take him to all different places ... zoos and museums. We visited a train museum here and he loved it. The contrast is variety versus constancy. But the great constancy is us as a family—and God in the center.

**MB.** We also try to have the same toys and pictures for him.

**JB.** I grew up in one house my whole life, knew the whole neighborhood. There's a lot to be said for roots that sink deep. I'm not sure Jacob will have that as long as we are in ministry. I can see some potential downside, but we're not the first to experience that. Others do it and survive, and the Lord blesses them. Knowing we live a nomadic existence, we take very special care in raising Jacob, perhaps more than a typical family.

**AL.** How do you get around?

**JB.** If it's within a couple days, we drive. But across the country, we fly. It's just easier and cheaper. We usually borrow a car, because a rental car adds to the meeting cost. We prefer to drive and tow our trailer and have all our stuff, because you get to a place with no ironing board or pots and pans. It's a small hassle, but a phone call can usually fix it. We don't make a big deal about inconveniences, but there are some.

**MB.** We improvise a lot. Sometimes we have no crib, so what do we do? Well, we get out a suitcase and line it with some blankets and put Jacob in. You don't have baths, so you use a rubber tub. But it can also be a fun challenge. "We don't have this, so what are we going to do!"

**JB.** And that's just part of it; you just accept it. The thing that keeps us going is that we're here to preach the message. God has called us, and He doesn't always take away the inconveniences. We are not in this for our own comfort. And that's okay! We didn't choose a life in a house, but rather a life on the road preaching and in the service of the Lord. So it's just how it is. You just roll with the inconveniences. I'm sure there's a threshold, where you'd say this isn't working. But we haven't reached that point.

**AL.** Where do you stay? What's been the most difficult place you've been in?

**JB.** We stay in an apartment or house usually. And sometimes I sleep on the floor when a bed doesn't agree with my back! Such is evangel-

ism. Sometimes you spend the first day cleaning and setting mouse traps. There's only one place we've been where we couldn't stay. We opened the door and said, "We can't stay here. A rat can't stay here!" It was filthy. We might actually spend one night there; you just have to be prepared for that! But we don't complain. Why should we?

**AL.** Wow. That really shows what you're willing to go through to share God's Word.

**MB.** And a seminar lasts about five-and-a-half weeks. So it helps to know we'll be moving on to another place soon.

**AL.** How much does Melissa contribute to the overall process?

**MB.** Well, I try to keep the evangelist fed. I also sing and ask the questions during the question-and-answer session. So I play an upfront role.

**JB.** She also takes care of the tape ministry. She handles attendance and coordinates the visitations. She's also watching Jacob and other stuff that you just don't see. When my slides or the audio needs work and the regular people just aren't there, she'll step in. Where would I be without her? She also understands the program better than anybody and knows what's happening and where. It's a busy time for her. The meeting itself is busy, and she keeps the household running. There are many things she'd like to do, such as hobbies, which she can't do because she's too busy. It's quite a sacrifice in some respects. But when she got married, she knew she was getting an evangelist. Maybe she really didn't know what that meant!

**AL.** How important is music and corporate prayer during the meetings?

**JB.** I believe music is important because it sets the right tone, elevating the mind and preparing it to receive God's Word. It gives us a chance to share Jesus too. And prayer is vital too. It's the foundation for the whole series. Nothing good will happen without prayer. We need the help of God, and it is good for people to know that we pray and believe in prayer.



**AL. Do you utilize Amazing Facts resources in your seminars? How so?**

**JB.** We give out many Study Guides, because they're a great resource and people respond well to them. And the new Panorama of Prophecy CD is becoming more popular. I also direct people to the TV and radio broadcasts.

**AL. What you say is vital, so how do you prepare—say 30 minutes before the meeting? Have you memorized it all?**

**JB.** I don't memorize much of it, though the repetition helps. I have good notes. Ideally, I'm finding time to pray before the meetings. And then I just make sure all is in order; this is where a good team of volunteers is crucial.

I usually arrive an hour early to meet the attendees. It's often chaotic, because something's missing, or we arrive a little late because of our boy or traffic. But prayer is really important; it's the real key. The Lord impressed me that if I would be a man of prayer, I could take this work full on. Sure, you have to be familiar with the night's subject, but going in, if you have prayed and believe that God will do good things, you can really sense the Holy Spirit.

