

THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE





BY PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR

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ne of the most controversial Bible questions I get is in regard to a Christian's relationship to military service. Some people are quite surprised to hear me encourage them to enlist as a soldier.

But I'm thinking of a different kind of Special Forces.

ARME Bible Camp is a wonderful training ministry that calls for the enlistment of all those who want to be soldiers in God's end-time army. They proudly brandish the Word of God as their weapon for battle.

Amen to that!

ARME, which stands for "arm me," offers a four-day Bible camp designed to help Christians, young and old, learn how to truly study the Bible and strengthen their relationship with God.

Even though ARME is not an outreach of Amazing Facts, our two ministries have close ties. Not only have I spoken at the Bible camp conference in the past, so has our

AFCOE director Don Mackintosh and evangelist Emanuel Baek. Danny Kwon, our human resources director, sits on the ARME board. And Amazing Facts evangelist David Steward serves as the president of ARME.

Beyond that, Weimar Center of Health & Education, which partners with Amazing Facts, sent their entire academy to the last ARME Bible Camp, which was hosted at Leoni Meadows in California. These students volunteered during the conference and experienced tremendous spiritual blessings.

About these dynamic boot camp experiences, students have said, "absolutely outstanding," "transforming," "a spiritual revival and wake-up call!" I was amazed to hear one student say, "Though a Christian all my life, I've never known God until now." That's how effective ARME can be.

I'm thrilled to report that the attendance at their recent Leoni Meadows event exceeded 500 people, who gave over \$100,000 in offerings to support future ARME Bible Camps, support foreign missions, and even send worthy students to education centers like AFCOE.

It's a thrill to me that our team of workers is utterly committed to the cause of Christ in this way—and that the staff at Amazing Facts has a strong and direct

connection to such a ministry.

In fact, if Amazing Facts could turn all of our other ministry contacts and former students into a ministry like ARME—and we were suddenly not needed anymore—I'd be happy. It would be my pleasure to retire to my remote cabin and wait for the coming of the Lord.

Until that happens, there is a lot of work left to be done at Amazing Facts. As you'll read in this issue of

Inside Report, many people are getting a watered-down gospel message that undermines the spiritual integrity of the church.

That's why I've always been deeply impressed with the speakers ARME chooses. They teach how to diligently search for gems from the precious mine of God's Word. Instead of spoon-feeding stale biblical pabulum, ARME and Amazing Facts teach Bible students how to find fresh spiritual meat for themselves.

There is nothing more important than that in this age of "gospel lite." That's why Amazing Facts will continue giving spiritual CPR, along with ministries like ARME, to the many broken and despondent people who seek treatment for a joyful, truly fulfilled life.



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INSIDE REPORT VOL. 28, NO. 4

PRESIDENT DOUG BATCHELOR

Managing Editor
Anthony Lester
editor@amazingfacts.org

ART DESIGN/LAYOUT HALEY TRIMMER

> COPYEDITORS ARLENE CLARK LU ANN CREWS

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Amazing Facts, a nonprofit Christian ministry, shares the saving truths of Jesus Christ around the world through literature, radio, television, the internet, public evangelism, outreach training and more. For operation, we depend on the gifts and prayers of caring Christians who believe in our mission.

UNITED STATES

P.O. Box 1058 Roseville, CA 95678-8058 Phone: 916-434-3880 Fax: 916-434-3889

CANADA

Box 344, 125A-1030 Denman St. Vancouver, BC V6G 2M6 Phone: 250-402-6070

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Being a Witness

"Where I work makes it hard for me to share the Word, so I have decided to start leaving Amazing Facts' small booklets in the restroom. I know it seems weird, but when I go check to see if someone has taken the books, praise the Lord, I notice that some people have. I hope that whoever is reading them will be fully blessed and live the life of Jesus Christ. 'And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.' Pray that I can do more for the Lord and be creative in sharing the Word with someone." *Ohio*

It's Always About Jesus

"God has opened so many doors in my life that I never knew existed. Each and every day, He has shown me the truth and the light. One of those lights is Amazing Facts. I just so love your wonderful Bible studies that I recommend them to everyone. To me, they make everything about Jesus so clear. A long time ago, I did not understand Jesus, but by doing these studies everything makes sense. Praise God for Amazing Facts." *Email*

Laptop Bible Learning

"I feel richly blessed when I listen, on my laptop, to Pastor Doug Batchelor's sermons and prophecy seminars, such as *Most Amazing Prophecies* and *Millennium of Prophecy*, etc. May God bless Pastor Doug in his endeavors to draw as many souls as possible to the throne of mercy." *The Netherlands*



More Than Just a Report

"I want to thank Pastor Doug and his team for declaring God's words. I realize that sometimes it is not necessarily the popular belief, but it is how God would have it presented. I came home from church today feeling dejected because of

a watered-down gospel message. I want the church to stand boldly before God and confirm that we are His. I came home and prayed. I felt I might have it wrong, although deep within I felt I had to hold on to that standard. I came to Amazing Facts as I always do when I need answers and scrolled through your online *Inside Report* section searching for a lesson that would answer my questions. I came upon the article 'Who Do You Think You Are?' I thought it might not answer my questions, but the Spirit spurred me to read it and now I am proclaiming, 'Glory be to God!' Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find. I am no longer in doubt. I intend to share it with others. Thank God for these amazing facts!" *Turks and Caicos Islands*

Visit www.AmazingFacts.org for free access to all our Inside Report archives—and for hundreds of others of free resources!

The *Inside Report* welcomes all correspondence regarding Amazing Facts. Letters and other materials may be used — in whole or in part and edited for content and clarity — in future ministry publications. If Amazing Facts has helped change your life for Christ, please write us at testimonies@amazingfacts.org!

Worldy Vs. Reaching for the Kingdom

A good sale is one in which a buyer truly benefits from the purchased item or service.

But in this society, where materialism is the popular religion, actual buyer benefits are strangely vague and ironically non-existent. In fact, salespeople with truly beneficial products and services are more challenged than ever having to wade through endless buyer weariness of superficial marketing for superficial goods and services.

That's why Amazing Facts wants to plant a seed of distrust in the things of this world, things that can't bring lasting happiness and security—so that you can make even better financial decisions with the resources God has given you. Store your goods in the things of God, and you'll have endless heavenly security.

In the book *Desire of Ages*, we have a poignant reminder of this promise:

"Perhaps it appears that obedience to some plain requirement of God will cut off his means of support. ... In the last great conflict of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell. ... But to the obedient is given the promise, 'He shall dwell on high: his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.'"

The stock market this year is experiencing a troubling *upward* trend.

How can an "upward" trend be troubling? Because for real and healthy growth of this magnitude, we should also see substantial growth in hard assets and infrastructure for the nation. When we don't see this happening, and we don't see it today, the logical conclusion is that the market is experiencing another bubble that will eventually pop and deplete the wealth of our country by billions of dollars.

That will be our money. Gone—just like that.



Put Your Money Where It Matters

As a creative and productive way to support evangelism, now would be a good time to transfer your re-appreciated stocks to Amazing Facts.* If your portfolio is blessed with high capital gains, you can even bypass capital gain taxes by establishing a gift annuity that would give you a dependable income for the rest of your life.

And whether the economy recovers or not, you will have the knowledge that you helped grow God's kingdom. That's

something that can never be taken away from you—not even an eternity!

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more details about gift annuities, and may our gracious Lord

keep you strengthened throughout the coming holiday season.

