

# The 4 minutes that changed everything!

August 2018

*An Amazing Fact:* The first American television station began broadcasting 90 years ago on July 2, 1928. After World War II, television became so popular that by 1948, more than a million U.S. homes had one. But today, 99 percent of households have at least one TV—and 66 percent have at least three!



Dear friend,

Four minutes! That's all it took to change two lives for all eternity. Ronnie and her husband Steve had been rushing to pack up and leave after having been on vacation— when she caught an Amazing Facts program playing on the TV in their hotel room.

It wasn't an accident. It was Providence, because your gifts bring God's lifesaving truth to over 750,000 searching souls, just like Steve and Ronnie, every week on television, whether its cable or over-the-air broadcasts. No other media reaches the masses for Jesus Christ like that—and this number doesn't even include Internet and satellite viewers!

But without your gifts, the eternal Bible truths sent through the airwaves would diminish and the number of lives changed around the world would decline. <u>It's only through your generous giving that nearly 40 million people annually watch Amazing Facts programs, learning God's truth and finding real, lasting hope for their future!</u>

While Amazing Facts debuted on radio in 1965, the bulk of our budget today is spent on television. Our broadcasts are aired on the most effective networks across the nation and the world—including Lifetime, TBN, Inspiration, Daystar, WWOR-NY in New York, 3ABN, Hope Channel, and many others!

And sometimes, just four minutes of the programs you help broadcast make all the difference. Let me tell you more about Ronnie and Steve...

# **Four Minutes of Powerful Truth**

As a Catholic, Ronnie was raised to pray to Mary, but she always had nagging questions about the faith of her childhood. You see, she was struggling to harmonize her church's beliefs with what the Bible actually says. Of course, there are millions more like her struggling today.

As Ronnie and Steve were rushing to pack up their suitcases that day, they left the TV on as background noise.

Suddenly, Ronnie recalls, "Pastor Doug's voice caught my attention. I heard just four minutes of the program, but it resonated with me." She just couldn't shake what she had heard in those precious minutes of time.

After they returned home to Pennsylvania, Ronnie earnestly searched for Amazing Facts on TV, but she couldn't locate us. She tried on and off *for years* to find our broadcasts, but all without success.

Friend, I'm sorry to say she couldn't find our programs because we did not have the funds to broadcast in her area. Amazing Facts is entirely dependent on you and our other friends to reach "every nation, tribe, tongue, and people" with lifesaving truth (Revelation 14:6). The equation is so



simple, yet profoundly true: More funds mean more souls won to Christ.

### "I found it!"

Fast forward a few years, and Ronnie was still desperately seeking to understand the Scriptures, but she was always cautious about what she heard on TV. She knew that Jesus plainly warned about false prophets (Matthew 24:4).

When Ronnie went on her morning walks, she often prayed earnestly, "Lord, if You will show me truth, I promise I will follow it." The Lord will never let a prayer like that go unanswered! I'm thrilled to say that soon after, she "just so happened" to discover Amazing Facts on the Inspiration Network.

She was so excited, she called out to Steve, "I found it! This is it!" She immediately began recording Amazing Facts' programs and studying the messages you helped put in her home every week.

The teachings Steve and Ronnie heard transformed their lives. They let God's Word change them inside and out—their diet, their lifestyle, and even the day they worshiped the Creator. They had no idea what a Sabbathkeeping church was, but they kept studying with Amazing Facts.

You know the re-creating power of God's sanctifying truth in your own life. When people are open to His Word, the messages convict the conscience and lead them to a closer walk with the Lord. <u>But unless the Word goes out, lives will not be changed</u>. The apostle asked, *"How shall they hear without a preacher?"* (*Romans 10:14*).

# **Casting the Net of Salvation Even Wider!**

Did you know the word "broadcasting" actually comes from agriculture? It means sowing a field by casting the seeds as widely as possible. This is why Amazing Facts exists! Jesus commanded, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (*Mark 16:15*). This is our mission—to "broadcast" seeds of truth to every corner of our God-given mission field, the globe!

And because you have stood with us as partners through your gifts, nearly 12 million hours of biblical truth were sent out through the airwaves in 2017. That's more than 225,000 hours of end-time messages delivered each week!

Casting seeds of truth broadly through media is expensive, but it is staggeringly effective. The annual budget for Amazing Facts broadcasts exceeds \$5 million. Yet the cost of reaching just one soul with 30 minutes of gospel truth is just fourteen cents!

And remember, it took just <u>FOUR MINUTES</u> of Amazing Facts programming to set Ronnie and Steve on a spiritual quest that led them to the truth about the Sabbath, the afterlife, the Second Coming, and much more.

But there's even more to this heart-warming story!

#### "I've been waiting for you!"

It was a typical Saturday afternoon when Steve and Ronnie heard a knock at their door. When Steve answered and met two people going door to door, he called Ronnie over—naturally, she was wary. But the couple on their porch, Jaime and Camie, "happened to have" a postcard advertising an Amazing Facts prophecy seminar.

When Ronnie saw it, she exclaimed, "I've been waiting for you!"

Not long after, Steve and Ronnie were attending the meetings as Jaime and Camie led them through the *Amazing Facts Bible Study Guides*. They were so hungry for truth, they quickly devoured two or three lessons each week.

Today, Steve and Ronnie are baptized members of a church family they adore. What's even more exciting, <u>they are actively involved</u> in <u>outreach—and they are thrilled to see their</u> <u>church is well stocked with Amazing Facts</u> <u>resources</u>. What a joy it was for me to personally meet them in Pennsylvania, where I presented revival messages a few weeks ago.



#### **Broadcasting Wins Souls**

While I'm thrilled Steve and Ronnie found new life in God's truth, I am saddened that it took them ten years to find our programs again simply because we were unable to reach their part of the world due to lack of funds.

We live in critical times and have an urgent responsibility to help others find Bible truth. That's why, as funds become available, Amazing Facts always expands our reach. But as giving shrinks, we have to cancel stations. My heart breaks, because I know that the more airtime we have, the more people will find salvation in Jesus.

At the same event in Pennsylvania where I met Ronnie and Steve, I met dozens more who found the last-day church through Amazing Facts broadcasts. <u>People frequently</u> <u>approached Karen and me to say, "We're here because of Amazing Facts</u>."

That's why I hope you'll never underestimate the power of your gift in broadcasting plain truth. Just \$10 will reach 70 people per week; \$100 will help 700 people know Christ; and \$1,000 can change 7,000 lives for eternity. Your support is especially needed right now during these lean summer days. Will you please stand with me in broadcasting Christ's final message to the world by sending a gift this month?

As my thank-you for your gift, I want to send you a unique message I shared with my congregation called "Seventh-day Adventists: Facts & Fables." It clears up a lot of confusion and is a powerful sharing tool to reach your neighbors who may be misguided on this subject. Of course, you'll also be strengthened as you listen! And be sure to write down your prayer requests on the back of the enclosed reply card when you send your gift. We want to pray for you as you pray for Amazing Facts!

Thank you for broadcasting the everlasting gospel to desperate hearts. Please keep standing with Amazing Facts with your gift this month so others can know truth. Four minutes is all it takes!

Knowing every minute counts,

Doug Battelor

Pastor Doug Batchelor President, Amazing Facts



P.S. Ronnie says, "All those mornings as I walked and prayed for light, Jesus answered!" On behalf of Steve and Ronnie, I thank you for turning just four minutes of time into an eternity with Jesus. Will you help even more people like Steve and Ronnie find solid Bible teachings? Thank you for your gift this month!



**Reaching the World With God's End-Time Message** 

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