**AL. Explain your style of evangelism. How does it play a role in winning souls?**

**JB.** My style is just me. My background in radio showed me how to communicate and why it's important to be myself. You can't be someone else because people see through that. But you also can't be "too much" yourself. If you're serious, don't be too serious; if you're funny, don't be frivolous. I'm not there to be a comedian; this is serious work. But some things are just funny and they help make a point. And gleaning from other evangelists really helps. Always be willing to have the Lord teach you new ways.



**AL. How do you know you're reaching people at a meeting?**

**JB.** Crowds are different. Some are responsive. Others are quiet. Some laugh easy, others not. You see it in their faces and body language—leaning forward in their chairs, couples looking at each other after you make a point. Occasionally someone falls asleep; that can be a bad sign. I also listen for the really heartfelt comments. When a person says, "I wept tonight," you know you're doing something for God. You also ask questions to see if the crowd's getting it.

But I credit the Holy Spirit for any good impact made. You'll see that when changes come: more joy, people hanging around talking after the meeting, developing relationships with church members. You'll even see physical changes. People say they change the way they eat. They dress differently, take off their jewelry (often without you saying anything about it). And some people you know you're reaching because you see they're uncomfortable, obviously wrestling with spiritual subjects. The questions in the question box will often tell the story too.

**AL. You encourage Bible reading a lot. Why do you do that?**

**JB.** No one should just believe me, but rather follow the Bible and Jesus. That's enough. That's everything. My whole job is to point people to the Bible, not necessarily to a church or a belief system because Jesus will

lead them. Plus, we have nothing to hide. If people would just get into their Bible and study with an open heart, I know that they will see this is the truth. God will lead them. People also know if you're hiding something. And we can be transparent, because we are teaching truth.

If someone came just one night and all they learned was to study the Bible, then that is enough. Pray, and the Lord will lead them to the truth. If what we teach doesn't measure up to the Bible, then we don't want to be teaching it. The Bible is the way of salvation, so all I need to do is convince them to go there, and then God will take it from there.

**AL. Why are topics covered in the order they are? Do you accommodate for certain audiences?**

**JB.** Every house is built on a foundation. You set the stage. You cover death before hell, and you describe the soul before you discuss what will become of it. You want to build logically in their minds so it's easier to follow and makes sense.

If there is a big concentration of people from one religion or another, I might need to take their particular beliefs into account. I might then rearrange topics or emphasize some points more or others less. But everyone gets all the truth. We can't do less for them.

**AL. You handle tough issues just about every night: Sabbath, diet, the Antichrist. Explain how you approach these.**

**JB.** We have to teach the everlasting gospel; God has commissioned that. Part of that is teaching these things. How are you going to avoid the Antichrist if you don't know what that is? Sure, you need to present it compassionately, with great empathy. But if people are searching and really wanting to know truth, they'll listen. You also need to lift up Jesus. At the end, you ask them to follow Jesus. We don't want to divide people, and sometimes these issues do. I try to present serious subjects compassionately, but it's really in the heart of the listener. God will work miracles.

**AL. What's the worst thing the devil's done to keep you from success at a seminar? How did you overcome it?**

**JB.** We've had tornadoes, like F4s, gas leaks, and deafening fire alarms keeping people away. But we overcome it through prayer and trust that God will work it out. He always does. We had someone put out flyers denouncing our message at one meeting. But that turned out to be a great meeting, and one very concerned person was himself baptized! Occasionally, handbills don't go out when you would like. Not much you can do about that when it is in the hands of the post office.

In the next issue of *Inside Report*, you'll learn what took place in John's Sacramento seminar and the step-by-step process of finding interests, teaching them the Word, and celebrating their baptism in Christ. —

## Children

### Old Homestead Tales —Neil Wayne Northey

#### Wild Creatures in Winter

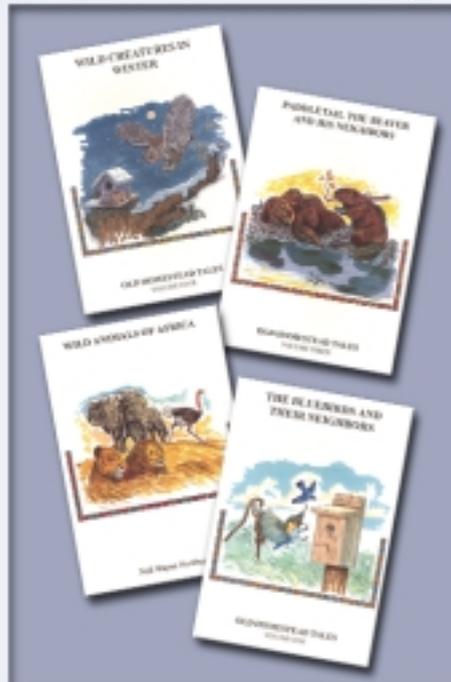
Introduces animals that live on the old homestead during winter, and teaches children to practice thriftiness and work hard now to be prepared for the future. Most of all, they'll learn that God made and loves the animals—just like them.

