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HOPE FOR THE WEARY

The 1984 Olympics games, held in the glorious summer heat of Los Angeles, will always be indelibly written upon my memory. Records were being broken, but amongst the podiums, medals and headlines, it was the dramatic images of marathon runner Gabrielle Anderson-Scheisse that have retained their impact even 30 years later. Having missed the last aid station, she was literally running on empty in the hot sun. The last 400 meters—one lap of a track circuit-took her almost six minutes, with the cameras following each step.

Her body was screaming out in pain. Her left arm flailing at her side and her right leg unbending at the knee, she was veering from lane to lane as she staggered to keep upright. She rounded the last corner of the home stretch with her torso badly lurched over to her left side. Medics wanted to help her, but that would disqualify her; she was determined to persevere even though the winner of the event had finished long before. Anderson-Scheisse herself wasn't impressed with the press that ensued and simply said, "You try to at least finish your event. That is the spirit of the Olympics."

Her hope and goal was not just about winning, but about crossing the finish line. The mettle to compete against the best and always give her all compelled her past severe obstacles, even to the extent of possible personal damage.

She became a picture of perseverance that brought hope to millions. She is an example that we can go further and do more than the enemy would like us to know.

Hope is a powerful force. It compels us onward, gives us the grit to persevere. Have you ever felt hopeless? Like you just couldn't go on one more second? You know, kind of like Noah in the middle of the flood. Everywhere he looked was more water. So he sent a raven on a scouting mission; it never returned. He sent a dove. It came back cold and wet. On the third try, he let the dove go with a prayer and watched until the bird disappeared into the vastness of the waves. He waited and waited, scanning the horizon every few seconds for his bird.

Soon the sun was setting, and the sky darkening, and still no bird. You know the feeling of a dark horizon. Lost job, unsaved loved one, dream yet unrealized. Sometimes our soul thirsts for hope like a southerner for sweet tea in a Texas summer. But hope is all Noah needed. It's all you need. And when Noah's dove returned, it carried an olive leaf in its beak. That meant foliage! It meant ground was near and his hope of land and a new beginning was imminent! That olive branch was a towel of hope for a wet man of God.

If you need your own proverbial olive branch, I have good news. God is the Author of life and Composer of hope. He has a symphony of love songs with your name on it. He has your story written. He has hope for the weary to give you strength for your journey too.

Take the words from Joshua 10:25: "Joshua said to them, 'Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Be strong and courageous." Let Him fill you even now. You can drink your fill today by finding the promises God has for you in His Word.

You too have a race to finish like Anderson-Scheisse's. You have victory in your DNA because you are a child of the Most High, victorious one. Only believe! 🖈

In Him, Kelly Head, Editor

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Lu Alone shares her journey as a famous Brazilian pop star with a promising recording career who left it all behind.

FALL

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CHRIST FOR THE NATIONS THE VOICE MAGAZINE WWW.CFNTheVoice.com

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Christ For The Nations MEMORIAL STONES

• By Dennis Lindsay

WHY DO BIBLE COLLEGES DIE?

There are a number of reasons why Bible colleges fail. Some college leaders take their eyes off of God and forget the past. Often, the respectability of a man replaces the fear of God, leading to the pursuit of an influential, degreed faculty, which leads to students learning about God intellectually, but not experientially. As a result, students graduate with a transcript, but no spiritual transformation; a master's degree, but no understanding of the Master's decree.

Oberlin College in Ohio was founded in 1833 by Rev. John J. Shipherd and missionary, Philo P. Stewart. These two ministers decided to establish a college on Christian principles, "where they would train Christian ministers and leaders." It was named in honor of Pastor John Frederick Oberlin, who ministered to the poor in France. Charles Finney, the great revivalist of the 19th century, served as the second president of the college.

Today, Oberlin College has a liberal attitude toward sexuality and gender expression. The school hosts a student-run, Sexual Information Center that sponsors Safer Sex Week and a Drag Ball, which marks Transgender Awareness week. Most of the U. S. universities that started over 300 years ago were originally Bible-proclaiming schools. Harvard, Yale and Princeton once had rich Christian histories. Harvard was named after a Christian minister. Yale was started by clergymen, and Princeton's first year of classes was taught by Reverend Jonathan Dickinson. Princeton's crest still says "Dei sub numine viget," which is Latin for "Under God she flourishes." Consider Harvard University's Original Charter of 1636.