*In addition to contacting Amazing Facts, always consult a professional accountant or attorney when

considering a major reinvestment of your assets.



Dilute: to make thinner, to lessen strength, to adulterate, to reduce value or efficiency, to make fainter, or to water down

hat could be more deadly than diluted cancer medication? Maybe placebo pills for a cardiac patient. Or diluted insulin for a diabetic.

Actually, the most deadly medicine is a watered-down gospel—because the tragic results are eternal.

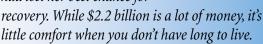
Jesus says there will be two groups of people in the end times. One group He calls few, the other He calls many. "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name? ... and done many wonders?' ... And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" (Matthew 7:22, 23).

Evidently, the majority of Christ's professed followers are selfdeceived. They know His name. Their religious activities seem to have the marks of genuine ministry, but Jesus, with a broken heart, will declare to them, "I don't know you." Why? Because they live a compromised life full of sin.

This is a popular characteristic of people in the last days. They are "lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ... haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:2-4).

AN AMAZING FACT:

In 2005, cancer patient Georgia Hayes won a \$2.2 billion court settlement against her pharmacist, who had diluted her chemotherapy drugs with water. In the process, she had lost her best chance for



PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR

Of course, when Paul describes the last-day conditions above, he's describing what has always been typical in the world. But here he's saying that it will infiltrate the church. All these lawless behaviors so prevalent in the world are going to be common in the church. Christians will have all the "form of godliness" but lack the power (2 Timothy 3:5).

They have a medicine bottle and a label, but they're taking diluted drugs that can never heal them.

SIN ISN'T JUST A CASE OF THE SNIFFLES

Perhaps you know somebody with hay fever. Maybe even vou.

There are some over-the-counter pills you can take to fight the symptoms. Sometimes, depending on the pollen, you can take half a pill and be okay. Sometimes, though, you have to take the entire pill. If you don't take the right dose, you might leave the house thinking all's well, but then later it hits you: Your eyes start itching and your nose starts running. You're miserable. You just can't wait until winter arrives.

Getting the right medicine in the right dose makes a world of difference.



So it is with the gospel. If we don't get the full strength, we could be deceived into thinking we're really healed when we're actually getting worse. Likewise, the devil is mass-distributing a watered-down version among God's people. He's content to let you go to some churches because the medicine there is often so diluted it won't make any transforming difference in your life.

"The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables" (2 Timothy 4:3, 4).

In this verse, Paul describes a problem in the pulpit *and* in the pew.

You have preachers who are not sharing a straight message, and you have people who don't want a straight message. The people don't want to take anything that's hard to swallow. They generally want what's easy and sweet to the senses. They want someone who will give them a prescription for candyflavored, chewable medicine.

"Savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves" (Acts 20:29).

The gospel gets watered down because preachers want to be popular and some, for pride or money, want to draw away disciples after themselves for power and influence. (See Ezekiel 13:10.)

UNTEMPERED MORTAR

Instead of warning the lost to turn from their sins, false teachers tell people to be at peace in their sins because God is too full of grace to expect them to change. They give diluted medicine, which gives people a false sense of security.

The Scriptures refer to false teachers as those who build a wall and "plaster it with untempered mortar" (Ezekiel 13:15). In Bible times, lazy builders would stack bricks with no mortar and then put a plaster veneer over the bricks to hide it. Without the

mortar, there's no stability. (Today we use concrete to hold the bricks together.) The wall might have looked solid from the outside, but a donkey could have kicked it over because it had no real strength.

More than 500,000 were killed or injured in the 2010 Haitian earthquake. One of the principal causes of these casualties was untempered mortar. Greedy contractors skimped on the percentage of concrete they mixed into the mortar and expensive iron rebar, which reinforces the concrete. It made for pathetically weak walls, and as soon as the massive earthquake struck, the fragile buildings crumbled.

There are walls for Christians too. The Ten Commandments are a wall, built to protect your freedom and happiness. When someone gets an STD because of promiscuous living, he reads the seventh commandment and understands that wall was put there to protect his happiness, not to prevent happiness.

The wall of obedience protects our lives, freedom, and contentment. But if the mortar gets diluted, whether from the pulpit or the pew, then, when the storm comes, like a house built on sand the wall implodes.

DILUTING THE PROSPERITY

Naturally, I always want a big crowd in church. That's understandable, right? But this desire carries

> risk. In order to draw people to church, I'll always be tempted to make my sermons as attractive as possible.

Marketers try to convince
you that if you use their
product, you will live
longer, look better, have
more money, and be more
popular. Does the Bible tell
us that's how we're to market
Christianity? Does Jesus promise
health and wealth and popularity? Is
"prosperity preaching" right?
There's a lot of good in the good news.

There are many blessings, but Jesus also says, "Take up [your] cross, and follow Me" (Matthew 16:24). Deny yourself daily—we don't hear that very often. Jesus said the real key to happiness is to put God and others first. Today, however, it's all about putting "me" first.

A lot of people hear this diluted version of the gospel and believe it's good medicine.

But good medicine is really just the beginning. Jesus said we are to be doers of the Word. A Christian isn't defined by church attendance. A Christian is defined by a transformed heart that influences his actions. Jesus asked, "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). We can't call ourselves Christians if don't do what He says. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). Part of the gospel we're not hearing today is that He wants us to be a people who obey Him. Giving the industrial-strength prescription of gospel truth will heal the symptoms of sin.

We are not saved by obedience, of course. That is legalism. But obedience is not legalism if it's a response to God's love, a response to having already been saved. "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

One way the gospel gets diluted is when people are encouraged to have enough faith to believe that God will forgive them, but not enough to believe that He will keep them from sin. It's a gospel that says God accepts you as you are and doesn't care if you change. The Bible says the gospel is not just about justification, but also about sanctification. You can come to Jesus just as you are. That's good news. But He loves you too much to leave you that way. That's good news too! You can be changed to be like Jesus. He can transform you so you become a new creature. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). That's great news!

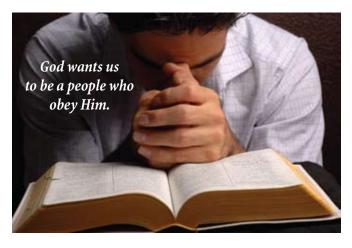


"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, [from falling,] And to present you faultless Before ... His glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 1:24). I want to have a life where I don't stumble all the time. How about you?

But Christians hear so little of that, and the results are obvious. People have to explain they're believers because they don't consistently live it. Instead, we ought to be lights on a hill so people say, "Wow. Her life is distinctly different.""He's not just like everybody else."

> "What's different about you?" And we answer, "I believe in Jesus. He saved me. He changed my life."





Prior to the Dark Ages, the church thrived even though the Christian religion was forbidden. They were being thrown into lion dens and being burned at the stake. They couldn't practice it in the open, so they dug catacombs under Rome for the first 200 years of Christian history. You can still visit these Roman mines. Some Christians etched on the walls, "Vita, vita, vita," which means, "Life, life, life. I have life." They were suffering and dying in these dark mines—and yet they were joyful.

Then something happened in Rome. Constantine wanted to build his empire because of the civil war between him and Maximus. He claimed to have had a vision and was now supposed to fight under the sign of the cross. They didn't know anything about Christianity, but his soldiers painted Christian symbols on their shields. They were all pagans, but they marched into the Tiber River for battle and called it a baptism, figuring they were Christians when they came out the other side. It became the in-thing to be a Christian, but they hadn't been taught the whole truth.