BK-WCW.....\$6.95

#### Wild Animals of Africa

Odd-looking, strange-acting creatures of Africa illustrate how we might meet strange and different humans—and teach us not to judge too soon by what we see and hear.

BK-WAA.....\$6.95



Complete Set  
BK-OHTS.....\$27.80

#### Paddletail the Beaver and His Neighbors

Teaches the principles of right living and to be open, caring, and show good manners. God teaches us about ourselves through studying His amazing works of nature.

BK-PTB.....\$6.95

#### The Bluebirds and Their Neighbors

Encourages children to watch for God's creatures around their own home. Sharpens their awareness of neighborhood animals through the characters of laughing Robin Red and Tattler Jay.

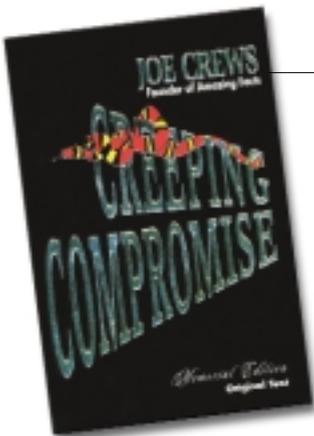
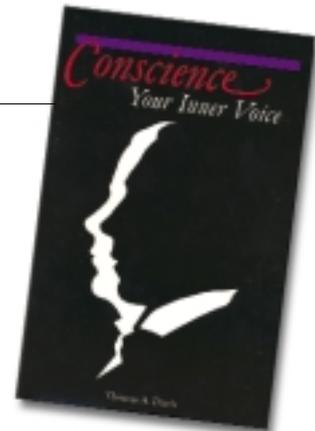
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#### Conscience: Your Inner Voice

**Thomas A. Davis.** Understand the place and function of conscience, and how to relate to it. Useful tool for insight into the often neglected and ignored aspect of our being.

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#### Creeping Compromise

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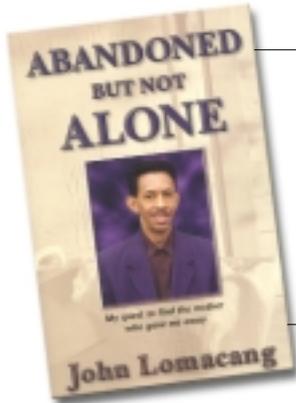
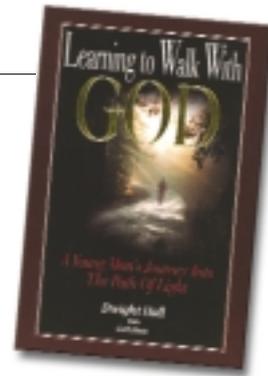
# For the Soul

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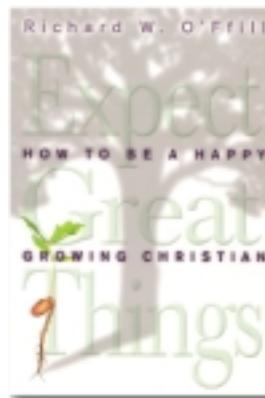
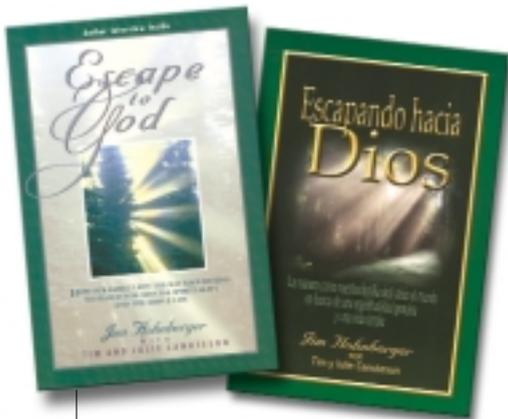


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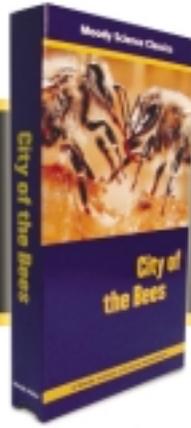
**Richard W. O'Ffill.** The Christian life can seem complicated with all its duties, expectations, and advice. This book provides a template for successful Christian living, showing where all the pieces fit, with the ultimate goal of being like Jesus.