"Let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life is . . . to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life, (John 17:3) and therefore, to take Christ . . . as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning."

Today, there is almost no Christian heritage left in these liberal universities. In fact, most emphatically teach the origins of the universe from an evolutionary worldview and blatantly reject the possibility that the Bible is true—authoritative—and teach that we need to adjust our beliefs and actions to their teaching. So what happened to cause so many Bible institutions to abandon their Christian roots?

CHANGING WORLDVIEWS

The change in American universities from the Christian worldview to a naturalistic, evolutionary philosophy led to the collapse of their Christian heritage. Christian universities across the country fell first in their biblical worldview of Genesis 1—and Creation.

Naturalism opposes God's Word in Genesis, the foundational book of the Bible. Psalm 11:3 states, "When the foundation is destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Cracks in the foundation led to a collapse of the Christian beliefs at these schools. In contrast, CFNI students are required to take a class that presents Creation from a biblical worldview.

LEAVING THE BIBLE BEHIND

Once Christians began adopting a naturalistic view, including evolution or millions of years of earth history, it didn't take long for their faith to come crumbling down. They had given up the Bible as their starting point, accepting naturalistic science instead. As a result, the miraculous and the supernatural fell by the wayside. Genesis is written as literal history; so it should be taken as such. The demise of former Christian universities should be a lesson to individuals, churches and colleges alike to stand firm on the Bible's clear teachings and beware of any doctrine that's not biblically sound.

"For 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).

STAND FIRM ON THE BIBLE'S CLEAR TEACHINGS AND BEWARE OF ANY DOCTRINE THAT'S NOT BIBLICALLY SOUND.

PERMANENT REMINDER: MEMORIAL STONES

Scripture reminds us of the standard for maintaining a biblically -based ministry, school and life in general.

"Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people: 'Keep all these commands that I give you today. When you have crossed the Jordan into the land the LORD your God is giving you, set up some large stones ... Write on them all the words of this law ... to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, ... promised you'" (Deuteronomy 27:1-3).

"So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, and said to them, 'Go over before the ark of the LORD your God ... Each of you take up a stone ... write to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask, 'What do these stones mean?' tell them the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD ... These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever''' (Joshua 4:4-7).

CFN'S ROOTS: 12 MEMORIAL STONES

The DNA of CFN's foundation is represented by 12 core values. They are the pillars of the ministry—the glue of the Bible Institute. These divine declarations serve to maintain the standards on doctrine, morals and conduct. This is essential for discovering CFN's vision and future.

CFN'S 12 MEMORIAL STONES

- 1. WORD (Discipleship, Character Building)
- 2. **PRAYER** (Intercession/Warfare)
- 3. SUPERNATURAL (The Miraculous and Gifts of the Spirit)
- 4. ISRAEL (God's Plan of the Ages)
- **5. FAITH** (Water Walkers—People of Faith)
- 6. GIVING (Learning to "Live to Give")
- 7. MISSIONS (Everyone is a Missionary or Mission Field)

Often in Scripture, we read how God refers to the past in order to confirm where He is going. He backs into the future. That which is behind us is connected to where God wants us to go. It's like when a person rows a boat, facing backwards, looking at where they've come from, instead of where they are going. For CFN's future direction, we must connect with yesterday.

"Then the Lord answered me and said, 'record the vision and inscribe it on tablets that one who reads it may run'" (Habakkuk 2:2). Our vision needs to be written, so not only we know what we're doing, but others will, too. This provides a consistent sense of direction, assists in measuring our success, and motivates us to action.

In 1948, Dad and Mom Lindsay founded Christ For The Nations to fulfill the Great Commission. Our goal is to see "the earth full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9). However, while we are waiting for the fulfillment of God's promises, we must be faithful to do our part—then pass the baton.

Dennis Lindsay, President & CEO of Christ For The Nations



- 8. TRAINING (Transformational Education)
- **9. WORSHIP** (Intimacy with God)
- 10. RELATIONSHIPS (Unity/Communication/Networking)
- **11. INTEGRITY** (No Compromise)
- **12. LEGACY** (Passing the Baton to the Next Generation)

For more about the ministry of Christ For The Nations, visit us online at www.CFN.org.