Let's not dilute the power of the cross.



When the emperor made Christianity acceptable, pagans came pouring into the church. The leaders didn't handle it well. They didn't want to lose the new converts, so they began to dilute the message, just a little. The pagans would have to make a lot of lifestyle changes, and if they didn't like it, they might go back to persecuting Christians.

One such problem was idols. One historian wrote, "There were more idols in Rome than Romans." These new Christians wanted to do what was right and asked the priests what they should do with their statues. Some of the priests said, "Throw them out!" But many of the pagans balked. So some of the other pastors suggested, "Ease them into it. Tell them to give Christian names to their idols and we'll take care of it later." So they named their idols Peter, James, John, and Mary. Many pagan practices crept into the church so that in one generation Christianity became the commingling of paganism and Scripture. They diluted the gospel for the sake of having quantity instead of quality—and it ushered in the 1,260-year Dark Ages.

HOW TO GROW THE CHURCH

It's a constant temptation churches face when measuring success. They ask, "Is it growing?" Very rarely do we measure the success of a church by how godly the people are. Instead, we measure success by numbers, and that can be a mistake. We're tempted to make it easier to be a member. It becomes a mindset to just get them in the door and worry about the rest later. So we dilute the message little by little to make the medicine easier to swallow.

Even today, I hear pastors saying, "Don't insist they quit smoking or drinking before they join the church. Make it easy for them to come to Christ and baptize them. The Lord will deal with these things in His own time." Then they come in and years later they're still chained to these destructive habits.

Baptism represents a new beginning, a liberation, a changed life. It doesn't mean you're instantly perfect. It does mean addictions to sin should be repudiated and left behind. One of my favorite Christian authors said it this way:

"Men and women have many habits that are antagonistic to the principles of the Bible. The victims of strong drink and tobacco are corrupting body, soul and spirit. Such ones should not be received into the church until they give evidence that they are truly converted, that they feel the need of the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. The truth of God will purify the true believer.

He who is thoroughly converted will abandon every defiling habit and appetite. By total abstinence he will overcome the desires for health-destroying indulgences" (*Bible Training School*, July 1, 1902).

As we learned earlier, the Dark Ages were a result of bringing people into the church before they really understood, before they had surrendered their hearts. The church becomes diluted, enfeebled, weakened. The power of being a follower of Jesus loses its strength, and pretty soon we're coming together, going through a ritual once a week, and living like the world. Instead of winning souls to Christ and living godly lives, we're doing exactly what the devil wants in weakening the power and the efficacy of the gospel.



"GOSPEL LITE"

The mega evangelical churches have something they call "gospel lite."

They want visitors to be comfortable, so they make the worship experience as easy as possible. They offer coffee and donuts before and after service. They encourage relaxed dress, even just T-shirts and shorts. They have theater-like seating so you don't have to squish together in a pew with strangers. If you offer enough enticing perks, you can get anybody to visit for an hour. Then once you get them in, you can't preach the hard

Continued on page 22.

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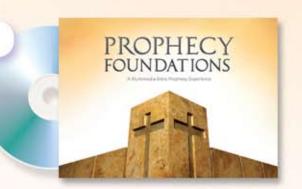
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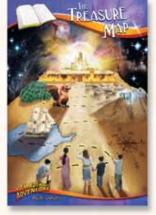


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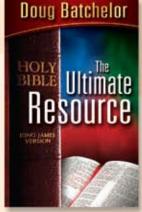
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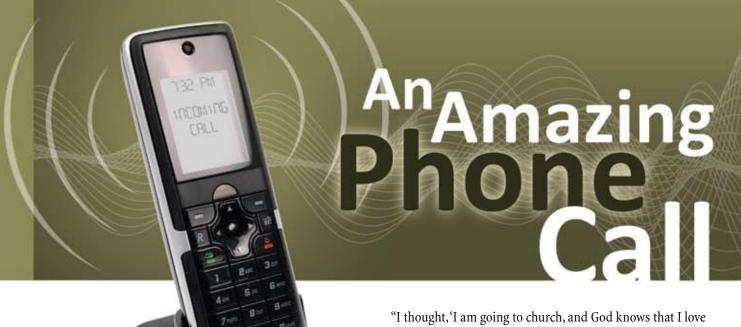
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C harles Morgan grew up in a family that loved the Lord.

And when he was a teenager, Charles accepted Christ as his Savior and was baptized.

But many years later, when his Uncle John started dating a woman who went to church on Saturday, Charles' life was set to change in an unexpected way. First, Uncle John tried to convince his new girlfriend that Sunday was the Sabbath, but during their debates, John suddenly realized he was wrong! He then joined a Sabbath-keeping church.

Although John never forced his views on anyone, his family took note of his faithfulness to his new beliefs. Then one night, Charles' mom was praying when "the light" went on in her head. She thought, "How can I expect God to answer my prayers when I don't do what He expects of me?" She eventually started attending the Sabbath church too—and invited Charles along.

TV Preacher

Charles' first time at the church was a strange one.

There wasn't a preacher to give a sermon that day, so the church showed a video of Pastor Doug's testimony. Charles says, "I was so intrigued with his story. I couldn't get enough of what he had to say."

But although Charles kept watching Pastor Doug, he fought the Sabbath. He was dating a girl who went to church on Sunday, and he didn't want that relationship to end, so he used every excuse he could think of to avoid altering his beliefs. He ignored the Sabbath issue and set a wedding date. Says Charles, "I thought, 'I am going to church, and God knows that I love Him. That's all that matters.' But the truth was I didn't want to give up the things I loved doing on Saturday."

Illness Strikes

During this time, Charles became very ill after his colon ruptured. As he became weaker and weaker in the hospital, he was losing hope and desperately wanted his pastor to come pray for him. But the pastor never did. His fiancé would just say, "You know, he has a big church and is very busy."

But his mom's new pastor came to see him several times to offer encouragement and prayer—even though this pastor was also struggling with health problems. Explains Charles, "I knew he cared about me as a human being and that made me want to learn more about his beliefs."



Yet Charles' health struggles were just beginning. An infection from a botched surgery sent him into septic shock and brought him to within inches of losing his life. The doctor even called in the family to prepare them for the worst.

While in intensive care after surgery, Charles was heavily drugged and was often incoherent. He doesn't remember anything about this time but was told that nurses had to strap him down because he would try to get up and pull out his tubes. More interesting: His Uncle John reported that Charles kept talking about Doug Batchelor too.

Eventually, Charles regained consciousness. Sadly, without much hope, he began to prepare himself for death.

The Call

Eventually, Charles regained consciousness. Sadly, without much hope, he began to prepare himself for death. He even got his family Christmas gifts early that year because he didn't believe he would last long. He fell into a deep depression. "I couldn't sleep or eat," he explains, "and I had to walk with a walker. My spirit was very low. I lost my will to live."

Then one night, John was lying in his recliner when his mom offered him the phone. She said that Pastor Doug was on the line, something that she and Uncle John had been working on. "When I heard that, I came to life. Pastor Doug took the time to chat with me and ask how I was doing even though he is a very busy man. I told him I had been watching him on television, and he said, 'Is that what's making you sick?' I loved his sense of humor, and he didn't seem to be in a hurry. He had prayer with me. It felt like the weight of the world had been lifted off my shoulders."