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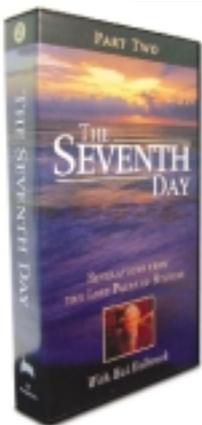
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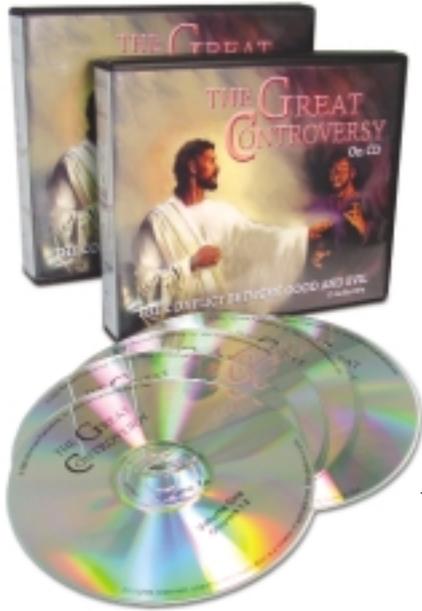
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# Spreading God's Love Through

## Sowing the Word



by Anita Silvestri

### Into the Beaver State

The Valley View Church in Medford, Oregon, played host to our *Sowing the Word* revival seminar this past February. One evening, we asked class members to pray for God to direct them to Bible study interests. And a few days later, many had asked prospects and received positive answers! The text of Ephesians 6:18, about "praying always," came to mind. And God continued to bless: As we sang praises to Him that morning, we witnessed four young deer saunter past the church's windows. What a beautiful sight! The Bible promises that, someday, we will be able to leap like a deer (Isaiah 35:6).

Attendees Susan and Tony are raising three grandchildren, and this year, their 12-year-old April is in church school. Before one class, Susan was encouraged to ask April if she would like to study the Bible. April responded she would! What a privilege to help a granddaughter on the path to Jesus! Remember 2 Timothy 1:5.

One man gave a remarkable testimony. Before he and his wife became Christians, he moved out three times because of their disputes. On one occasion, he was hospitalized—and the doctor discovered melanoma cancer. He felt that was providential, because he and his wife immediately began reading the Bible. God led them step-by-step to the Sabbath-keeping church. And God has now given them the fruit of the Spirit in their home (Galatians 5:22, 23). Praise Him!

One young couple began a medical practice and told us about a recent experience. A lady came to them and said she felt no peace in her life. They both testified to her of the blessings they received from daily Bible reading and prayer—they slept peacefully every night. They encouraged her to read the Gospels and gave her *Steps to Christ*.

The next day, she stopped by to say how much she appreciated that wonderful book! They next offered her Bible lessons and prayed for her spiritual journey. Read Isaiah 42:16.

Bruce and Steve were leaving for India on a three-week mission trip after our seminar. The seminar uplifted and encouraged them. They now look forward to their spiritual journey ahead. Praise God for mission service! Check Acts 16:2!

### God Blesses Seminar in Eugene

We held another revival seminar in Eugene, and many church families from the surrounding area attended. So we were blessed with a large group.

One student prayed when she left to see her dental hygienist. When the opportunity was right, she talked about the wonderful Amazing Facts Bible studies. The hygienist told the student about a special family member who attended a Sabbath-keeping church and how she wants to know more about it! Do you believe God leads us to searching people (John 15:5)?

In one class, the phone rang and a caller told the pastor he had called many other churches and no one answered, but that he really wanted a visit and Bible studies. One class member followed up, and we're so glad someone was there to receive that call! Discover Luke 11:9.