Christ for the Nations was founded in 1948 by Gordon and Freda Lindsay as a missions ministry and is now led by CFN President Dennis Lindsay. It exists to impact humanity with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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N.ORG/HEALINGPLACE



• By Michelle Ofori-Ansah

Gloria Copeland was recently honored as the 2014 Freda Lindsay Award Recipient. This award is presented to an outstanding woman in ministry each year. Below is Gloria's exhortation about living a life of faith to the Christ For The Nations students and staff.



uman life is full of challenges that believers face—health issues, marital problems, financial turmoil, just to name a few. How does a Christian face these difficult circumstances? And even more importantly, how do we overcome these challenges?

According to Gloria Copeland, New York Times bestselling author, teacher and minister, the key is found in Mark 11:22-23: do what Jesus said and have faith in God.

"So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says" (Mark 11:22-23).

Walking out that faith in God and overcoming life's obstacles requires action, as laid out in Mark 11:23. In this scripture, Jesus starts with "whoever," which means this promise is available to everyone. Then it describes speaking to the problem (the mountain) and commanding it to be removed. However, this only works if the believer does not doubt, but believes the promises of God. According to Copeland, "The only cure for doubt in the heart is Word in the head and in the heart, to get the mind renewed to the Word. You've got to let your head catch on to what the Word says and then say that, and that takes time. You'll have to spend time in the Word of God everyday and do it at home, and in church and in places where they teach you how to walk and live in the Word of God and by faith." The challenge to living by faith is most people have not learned how to develop a positive outlook and so spew out negativity in times of crisis. According to Matthew 12:34, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." Thus, everyone simply declares with their mouth that with which they have filled their hearts. Copeland explains the importance of this scripture. "If you want to walk in victory, you're going to have to have the faith that comes by putting God's Word in your eyes and in your ears, letting it get down into your heart, and ... then you have to say what He says if you want to live free." Victory comes when the believer's heart is full of the truth of God's Word and what is spoken matches this truth.

The solution comes from focusing on the Word of God. Then the truth of the Word of God in the Christian's head kindles faith in his heart and creates faith-filled words that bring changes to his circumstances. Copeland's early experiences with this faith mandate started in Tulsa, OK. In 1967, they moved to Tulsa when her husband, Kenneth, felt called to attend Oral Roberts University. "We had an old car, we had children, we had no money, or very little money, had to believe God to eat and for gas," she recalls. It was at this time that they began to learn how to live by faith. Copeland says they started to line their words up with the Word of God and eventually their circumstances followed. "Get in the Word and you feed on the promises of God so that the next time that thought comes up inside you, 'I don't know what we're going to do, we're going to lose this or that, or they're going to die from sickness and disease,' you begin to say what God says about the situation," she says.



Gloria Copeland preaches worldwide the truth and freedom she has found in God, sharing honest, straightforward messages about how the Word of God has taken her from a life of failure and defeat to a life of victory.





Gloria Copeland is seen here with her Freda Lindsay award for 2014. This award is presented to an outstanding woman in ministry each year. Gloria Copeland was honored for exemplifying a woman in Christian leadership.

\checkmark

EXAMPLES OF FAITH WORDS

- + By the stripes of Jesus, I am healed.
- + Every sickness and every disease must leave me in the Name of Jesus.
- + I am healed from the top of my head to the soles of my feet in Jesus Name.
- + God meets all my needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
- + I speak abundance to my finances.
- + I rebuke lack and I rebuke failure in Jesus Name.

The important thing is to be sure that the believer's words are faith-filled. "That just means you think and you talk like what the Bible says," she explains. When the believer's words line up with scripture, they have the power to pull him out of this realm and translate him into the next, while still living on this earth. This power was confirmed in Copeland's life. "We found out that if we put the Word in our eyes and in our ears it would get down in our heart ... and come out of our mouth just when we're ready for it," she says. The confession of her mouth was the same, whether she was sick or well, in need or with abundance. This occurred as she took authority over her life, one word at a time. Copeland encourages believers everywhere to emulate their example of a faith-filled life.

And this is the call to the believer. "If you'll learn how to walk by faith, you can fulfill all God has called you to do ... with the Word of God and faith in that Word, and doing what faith does, you can come out victorious in every situation," Copeland declares. The path to this type of victory is found through focusing on what God says about the situation, not the news, not friends and not circumstances. Circumstances will not always conform to the Word, at least at first. "We've gotten big bills we didn't know how to pay for. As our ministry has grown, so have the size of the bills. But you've just got to do what you did the day before, you believe God, you speak to the mountain, and you command the money to come ... And you can live free from the curse. I didn't say you wouldn't be challenged, I said you can live free from the curse," Copeland says.