For Charles, it meant he could boldly face the challenges in his life. He was happy for the first time in a long while, and he couldn't wait to tell everyone that Pastor Doug had called him. "Through Pastor Doug, God was able to touch my heart at the lowest moment in my life."

Today, with his body and spirit restored, Charles is attending a Sabbath church. "I truly believe that Saturday in the Sabbath. I don't know why it took me so long to submit to it. My family always looks forward to watching Amazing Facts on TV. Thank you, Pastor Doug. You were a great inspiration to me when I needed it most. Without your prayers and show of concern, I might not have made it at all."

God continues to bless Charles, now an active church member, as he continues to learn the wonderful truths of the Bible. Please keep him in your prayers. He also asks our friends to pray for his daughters and his other loved ones, that they might follow God's will for their lives.

Please note that Pastor Doug is very busy and is usually not able to make personal phone calls.



Our church in Madison, Indiana, delivered Amazing Facts Bible Studies to three ZIP codes in our area. We've had positive results; in fact, some of these studies have been sending their lessons to Amazing Facts to be graded and are receiving lessons from you in return. We had 55 responses and are just praising the Lord for the blessings of being able to meet and visit with these folks!

About three months ago, a man from Milton, Kentucky, started attending our church. He'd been watching Pastor Doug on TV for two years and also went through your Bible school. He was sharing the truths he was learning at a Bible study class he was conducting at his previous church. When his group studied the Sabbath, one of the ladies attending asked the others, "Now that we know the truth, what are we going to do about it?" Their response was to start attending our church! We have 12 new people attending—and it all started with your TV ministry and the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord!

This has all been a breath of fresh air for this little church. When we moved here two years ago, our attendance was down to between six and ten on any given Sabbath. My husband and I, our son, his wife and our granddaughter have now just doubled the membership. It thrills our hearts to be able to share in this work of spreading the good news of salvation in these times!

We are going to need some reaping meetings, don't you think?

To discover how Amazing Facts can help your church grow, call 916-434-3880.



with Pastor Doug Batchelor

What is the danger in viewing pornography if I'm still faithful to my spouse?

"Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). In other words, if you're looking

at pornography, you aren't being faithful to your spouse or to God's law.

And this doesn't apply just to men. It includes women who might lust after men, as with Potiphar's wife. "It came to pass ... that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, 'Lie with me'" (Genesis 39:7).

And remember how David's affair with Bathsheba started:

"It happened one evening that David ... walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold. So David sent and inquired about the woman" (2 Samuel 11:2, 3).

For both David and Potiphar's wife, a lustful act began with a lustful look.

(It's unfortunate, but in this day and age I should mention this principle includes men who lust after other men and women who lust for other women.)

According to Jesus, to engage in sexual thoughts while looking upon another person other than your spouse is a mental form of adultery. Sin is not just an action; it's an attitude. "Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

Let me be clear: it is not a sin to be tempted with a sexual thought or to merely look upon an attractive person. Everyone, including Jesus, has been tempted through our eyes. So if a man notices an attractive woman wearing provocative clothing, his first notice of her does not mean he has sinned. Rather, it's the lingering look and the imagining of sinful possibilities that is sin. Job, a married man, said, "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?" (Job 31:1).

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

It's easy to conclude, therefore, that viewing pornography is a sin of adultery.

What is "adultery"? It is any sex outside of the marriage bond. The seventh commandment prohibits this kind of sex. But why is adultery wrong? Maybe that's the question we really need to answer.

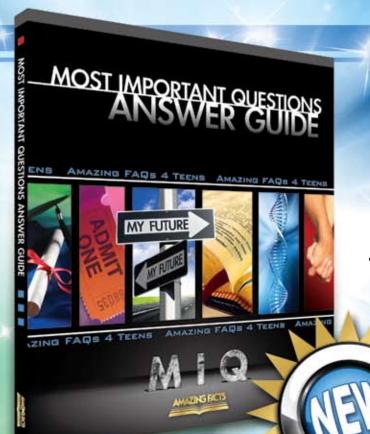
Before we do that, we need to know the purpose of sex. Sex is a wonderful gift God gave married couples for several reasons: to give and receive affection, for reproduction, and to increase intimacy and bonding.

God gave us sex to be enjoyed in marriage because it helps strengthen the emotional and spiritual bonds between husband and wife. This bonding is only appropriate between two people committed to a lifelong relationship. Creating these strong bonds outside of marriage can lead to heartbreak and pain. So He commands us to abstain from making these bonds with sex outside of a committed marriage relationship.

Pornography totally contradicts God's purposes for sex. Even if viewed with the permission of a spouse, it can't help but lead to separation and confusion. Pornography portrays a highly distorted and debased image of sex that can cause problems in your current or future relationships. You are changed by what you behold; pornography will change your marriage for the worse.

If you realize that you have a problem with pornography, pray for victory and consider finding help. Along with Christian counselors, there are a number of biblical resources and ministries that can help you free yourself from the terrible bondage of pornography.

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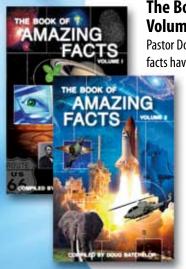
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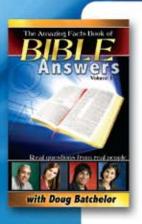


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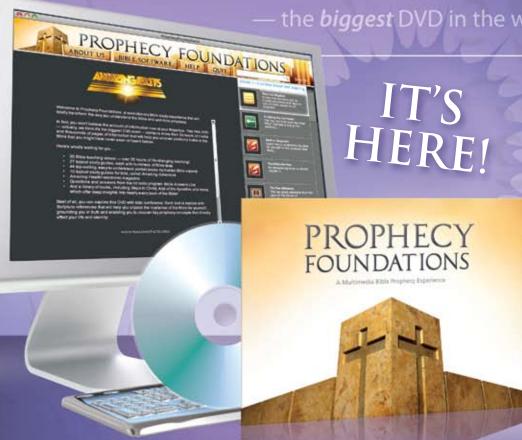
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— Pastor Doug



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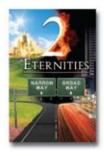
Christian Resources

NEW! do you think you are?

Who Do You Think You Are?

Doug Batchelor. Do you know who you really are? Satan is out to steal the spiritual identity of God's children, seeking to obscure the truth and confuse believers regarding who they really are in Christ. The goal of this book is to help fan away the chaff, exposing the essence of who you really are, and reveal who you can really become through Jesus! Only in the light of His sacrifice can we appreciate how much we are worth to God, who unlocked heaven for us, and nothing will deter Him from liberating you from the prison of sin and confusion. Discover incredible joy and hope!

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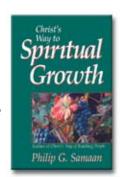
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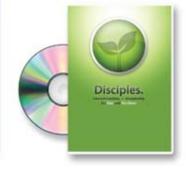
Christian Resources



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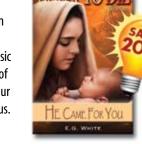
Take a spectacular journey back through time and trace the transformation of a perfect angel into Satan and how he led an army of angels in a revolt in heaven! Recorded in high-definition, this Bible-based documentary will help you understand the deepest mysteries of life, explaining how sin and evil could invade a perfect world made by a loving God. The cosmic conflict affects every life on earth—including yours!