An attendee went home to retrieve something and her doorbell rang. A lady wanted to make a purchase, but our attendee had to leave for the seminar. They arranged to meet the next day. Our attendee is now determined to share a Bible study with the lady. God was providential in sending our guest home at just the right time! Read Isaiah 41:6.

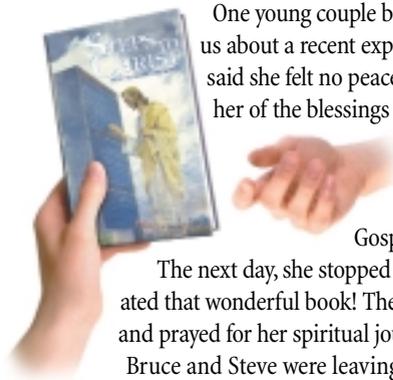
We developed a friendship with Tonia as the weeks went by, and she expressed a desire to study with Jim, her husband. We have visited her home several times since the seminar ended, giving her Amazing Facts Study Guides (the same ones she studied!) for her husband, vegetarian entrée recipes, and books for her two girls. Now she and Jim are spending quality time in God's Word. Her brother is next! Please join us in praying for Tonia and her studies with Jim (Romans 8:28).

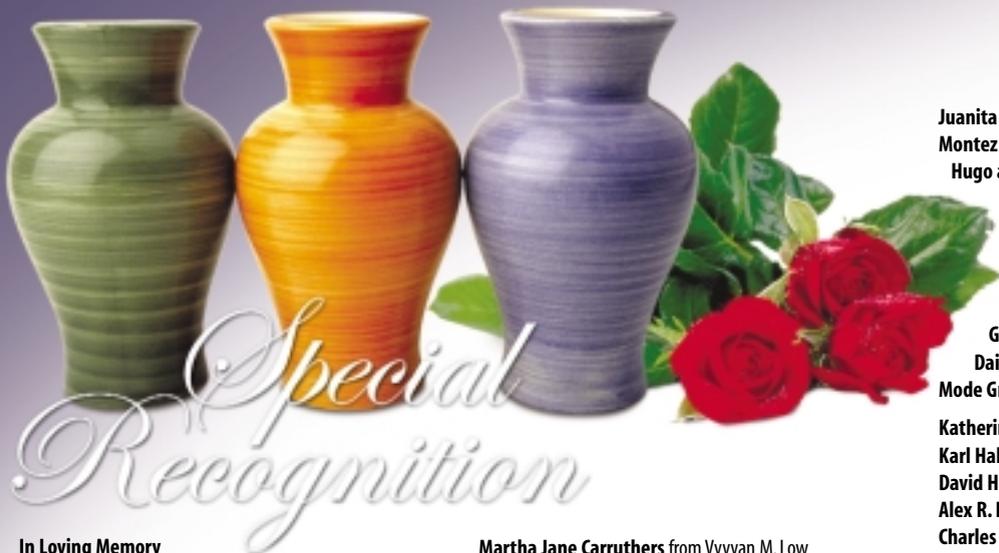
Since our seminars ended, we have been making home visits. We want to close this article by sharing one: In the pouring rain, we knocked on Vickie's door. She answered, but then grumpily asked if we could call her. We got back in our car and called her on the cell phone. She said she was sick and asked us to return next week, and we agreed. But when we called, she said she was spring-cleaning; we convinced her to allow us to come by. She met us at the door and admitted that she watches Amazing Facts every single week. We gave her lesson one of the Study Guides and told her we had the entire series and would be back next week with the next lesson. We also gave her *Alone In the Crowd* by Joe Crews. After John prayed for her, we saw tears in her eyes as we said goodbye. We look forward to our next meeting with Vickie. We think God sent us there, don't you? Read Isaiah 6:8!

It is such a joy to work for the Lord!



Tonia, Jim (right), her brother Jim, and daughters Tiffany and Kelly





### **In Loving Memory**

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**Charles Alloway** from Albert and Esther Lorenz  
**Earl Amundson** from Kent and Dee Dickinson  
**Harley Anderson** from Karen Brockriede  
**Melba Anderson** from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Krall  
**Milo Anderson** from Patricia Reynolds  
**Ann's son Gary** from Albert and Esther Lorenz