As described by Copeland, Christians must live prepared, living with the Word in ears and eyes, heart and mind. Doubt must be ceased and unbelieving words must be rejected. Mark 11:24 shows the path to take: "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." In Greek, the word 'receive' is lambano, which means to take. Copeland sees this as the secret ingredient. By believing, faith will help to take possession of the needed answer. And that leads the believer to victory over circumstances and situations, over all of life's challenges. 🔹

For more information about Gloria Copeland, you may visit KCM.org. To listen to the audio message visit http://cfnthevoice.com/freda-lindsay-award-2014/.



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THE REA

"Missionary zeal does not grow out of intellectual beliefs, nor out of theological arguments, but out of love."

- Roland Allen, missionary from the late 1800s to the early 1900s

UK: Evangelism

EUROPE:

Evangelism and Helps The

HOLLYWOOD: Street Ministry

What Roland Allen is describing is the love of God that sparks love for others and moves us to action. This zeal provoked 10 CFNI teams to descend around the globe to 18 nations this summer for the CFNI 2014 Summer Outreach Program.

According to the team leader of the South African Outreach, James Read, Institute Executive Administrative Assistant, his team was very intentional about why they were going. They felt that they wanted to follow the exhortation of notable Christian leader John R.W. Stott, to be global Christians, with a global vision, for their global God.

This global God gave us His mandate in Mark 16:15, when Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation." The word we use for 'going into all the world' is missions. And missions is accomplished through sacrifice: sacrifice of time and energy on the part of the missionaries and sacrificial giving on the part of the supporters. This partnership is essential to see the world reached and lives changed. HAITI: Food/Medical, Children's Ministry

AMAZON: Construction, Children's Ministry

BRAZIL: Crusades, Children's Ministry

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SON WHY



*Some countries could not be named as the teams went in undercover due to security concerns.

HOPE FOR THE ORPHANS IN SOUTH AFRICA



The CFNI Outreach team to South Africa focused their ministry towards children. In South Africa, as in much of sub-Saharan Africa, orphans are a huge humanitarian issue. There are approximately 4 million orphans in South Africa, or almost eight percent of the population. The *Ithemba* team, which is Zulu for 'hope,' was the human representation of the love of Jesus to some of these orphans.

One *Ithemba* team member and CFNI student, Jessica Prieto, gives her perspective on these forgotten ones. "So, these beautiful children do not exist. What I mean by that is that they are orphans, so their birth certificates are lost or they never received one. They are literally not counted in the population. When they grow older, they will not be able to get a job because they have no identification. They can't go to college or receive scholarships. They can't get help from the government in any way. Many of them are infected with HIV/AIDS, so if they die they go unnoticed. The good news is that God knows them by name and He calls them sons and daughters."

Part of the *Ithemba* trip was ministering to some of these orphans and the heroes (and heroines) who take care of them every day. One example is an orphanage

ITHEMBA OUTREACH

- The CFNI *Ithemba* outreach was able to impact the country in these tangible ways:
- Visited 18 schools and ministered to 10,000 students in three weeks.
- Raised enough money to feed 60 families for a month, and did the food distribution.
- Remodeled an orphanage, including painting and plumbing.

that needed revamping so the team of expert (and some not so expert) painters and plumbers painted and installed new plumbing.

Jordana Wyman describes the experience in this way, "We had the privilege to bless an elderly lady who takes care of orphans (she currently has 16) with very little help from the government and no supporters—it's all by faith. We were able to clean out the children's bunker completely as well as play with the kids and love on them. People like this elderly lady, whom no one ever sees or hears about, will have a high place in the kingdom of heaven with her Lord when He returns," she said.





South Africa has 62 distinct people groups of which 10% are unreached.

There are 11 main languages, of which English and Afrikaans are the main languages in higher education.

RELIGIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA:



CHALLENGES FOR PRAYER:

THE LEGACY OF APARTHEID continues to impact the nation. Despite progress in some areas, the inequalities and injustices of the past continue to shape the future. Pray especially for:

a) **RECONCILIATION AMONG ALL RACES.**

This applies not just to black-white dynamics, but also to coloured (mixed race) and Indian peoples as well as to relationships among various black ethnicities. Pray that the Church might lead the way by living out the truth of unity in Christ Jesus.

b) POVERTY AND ECONOMIC INEQUALITY.

Extremes of wealth and poverty persist. Pray for economic measures that might uplift those most needing assistance without crippling the effective running of the economy.