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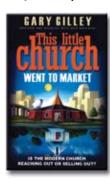
Doug Batchelor with Karen Lifshay. No matter if your church is big, small, dead, divided, scandal-torn, or gossip-ridden, God will help you to not just survive, but thrive and be a blessing to others.

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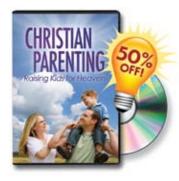
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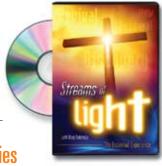
Christian Resources



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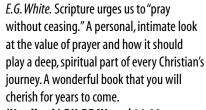


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Canada Needs Your Prayers

We ask for your prayers as the government in Canada attempts to disrupt our work in that beautiful country. Although we have met every requirement necessary for a non-profit to operate in that country, it seems it's not quite enough for government officials. Indeed, a reliable source suggests an attack on Christian non-profit organizations in Canada is well underway, and we have every reason to believe we're being targeted with our commitment to foundational biblical standards.



We are doing our best to negotiate with the government, and we believe that the Lord will see this through, but we also know that we are living in the end-times and these types of things will continue to happen.

But that doesn't mean good things aren't happening in Canada!

We're now broadcasting *Bible Answers Live* in Toronto, Ontario, on JOY 1250 AM—reaching 7 million listeners.

A Sisterly Visit

During the annual convention for the National Religious Broadcasters this year, Brod Boyd, director of media and the general manager of our newly launched AFTV station, met and talked with two nuns on the convention floor—and a new friendship was formed.

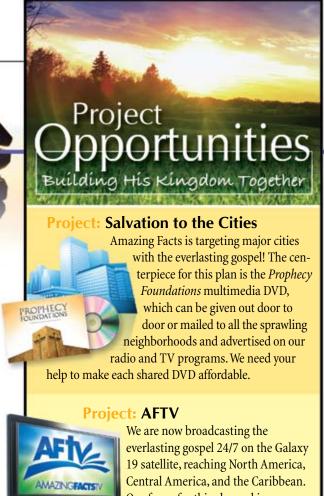
Brod was able to discuss our programs and even the possibility of airing of them on a newly launched Catholic station. For the next seven months, our media department has been sending programs to



these two faithful nuns to air on their network.

The icing on the cake came when the nuns decided to pay a visit to our office! Sister Mary Martha traveled from Chicago, while sister Mary Magdalene traveled from San Francisco. They

both received a tour of our facilities and were impressed with the number of students participating in our Bible school and the amount of materials our publishing team distributes every month. The two delightful sisters operate soup kitchens in large cities around the country. Please pray that our broadcasts will continue to touch their hearts and the others who are watching them.



Our focus for this channel is pure evangelism and revival. Our prayer

has always been to boldly proclaim God's Word to as many people who would hear it. This answer to prayer is truly an evangelism dream come true!

China Outreach Update

Our work in China is marching forward despite the well-known obstacles in that communist nation. Our Chinese-language website, for instance, received 5,751 visits during the first six months of this year, despite the fact we can't advertise it effectively. However, we were able to distribute 40,000 bookmarks throughout China, to both Sabbath and Sunday churches, to promote our website. And now more than 200 students are enrolled in our online Chinese Bible school!

In addition, we distributed 5,000 copies of our new Study Guide books and have published six pocketbooks, including Alone in the Crowd, Amazing Wonders of Creation, Death in the Kitchen, Is it a Sin to be Tempted?, Is it Possible to Live without Sinning?, and Tips to Resist Temptation. We also have five full-time and 20 part-time colporteurs working in various regions. Some church leaders are deeply impressed with this work and have said, "Amazing Facts is doing more literature evangelism work in China than the church!" Please continue to pray for our team working there.

AND RADIO

BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Spiritually uplifting messages are available every day on Amazing Facts radio, television, and internet!

AMAZING FACTS PRESENTS

A weekly 30-minute program with Pastor Doug that explores the Bible in-depth, offering practical guidance and information for Christian living, prophecy, and more!

Amazing Facts

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The Bible has a health plan that will not only make your life on earth a lot more robust and energetic, it can also prepare your heart and mind for the eternal kingdom to come.

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THE DRAGON AND THE WOMAN, PARTS 1 & 2

A daring overview of Revelation's most perplexing end-time players and the struggle for truth in the end-times. Pastor Doug explores the part America plays in the last-day saga.

OCTOBER 24 & 31

SOLVING THE MESSIAH MYSTERY, PARTS 1 & 2

Did you know that the Bible really has a prophecy code? Learn all about this Code—Jesus—and what prophecy has to say about His mission, past and future.

NOVEMBER 7 & 14

THE BRIDE OF ANTICHRIST, PARTS 1 & 2

Discover the counterfeit bride of last-day prophecy in this riveting presentation filled with biblical imagery and symbols and the keys to understand them.

NOVEMBER 21 & 28

BOWING TO BABYLON, PARTS 1 & 2

Explore Bible kingdoms of the past that have established their own systems of worship in defiance of the Creator and how this will soon be repeated in the last-days.

DECEMBER 5 & 12

THE MILLENNIUM OF PEACE, PARTS 1 & 2

What is the millennium? Find out what the Bible really says about this mysterious era to come and what you'll be doing for a thousand years!

DECEMBER 19

ELIJAH'S RETURN

Baptism plays a pivotal role in the Christian experience. Understand its deeper meaning as seen in the life of Elijah and Christ's teachings.

DECEMBER 26

ARMAGEDDON COUNTDOWN

Open up the fascinating pages of the Bible to discover just how close we really are to the end of this age — and how you can be ready to meet Jesus in the clouds!



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Continued from page 9.

things or rebuke their pet sins because they might not come back.

Feed them on clichés about the power of positive thinking. Entertain them with animated music, laser lights, and dramatic presentations. Then you think it must be the truth because after all you have 10,000 people coming to church.

But how many have repented of their sins and really know Jesus?

So how are you going to know that you're not getting a diluted gospel from your pastor? You must

study the Bible with guidance from the Holy Spirit. You need to search it out for yourself.

There are a lot of preachers out there who are wolves in sheep's clothing. They measure success by numbers, so they preach a diluted gospel. Pastor John MacArthur says, "Watered down, diluted theology will fail to produce deep reverence, deep worship, deep repentance, deep humility, deep understanding of God's nature, His work, His ministry, His laws, His standards, His principles. It fails to make people of God, people that are Godcentered." He's right.

An undiluted gospel is going to involve real repentance for sin, a sorrow for sin, and a turning away from it. Repentance means "remorse, regret, contrition for past sin. To change for the better as a result of remorse or contrition for one's sins." The first thing John the Baptist said when he started preaching about the kingdom of God was, "Repent." The first thing Jesus said was, "Repent," and if He tells us to repent, it means we can and we should.

Jesus said, "I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance" (Matthew 9:13).

The first church leaders said, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). First comes the baptism of repentance, then comes the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The full-strength gospel medicine precedes reception and filling of the Holy Spirit.

Along with repentance must be restitution and reform. "If the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statues of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die" (Ezekiel 33:15).

In 1858 revivalist Jeremiah Meneely brought his preaching to Belfast, Ireland. He talked about repentance, reform, and committing yourself to the Lord. The men there worked in a



shipyard and were so convicted of their sins, they repented and began to return the tools they had pilfered during the previous years. The response was so complete the shipyard had to build extra sheds to take in all of the returned tools! Eventually, the management asked that there be no further returns of stolen property! You know the Holy Spirit is working in a community when people start living like real Christians and make tangible changes in their lives. This is the fruit of the real gospel.