**LeRoy Bahnmler** from Edwin and Joyce Bahnmler  
**Marlin Bakke** from Martena Bakke, his mother  
**Joseph Barber** from George and Elaine Cacic  
**Walter Barber** from Bonnie Lorenz  
**Mr. and Mrs. Lee Barnes** from Claude and Lois Turner  
**Marion Barnes** from Lois Turner, his sister  
**Wes Barnes** from Mr. and Mrs. Rodney A. Benson  
**Alice Barton** from William Opincar  
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**Carolyn Beach** from William Beach, her husband  
**LaVerne Beachler** from Marie Beachler, his wife  
**Horace R. Becknew** from Gwendolyn M. Knight  
**Haskell Bee** from Buck and Jane Alvarez  
**Bertha Bender-Travis** from Esther Dunton, her mother  
**Albert Binder** from Olga Binder, his wife  
**Christian Binder** from Olga Binder  
**Francis Blakely** from Mary Thompson  
**Wreath Blakeslee** from Hazel Clogston  
**J. N. Blankenship** from LaCrosse Church  
**Lydia "Toots" Bos** from Harriet R. Bos  
**Jessie Olive Bren** from Wilmer Sederstrom  
**Carl and Anna Brockmann** from Ethel Simeone, their daughter  
**Harold C. Brockmann** from Ethel Simeone, his sister  
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**Gladys Bushbaum** from David and Marilyn Russell  
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**Stella Case** from J.D. and Wanda Davis  
**Juanita Catledge** from Lowell Catledge, her husband  
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**Forrest Chaffee** from Stanley and Roberta Chaffee  
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**Vivian Clements** from Betty Petersen  
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**Robert Cunningham** from Velma Cunningham, his wife  
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**Maurice Fredricksen** from Kent and Dee Dickinson  
**Jerry Freeman** from Hazel Freeman  
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**William Fulton** from Edith Fulton, his wife  
**William Gab** from Esther R. Henderson; from Carol Morris  
**Harold Gates** from Leon and Vivienne Rich  
**Alma Geigle** from Carol Morris

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**Montez Genton** from Ila Genton, his wife  
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**Stella C. Hess** from Ralph A. Hess, her son  
**Lenora Higgins** from Helen Bradley  
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**Mary Catherine Wilson** from Buck and Jane Alvarez  
**Leta Wilson** from Ruth Sackett  
**Ward Wilson** from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Morgan  
**Ybetta Wilson** from Tony Wilson, her son  
**Floyd Wood** from Stanley and Roberta Chaffee  
**Robert Wood** from Lu Ann Crews  
**Don Worgess** from Stan Reesman  
**Michael Wylie** from Elizabeth Wylie, his mother; Mr. and Mrs. Rodney A. Benson; from Gordon and Luella Bullock; from Charles and June Nowell; from Bonnie Thomas, his cousin

**Myron Zeisner** from Lu Ann Crews  
**Bill Zima Jr.** from Patricia Zima, his mother; from Kent Dickinson  
**Bill Zima Sr.** from Patricia Zima, his wife; from Kent Dickinson

#### In Memory of Loved One and Friends

**Irma H. Tsuha**

#### Happy Anniversary

**Bob and Ota Babcock** from Bob Babcock  
**Leslie Henry** from Racquel Henry, their 1st

#### Happy Birthday

**Tillie Ensminger (87th)** from Edward and Bonnie Ensminger  
**Pauline Gallant** from Stanley Gallant, her husband  
**Soo Sirivongsack** from Kathleen Marlin  
**Margaret Thompson** from Mary Ann Angelin

#### In Honor of

**Jim and Jean Wise, "Our dear, precious children,"** from Mildred and Jacob Mittleider, their parents  
**The Brock Family** from May Brock  
**Fazrally Koon Koon** from Talima and Vinoo Nancoo  
**Pearl Thompson** from Betty Dull

#### Wedding

**Gene and Helen Marsh** from Marcella Harrom



# Health Bite

## A note from Pastor Doug:

The mind and the spirit aren't the only things the Lord wants us to treat right. The Bible says, "Your body is [a] temple. ... Therefore glorify God in your body ... which [is] God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20). Our bodies actually *belong* to God! So we should nourish and treat them well so that they will last us a long time to come.

In this light, Health Bite is a new feature we've added to the *Inside Report*. It will feature health facts, fitness tips, and healthy recipes you can make at home. We hope you enjoy this new section and pray it will bless you and your family in serving the Lord!

## From Amazing Facts' Mary Lou Warner comes ...

### Whole-Wheat Bread in Just Two Hours!

Mix together:

1 cup warm water  
1 tablespoon honey  
2 tablespoons dry yeast (3 pkgs.)  
Let yeast mix stand 10 minutes.