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH:

CHRISTIANITY FACES MANY CHALLENGES – not least is the question of how a nation that is 75% Christian can be crippled by poverty, violence, crime, AIDS and racial strife. Pray for:

a) UNFINISHED CHURCH PLANTING.

To effectively reach and then disciple the millions of unchurched (but usually nominally Christian) South Africans, an estimated 30,000 further congregations are needed.

b) **DEEP RECONCILIATION.**

Since evangelicals were slow to denounce apartheid, divisions and unfinished business remain. Pray that the whole Church may put the sad conflicts of the past to rest and demonstrate the powerful reality of unity in Jesus.

c) REVIVAL, PARTICULARLY IN MAINLINE DENOMINATIONS.

While there is much spiritual life, there also is much traditionalism, nominalism and "churchianity" in many denominations.

Prayer statistics taken from operationworld.org



s it possible that God would tell a worshipper, a girl whose only desire is to sing for Him, to become a secular singing star? And then, would He ask her to lay that career down once she was at the pinnacle of fame? This is exactly what God asked of Brazilian Lu Alone. And it was
just as surprising to her.

At age 16, three months after being signed by the biggest recording label in Brazil, she was competing for the Best Singer Award with 10 of the biggest stars in Brazil. By 19, she had a book published about her life, was featured as the star of one of the biggest reality TV shows in Brazil, had songs in movie theaters and on soap operas, and had her own singing tour. Her dad left his pastorate to help her follow God's plan for her as a secular singing star. So when God directed her to lay it down, they both had a lot to lose.

Lu describes her childhood (spent partly in Dallas at CFNI while her parents attended Bible school) as full of music and a love of God. She sang in the children's choir and loved to worship. She would always say, "I'm not a singer; I am a worshipper." During her teenage years, her dad received an unexpected prophetic word from God for Lu. He told her that God wanted her to be an example for those young people who have no godly examples, and it would be through singing secular music that the door would open into these young girls' lives.

Her response was shock and denial. "I don't even listen to secular music," she replied in confusion. "I don't go to secular concerts . . . it makes no sense!" Her dad replied that she should pray for confirmation, because God always gives confirmation. Amazingly, not only did she feel God speaking the same thing to her, but three missionaries from three different countries told her the exact same thing.

Tentatively she told God, "Lord, I understand and I'm going to obey you, but I want to see that I'm really going to change others." She needed one more confirmation. At this time, she sang Christian songs every day at school, but one of her classmates would get up and leave every time she started. However, one day Lu asked her to stay and she sang a personal song about life, not God.

FOR JESUS

The confirmation occurred at lunch that day as this girl ate with Lu and asked her, "Why did Jesus die for me?" Surprised but finally convinced, Lu thanked God for His final confirmation. "Okay God, now I understand. People that would never come to you or go to church, they'll ask me about You just because I'm not the Christian type. Because I'm singing secular music, they can come see me and ask about you."

It's so good when you feel you are in the center of His will.

Her initial experience was exactly as God had declared. As Lu describes, "I was able to really change girls' hearts and minds and speak to them." Lu saw her growing fame gradually giving her a bigger platform to be able to minister; the secular singing world was her mission field.

Unfortunately, after about a year and a half, her record label began to push her to change her approach and her image. They didn't want her to be mistaken as a "Christian" singer, and they felt she was too innocent. She couldn't talk about God or tweet about Jesus. Once she turned 19, they changed her clothes, her makeup and her entire image, removing everything that could be construed as Christian.

She started feeling conviction; her conscience was provoking her, but she didn't know what to do. At this time, she began to hear from the Lord as He said, "Now it's time for you to give it up." She started crying and praying for wisdom.

It wasn't an easy sacrifice. She loved her career and had wrapped herself up in this singing world. She wasn't prepared for any other career. She asked God, "How do I stop? I don't know how to do something else. I didn't study to do anything else." It was a very difficult time.

Adding to her personal fears and worries, she was concerned about disappointing her father. She felt torn . . . should she disappoint her earthly father or her heavenly Father? "When I gave up, I wasn't just giving up my dream, but also my dad's and my fans'." It caused tension in their relationship. By this time, her dad had given up pastoring and had dedicated himself to helping her fulfill her dream, which had also become his dream. Quitting was hard, for both her and her family, but especially for her father.