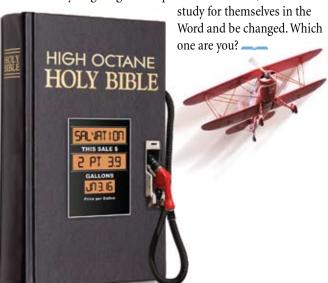
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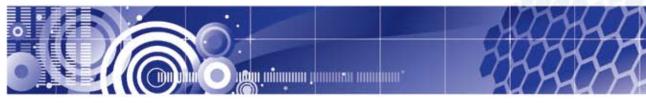
WHAT GOSPEL DO YOU DESIRE?

Is it your desire to be filled with the Spirit and to have an undiluted message in your life and in your church? Let us encourage one another to be real Bible Christians by studying for ourselves to know what constitutes having a relationship with the Lord and being saved.

I have a friend who is still crippled today from a small plane crash. While flying with friends in a South American country, they trusted a stranger to fill up the tanks in their aircraft. It turns out that gas was badly contaminated with water. Unfortunately, they did not discover the polluted fuel until they were 600 feet off the ground. The engine coughed, lost power, and they crash landed in the jungle.

Friend, do you know that you're getting the pure, high-octane, unadulterated, industrial-strength fuel of God's truth? Many will be deceived by bright lights and promises of wealth, but a few will





EvangelismTeam

Contact us at 916-209-7220 to schedule an Amazing Facts evangelistic prophecy series or revival weekend in your church!



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Times and locations are subject to change. Visit our website to confirm details prior to attending.



สร้างสาวกของพระเจ้า Aking Disciples Amazing Facts Revives the Hmong

by Sandra Hargreaves

Sandra is the wife and traveling companion of Amazing Facts evangelist Lowell Hargreaves. This report chronicles their outreach efforts as they traveled through the nation of Thailand.

hen we arrived in Thailand for a whirlwind Amazing Facts evangelistic outreach tour—we practically hit the ground running.

We landed after midnight and got only a few hours sleep before our adventure began in earnest at 6:00 that morning. We headed north toward a Hmong village hidden in the hills near the Myanmar border. Most of the villagers there make their living by growing cabbage, tomatoes, peas, and the like, and everyone works hard since the fields are tilled and weeded by hand.

The village of 75 homes is composed of Sabbathkeepers, except for five families. The village has had electricity for only two years, so most of the young people have grown up without television. It was thrilling to see these enthusiastic youth desiring to lead out in worship, and we particularly enjoyed hearing them sing familiar hymns in their language.

Mending a Divide

About 70 percent of Sabbathkeepers in Thailand are from the Hmong tribe. As a result, the devil has attempted to divide and scatter these souls by introducing heresies. In the past five years, a false prophet claiming visions has caused many to leave the remnant church by proclaiming that it is Babylon, along with many other false teachings.

Many of the church members and even pastors have been misled. Causing the most disturbance was a group of followers who have been advocating that the only proper posture for all prayers and singing is kneeling. This was causing much contention and division in the church.

We learned quickly that to be effective in Thailand, God's workers must be very adaptable! We arrived in the village thinking we were doing a one-week evangelistic series, but when the time arrived, no guests showed up. So, early the following week, we focused on reviving the church.

At night we held meetings, and during the day, the pastor, a translator, and Lowell would go visit the families causing the trouble and with unstable church members. Lowell was able to share what the Bible says on each false teaching the prophet was advocating.

At the end of that week, 15 people requested baptism! The pastor shared how thankful he was that Amazing Facts had come just then and knew it wasn't an accident. As he put it, "God had sent

the right person at the right time to encourage them to stay faithful and assure them that this is God's true church."

Camp Meeting: Thailand

Our next destination was a Hmong family summer camp, with about 300 attendees. The local mission asked Lowell to present the same revival messages he had shared in the first village. He also spent an hour on Sabbath answering questions about the Spirit of Prophecy and the doctrines the false prophet was advocating.

During the week, about 350 Hmong youth began attending the camp. These young people

were divided into groups and rotated through various classes on topics of interest to them. The leader of the camp then asked Lowell to cover the Sunday law and the mark of the beast with the youth, since the false prophet was teaching that the mark would be a microchip. Lowell presented the truth eight times that day to the different groups, and the pastor who translated was so thankful to hear the issues presented clearly and

often, saying that he hadn't fully understood it either. As a result, 15 young people were baptized in a nearby river. It was a beautiful service and a blessing to see the wholesomeness of these young people.

Camp Meeting Baptisms Our next assignment was a weeklong revival series in another Hmong village. Also a village of many Sabbathkeepers, they weren't affected by the false prophet, but they were drifting away from the message and losing their experience nonetheless. Only about 25 people attended services regularly, and some were even communicating with evil spirits.

Elephant Ride

The pastor asked Lowell to cover the topics of health, state of the dead, and the importance of Sabbath observance. At the conclusion of the revival, five people made decisions for baptism.

The children in this village were a thrill to work with. They don't have much for entertainment, so they were very interested in the meetings and were respectful during the presentations. It was a delight to work with them! The kids' meetings were held in a simple shelter with a roof, bamboo walls, and a straw mat on a concrete floor. The first night about 30 children attended. The crafts at the end was a big hit, so

the next night, two hours before the meeting, the children were already there, and the attendance had grown to 50. What a thrill to see the Lord working!

Bangkok Outreach

After Sabbath, we made the eight-hour drive to Bangkok, where we conducted a one-week evangelistic series at a Chinese church. This is a wealthy congregation filled with doctors, health professionals, and many English-speakers.

Each evening, prior to the evangelistic meeting, local doctors did health screenings and counseling and did a short health presentation before the Bible study. About 20 guests attended, and we had wonderful support from the church members. Today, the church continues to follow up on the interests.

The final week in Thailand, we did an evangelistic series about an hour from Bangkok, where the local church has been seeking to plant a new church.

> Once again, the pre-work had a health emphasis, where people could get massages, hydro treatments, health counseling, and more.

In the evenings, Lowell taught the Scriptures. There are many immigrants from the Philippines working in Thailand, as the government and private schools hire them to teach English. Since the economy is better in Thailand, it is quite an attraction to Filipinos. Each evening, only three non-Filipino

guests attended, but one made the decision to be baptized! The church is already following up on other interests in the area.

The Thai way of evangelism is very different from what we are used to. Generally, they conduct a short series and then baptize whoever responds at the end, hoping that the church will continue to educate interests afterwards. As a result, the church members often lack knowledge of basic doctrines. So our time there was largely spent sowing the seed we could and reviving the young membership in truth.

It's so important for new members to have a foundation in the Bible when they join the church. That's what Amazing Facts is trying to ensure as we share the gospel all around the world. So even though we didn't see large-scale baptisms in Bangkok, we know that God's Word will "not return to Him void."

Inside Report 25 4Q 2



n light of all that is going on this summer, perhaps we should cancel this session of AFCOE to Go." Just saying these words brought pain to my heart.

Ever since the program was born some three years ago, it's been a much-loved witnessing training intensive well attended by faithful people from around the world.

But with the unusually low number of applications this time around, it appeared that it might be best to cancel this particular session.

Forward in Faith

However, I didn't want to give up. I sensed the Spirit's leading us to press forward in faith, and our team made one last push to promote the program. At first, only a few calls trickled in, but that trickle soon turned into a flood!