Mix together:

3 cups hot tap water  
2 tablespoons honey (molasses or brown sugar)  
4 tablespoons oil  
2 teaspoons salt  
1-1/2 cups whole-wheat flour  
Let flour mix stand until yeast is ready.

Beat flour mixture well and add yeast mixture.  
Let stand for 15 minutes.

Using hand mixer or wire whip, add 1/2 cup gluten flour  
Stir in 5 to 7 cups of whole-wheat flour to make a soft dough. Turn onto floured board and knead 8 to 10 minutes, adding whole-wheat flour as necessary, until the dough is smooth and elastic.

Spray 2 large (or 3 medium) loaf pans. Shape dough into loaves and place in a **cold** oven. Turn oven on to 250 degrees for about 15 to 20 minutes or until bread doubles. Increase heat to 350. Bake 40 to 50 minutes or until done.

### **Variation**

Add 1 cup walnuts and 1/2 cup raisins after adding only 2 cups of the flour in the "stir" paragraph. Then add the rest of the flour.

### Strawberry Jam (adapted from *NEWSTART*)

1 pound frozen whole sugarless strawberries  
3 to 4 rings dried pineapple

With scissors, cut pineapple rings into small pieces into a bowl. Add frozen strawberries, cover with plastic wrap, and let stand overnight or until berries are defrosted and pineapple is soft. Place about half of the mixture in the blender, blend well; add remaining fruit and blend well until smooth. Pour into container and chill. Yields approx. 2 cups



### Millet Butter

3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/3 cup cooked carrots  
1/2 cup boiling water  
1 cup **hot** cooked millet  
1/3 cup fine, unsweetened coconut  
1 teaspoon butter flavoring

Process carrots, salt, and a bit of the boiling water in blender until smooth. Add millet, coconut, and butter flavoring, gradually adding small amounts of water until blended smooth (work down with spatula). Chill. Yields approx. 2 cups



## An Amazing Fact

Did you know that serving sizes on the USDA Food Pyramid and on product nutrition labels are different?

The two charts actually serve different purposes. The USDA serving size helps people meet daily nutritional needs with all food groups, while product labels only compare nutritional values between similar foods. Therefore, a single slice of bread on a product label might be one serving on the label, but could be two servings on the food pyramid! Of course, confusion could be easily assuaged if product labels included the number of pyramid servings contained in a product label serving!

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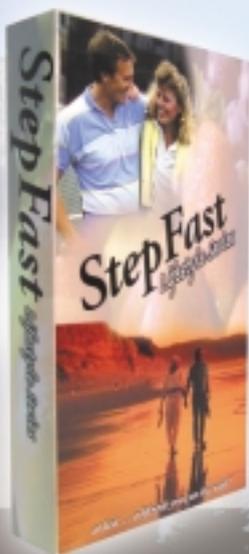
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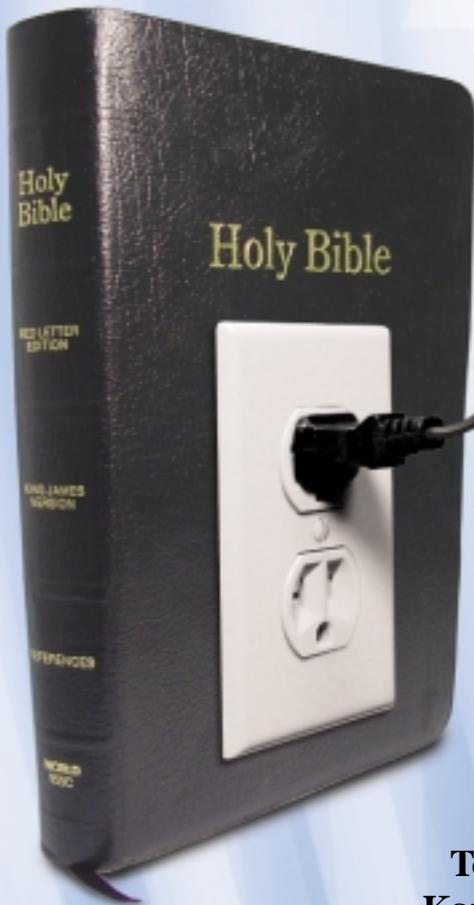
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