When she told her dad her decision, he was shocked. "He thought over the past three years secular music had become my dream and I was giving it up," she said. With her future hanging in the balance, her dad wanted to be sure she was making the best decision. He didn't understand how she could lay down her secular music career, turning her back on contracts, concerts and fans.

Lu was faced with a choice, to lay down not only the spotlight but also her passion–music. She was pursued by the music industry, offering her ever-increasing amounts of money if she would just hold one more concert or attend one more event. While difficult, she held to her convictions. She attended church as often as she could, soaking in the presence of God and rekindling her passion for Him. She didn't do any singing on stage, at church or anywhere else.

After a few months of time hidden from the spotlight, Lu was asked to perform a special song at a Christian women's conference. "Before singing I had this question, 'God was it worth it? Was giving up the right thing?'" An American woman walked up to her after she sang and said, "The Holy Spirit asked me to tell you that giving up was worth it, and that He is so proud of you. He knows how hard it was for you to give up, how much it cost you, but He's going to honor you, and you're going to sing in countries and nations."

Though her sacrifice had been hard, God later spoke to her earthly father and vindicated her decision. "I still don't understand why you gave it up, but God told me you did the right thing, that you were honoring the Lord, so He's changing my heart." With that, her dad agreed with her singing again.

"I tried recording Christian music, but God said to stop. He said I needed to be prepared," she said. Her parents are alumni of CFNI, so when her dad asked her if she wanted to attend CFNI, she knew it would provide the perfect preparation. After beginning the CFNI worship major, she said, "I learned a lot about worship, true worship. It is important to sing as worship to the Lord, not just singing about our needs or desires." Now a graduate of CFNI, she is traveling all over the world, singing Christian music and ministering in different nations. But there is one message in particular she wants to share from her experience with sacrifice. "The world is always trying to find happiness and trying to find it in things but Jesus, He just brings it. He gives you a purpose and a map to destiny, and the world will never be able to do that. I gave up everything and I am so happy. It's so good when you feel you are in the center of His will."

With her passion for God renewed and her understanding of worship deepened, Lu is ready for the next sacrifice Jesus requires from her.

If you want to follow Lu Alone's journey, visit her website, www.lualone.com.br.



Lu Alone on the CFNI campus in Dallas, TX.

I gave up everything and I am so happy.

Share Your Story

IT'S NOT JUST LU ALONE

Have you had an experience where God gave you a gift or talent and then told you to lay it down? Abraham left family and all he knew to follow God, was given a son (Isaac), then was asked to sacrifice him. Have you been asked to give God a sacrifice?

Like Lu, have you laid down a dream, a vision, a plan or purpose you felt God gave you as an act of obedience?

Share your story of unconventional decisions, radical obedience and sacrifice, prompted by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Email us at *editor@cfn.org* and we will share some of your inspirational stories on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/bibleschool.

HOW COMPLAINING

HALTS YOUR DESTINY

By John Bevere

 oseph's descendants were very different from him. They obeyed when their desires were met and when God manifested His mighty power on their behalf. Whenever they were discouraged or felt abandoned, they quickly drifted into disobedience.

The first symptom of such drifting always came in the form of complaining. Those offended with God usually are not so foolish as to directly oppose Him. Instead, they resist His Word or leadership. The children of Israel complained about their leaders, but Moses answered with, "Your complaints are not against us but against the Lord" (Exodus 16:8).

Complaining is a killer. It will short-circuit the life of God in you faster than almost any other thing! Complaining indirectly communicates to the Lord, "I don't like what You are doing in my life—and if I were You, I would do it differently." Complaining is nothing more than a manifestation of insubordination to God's authority. It is extremely irreverent! God hates it! Joseph feared God and he never complained.

That is why the Lord admonishes us, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. Do all things without complaining and disputing" (Philippians 2:12-14).

God sternly warns us not to allow complaining to take root in our hearts. We are not left helpless by its intense attack. The fear of the Lord is a force within us that will keep that killer out. Proverbs 14:27 confirms this: "The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death."

Joseph lived in a spiritual desert for more than 12 years. It appeared that nothing was going his way. There was nothing to strengthen and encourage him. But there was a fountain from which Joseph drew—one deep within.

This fountain provided the strength Joseph needed to obey God in tough, dry times. It was the fear of God! Joseph was able to avoid the pitfalls of hatred, offense, jealousy, resentment, anger and adultery through the life-giving waters of that fountain.