Amazingly, we went from less than 10 enrollments to more than

40 in just a few days. The Lord had answered our prayers! And this was only the beginning of what would be one of the most powerful AFCOE to Go experiences we've ever had.

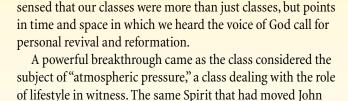
As students arrived, we saw a real sense of sincerity and urgency in them. This group really wanted to be at AFCOE. But it was also clear that there were some real needs within the group. Indeed, some of those attending had fallen away and desired to find revival at AFCOE. Others had recently joined the church but had not been well grounded in the faith.

These realities led our staff to our knees: "Please, God, send a revival to us and in the lives of these students."

Revival, Revitalized

And God answered abundantly!

As students joined together in worship, witness, and study, God's Spirit began to work in their hearts in a marked way. We



the Baptist to bring revival and repentance in all areas of life moved here too. Students sought our Lord in prayer and came forward when a strong appeal was made—even tears began to flow.

by Don Mackintosh, Director of AFCOE

This was not just another AFCOE to Go. God's Spirit moved mightily.

By the end of the week, not only had hundreds of homes been reached through door-to-door

outreach—not only had many guests attended our healthbridge meetings—not only had students been equipped with the tools for effective witness, God had also spoken to hearts and our own students made decisions for recommitment, rebaptism, and baptism into the remnant church!

And to think ... it was almost cancelled! Revival was almost cancelled!

God wanted this AFCOE to Go class to meet. But not only that, He wanted everyone—staff and students and the local church community—to know that it was His doing, that His Spirit was in control. Our Bible text for this session became the text for our lives: "Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?" (Psalm 85:6).

Do you desire revival and reformation in your life? Then AFCOE to Go is for you! See our ad on the next page and ask God if He is calling you to come.



Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism

AFCOE



- Gain confidence
- · Reach the heart
- · Teach compellingly
- · Preach powerfully



Want to be a soul-winner?

Need revival in your life? AFCOE is about helping you take this opportunity to be transformed and equipping you to become all that God intends you to be—and to go impact your world.

At AFCOE, you'll get:

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- Many awesome, practical resources for witnessing

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Next Session:

January 27 – May 27, 2011

Application deadline: November 27, 2010. Save \$150 on tuition! Apply by October 27, 2010!

AFCOE TO GO

Can't do a four-month program? Amazing Facts is now offering AFCOE to Go, a four- to eight-day intense training experience that empowers even the busiest professionals and students to reach family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors for Jesus Christ—anytime, anywhere!

Next Session: **January 14 – 22, 2011**

Application deadline: January 3, 2011.



To learn more, call **916-209-7249** or visit **www.afcoe.org**

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In Loving Memory

Ruth Heater Archer from Robert Archer, her husband **Kathy Asborne** from Beulah Keeler,

her mother-in-law

Francis Atkins from Terry Atkins

Leland Barnhart from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Elisabeth Baxter from Roberta Saunders
Marian Baxter from Dorothy Toppenberg, her daughter
Hartley Berlin from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Roger Black from Wally and Geri Dunks
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Hazel Dunks from Wally and Geri Dunks

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Myron Durham from Anita Lowe, his sister

Warren Durham from Anita Lowe, his daughter

James Erskine from Ruth Sackett

Denver Facemire from Dorma Facemire, his wife
Virginia Farnham from Henry and Betty Craig
Linda First from Jim and Judy Culpepper
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Jewel and Ruth Foutch from Frank and Gayle Tyroff
Jerry Freeman from Hazel Freeman, his wife
Steven Wesley Freeman from Dorothy Freeman,
his mother

Chester George from Jeanne Hart, his mother
Lorna Golladay from Bette Marcussen, her daughter
Paul Gordon from Wally and Geri Dunks
Spencer Gordon from Chuck Gordon
Ted Graves from Catherine Ritchie
Irene Green from Roberta Botimer, her sister

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

David Paul Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, his sister **Frances Ellen Groves** from Mary Frances Flynn, her daughter

Washington Hames Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, his daughter

Willard Gutknecht from Betty Gutknecht, his wife

Lois Haas from Kent and Dee Dickinson
David Haines from Ollie Haines, his wife
Thelma Hamlin from Audrey Wrate
Dalton and Joyce Hargrove from Reba Hargrove,
their daughter

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Goldie Hein from Margaret Wilms
Bill Henton from Jadie Henton, his wife;
from Mr. and Mrs. Bogues
Ralph Hess from Jane Hess; from Richard Lane
Florence Hill from Greg and Laura Pack
Kenneth Lee Hinshaw from Al and Pat Marion
Esther Holmes from Charlotte Holmes, her mother
Sam and Margie Hoopes from Susan Lindblom,
their daughter

Michael Willie Ikeda from Jutta Ikeda-Mackay, his mother

James Johnson from Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson
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Clarence Kaldahl from James and Ella Goddard
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Derwin Landis from Lucille Bush
Melvin Lang from Olga Lang, his wife
Bill and Rose Lehman from Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson
Bill Lewis from Jim and Judy Culpepper
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ling from Dr. and Mrs. Eldon E.
Stratton

Jim Livingston from the Livingston family
Norman Livingston from the Livingston family
Pearl Livingston from the Livingston family
Lionel and Melinda Loessberg from Allene Carpenter,
their daughter

Eleanor Lofthouse from Daniel and Amerlia Constantinescu

Janet Sue Loucks from Jeffrey Loucks, her husband William Lowe from Anita Lowe, his wife Juanita Lucas from June Ackermann Cass Luque from Donald and Sarah Lee Homer Lynd from Teresa Lynd, his Wife

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Samuel Hames Miles from Mary Frances
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June Moore from Al and Pat Marion
Clyde Morris MD from Marylene Morris, his wife
Winifred Mundt from Keith Mundt, her son
Bill Murphy from Beulah Keeler, his sister;
from Gary Osborne

Vincent Nicholson from Edlyn Ramsay Nicholson **Svein Nilsen** from Matts and Sisseln Sjolander

Geraldine Olmstead from Mark and Kim Swett
Robert Olmstead from Mark and Kim Swett
Edgar Ortner from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Kathy Osborne from Gary Osborne, her husband;
from Doralee Murphy, her niece
Ed Owen from Bernie Quinn

Bernie Paulson from Wally and Geri Dunks
Charles Peck from Wally and Geri Dunks
Alice Penner from Bernard Penner,
her husband; from Lucille Bush
Kenneth Phillips from Jacob and Joyce Joyner
Rita Pringle from the Livingston family

Ruth Noble Rhodes from Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Garman
John Rhudy from Trudy and Fred Brown
Max Ritchie from Catherine Ritchie,
his wife; from Lu Ann Crews

Sylia Robbins from Lucille Bush
Artie Robinson-Derting from Catherine Ritchie
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Charles Russell from Ezekial Allen

Alojzija Sabo from Fred and Dorothy Galbraith
Grant Salyers from Fred and Patricia Anderson
Don Shepard from Dick and Laurence Harvey
Gerald Silvestri from Pastor John and
Anita Silvestri, his parents

Rocco Simeone from Ethel Simeone, his wife

Ann Simpkins from Frank and Gayle Tyroff, her brotherin-law and sister

Azora Stocker from her granddaughter; from Beulah Keeler, her mother-in-law Bill Sykes from Trudi Sykes, his wife

George Tattrie from Allene Tattrie, his wife
Duane Allen Taylor from Robert Taylor
Edna Taylor from Jack and Nancy Taylor
John Theodore from Olive White
Dorothy Thomas from C. Mercer Straw
Ivan Toews from Clara Toews, his wife
Jerry Tull from Vincenzo and Francesca Stragapede

Betty Vance from Jacob and Joyce Joyner, her brother-in-law and sister Helen Veach from Jeanne Hart, her daughter Eddie Venn from Ardatha Pederson, his mother Cheryl Vietz from Wally and Geri Dunks

Marian Wall from Mark and Kim Swett
Valerie Warren from Verona Smith, her niece
Vincent Westerman from Audrey Wrate
Mary Wint from Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Garman

Pat Zima from Kent and Dee Dickinson

Happy Anniversary

George and Tena Baehm (47th)
Bob and Jo Hoeckendorf (60th)
Willard and Mildred Hunter (67th)
De Lane and Joanne Isaak (50th) from Jeannette
and Cutler Baldwin

Harold and Sonja Shull (57th)
Wayne and Delcie Smith from Kelly Smith

Happy Birthday

Tena Baehm (75th) from George Baehm, her husband Marilyn Herron from Darrel Crane Bob Hoeckendorf (81st) from Jo Hoeckendorf Rodney Kelley from Tommy and Marti Cash Delcie Smith from Kelly Smith



It might sound like something straight out of science fiction, but it's very real: Hungry little mouths cover the surface of your body, gobbling up whatever they encounter.

They're called pores.

You are always receiving conflicting messages about your skin. On one side, cosmetics manufacturers say their synthetic ingredients don't penetrate the skin. On the other hand, the same manufacturers claim magic ingredients such as collagen and antioxidants feed the skin to combat aging. Meanwhile, doctors administer medications via the skin for motion sickness, smoking cessation, birth control, and hormone

replacement.

So what's really getting under your skin?

Your skin is the largest organ of your body, and it absorbs up to 60 percent of what is applied to its surface. Unfortunately, along with water, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, your skin also absorbs potentially carcinogenic substances.



This isn't just a women's issue men's shaving creams can contain chemical additives too!

Everybody Is at Risk

Men might read "cosmetics" and dismiss this as a women's issue, but you are at risk too! Most skincare products on the market today—including shaving creams, soaps, shower

gels, deodorants, shampoos, and conditioners, as well as body lotions, facial cleansers, moisturizers, and anti-aging serums—contain chemical additives.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates cosmetics only *after* they are sold, investigating complaints when and if they are filed.

Otherwise, evaluation of product and ingredient safety is left up to the Cosmetic Ingredient Review Board, an organization funded by the cosmetics industry. A 2006 study conducted by the Environmental Working Group (along with the Breast Cancer Fund, Breast Cancer Action, and the National Environmental Trust) found that about 90 percent of cosmetic ingredients in the 7,500 top-selling beauty products have never been analyzed for health impact at all.

The studies that are conducted are done either on animals with much shorter life spans than humans or in test tubes, and these test only for short-term safety of ingredients. No one has studied the long-term, snowballing effect of chronic low-dose exposure to the synthetic chemicals used in personal care products. And we use these products on skin freshly scrubbed in warm water, which opens the pores and makes them even more vulnerable.

Cosmetic Ingredients to Avoid

- Petrochemicals, such as mineral oil and silicones
- Sodium laureth/lauryl sulfates and other sulfatebased detergents
- Propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, and other ingredients formulated with PGs and PEGs
- Formaldehyde and paraben preservatives
- Synthetic (FD&C and other) dyes and colorants
 - Artificial fragrances



On the Inside

What happens when these substances penetrate the skin?

They enter the blood vessels and lymph ducts. Some are circulated through the body via lymph fluid, eventually to be filtered out by the kidneys and liver. However, others stay in the body and add to the systemic toxic load we accumulate via the intestines, lungs, and the skin.

One example is parabens, commonly used in cosmetics as preservatives. Experts used to believe that parabens were not stored in human tissue, but recent findings revealed the presence of these chemicals in breast milk and breast cancer tumors. These estrogenic chemicals also increased uterine growth and stimulated breast cancer cell proliferation. These studies were small and don't *prove* a link between parabens and cancer, but they do prove that parabens are absorbed by and *stored in* living tissue.

What's the problem with synthetic chemicals? Best-case scenario, they could cause minor skin irritation or worsen existing acne. Worst-case scenario, over time, they could build up in your system and contribute to

the causes of cancer, severe allergies, fertility problems, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease.

To make matters even more confusing, a product labeled "natural" or "organic" isn't necessarily any safer. Many "greenwashed" products still contain harmful chemicals with a few organic essential oils thrown in.

What's the solution?
Become an ingredients
expert. Read the ingredient
lists on your cosmetics as
religiously as you do your
food. For information about
suspicious ingredients, visit

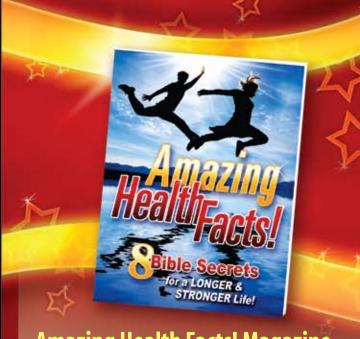


The delicate skin on your face absorbs ingredients 20 times faster than the thicker skin on the palms of your hands.

www.cosmeticdatabase.com, where you can search by product, brand, or ingredient—or go to www.toxnet.nlm.nih.gov to check the toxic potential of your cosmetic ingredients.

Or you can make your own personal care products at home with God's natural materials. Books like *The Green Beauty Guide* by Julie Gabriel and *Natural Beauty at Home* by Janice Cox offer loads of educational information as well as home recipes.

You already know the preservatives, artificial flavors, and colorings in processed foods are not good for you. If you eat healthfully, why would you want to ingest junk through your skin? Make this your new motto: "If it's not safe to eat, it's not safe to use on your skin."



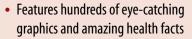
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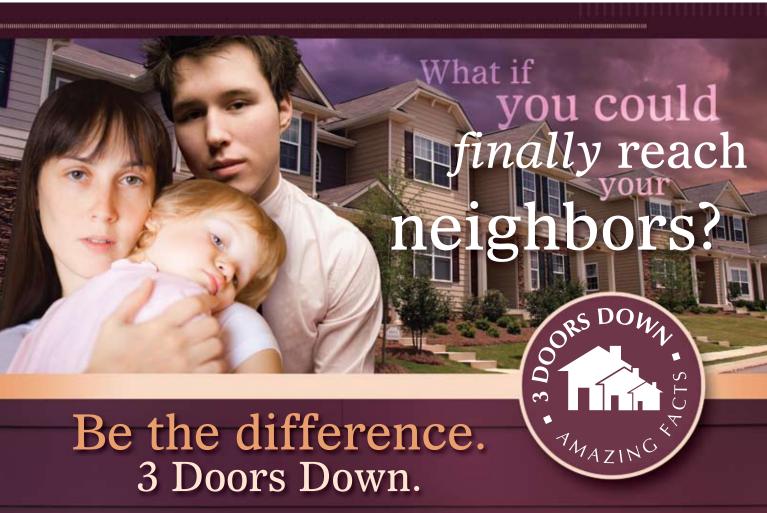
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