When others would have fallen into the traps of death, Joseph was able to turn away and minister to others—even in his darkest hours. Joseph was wise in his behavior because he feared God: "The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom" (Proverbs 15:33). Those who fear God are wise. Daniel points out, "Those who fear God are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).

Joseph passed the ultimate heart test by giving of himself and declaring God's faithfulness in his darkest hour. It wasn't long before Joseph's wisdom caused him to shine brightly in Egypt. His virtue could not be hidden but was revealed to an entire pagan nation.



John Bevere and his wife Lisa are the founders of Messenger International. A well-known minister and best-selling author, John delivers messages of uncompromising truth with boldness and passion. His desire is to support the local church and resource leaders regardless of location, language or financial position. To connect with John, be sure to follow

him on Twitter (@johnbevere) or check out his website at http://messengerinternational.org. This article was excerpted from his popular book *Fear of the Lord*. Interestingly, it was Joseph's behavior while in prison and his response to his fellow prisoners that eventually led to his promotion. In Genesis 40, we read that the Pharaoh's chief butler and chief baker were among the prisoners. Both had dreams, which were interpreted by Joseph.

To the butler, Joseph proclaimed the meaning of the dream: "This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days. Now within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your place, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand according to the former manner, when you were his butler" (vv. 12-13).

But for the baker, the interpretation was not so good. Joseph said, "This is the interpretation of it: The three baskets are three days. Within three days Pharaoh will lift off your head from you and hang you on a tree; and the birds will eat your flesh from you" (vv. 18-19).

If there had been a morsel of complaint in Joseph's heart, he would not have ministered to either the butler or the baker. If he hadn't ministered to them, he would have remained in prison until his death.

In his final moments, Joseph would have still been murmuring about what appeared to be God's unfaithfulness, when in reality God's promise would have been aborted because of Joseph's lack of godly fear. But God was faithful to release Joseph from his prison chains. At the appointed time, Joseph was summoned by the Pharaoh himself to interpret a dream at the recommendation of none other than the chief butler. And an entire nation was delivered from famine because one man—Joseph—feared the Lord.

In the latter half of the twentieth century, the church has displayed a lack of the fear of God. Therefore, we are viewed as a reproach rather than as shining stars before our nation in need. Our sins are frequently broadcast by the media and we have lost the respect that believers should have. We have not demonstrated the faithful, God-fearing qualities found in Joseph. May God help us with His grace!



Five ways to help remember the special days of those you love.

Kindness is a fruit of the Spirit that makes those around you feel loved. What better way to make people feel special then remembering to say "Happy Birthday?"

In today's busy world, we're glad to share some tips to help make saying happy birthday easier to remember!



1. Go tech.

There are lots of great birthday apps for smart phones. Some even send a card with the click of a button and are free.



wink justWink

1

2. Send an ecard.

Want something more elegant, but enjoy the ease of online options? Try PaperlessPost.com. Their online cards look like

regal stationary, or they can send your customized cards in print too.

Dasspring DaySpring.com

We also like: 🖄 BirthdayAlarm.com



3. Use social media.

Facebook will intergrate with your calender and remind you of all your "friends" birthdays. Easy peasy.



4. Make a list, check it twice.

Make a simple annual chart, broken down by month that lists out the birthdays of all

the people you want to remember, such as friends, family and coworkers. Just put it in a place you will see it everyday – like the fridge or bathroom – making it impossible to forget to pick up the phone!



5. Buy in bulk.

Does getting your handwriten cards in the mail on time pose as your biggest relational "fail?" Consider getting all

your cards at once annually. Search online to buy birthday cards in bulk or even on special mongramed stationary. Include special occasion cards too. Then put them into an accordion folder by month so all you have to do is sign and send them each week.

Want something more personal? Check out the cute DIY card ideas at Pinterest.com. Your entire family can have fun making personalized cards that show how much you care!



The Benefit of

• By Michelle Ofori-Ansah

here are many benefits that we enjoy as the Body of Christ. Dr. Tim Sheets believes that one particular benefit has been underutilized and

even ignored—the benefit of angels. Dr. Sheets has been on a 10-year journey to study and learn more about these heavenly beings and their role in the kingdom. He is an apostle, pastor and author based in southwestern Ohio with a mandate to bring insight and awareness to the Body of Christ regarding the armies of angels being released in the world today.

There are many references in scriptures that describe the Holy Spirit bringing the angel army with Him. One of those instances is found in Acts 2:1-4. Sheets gives context to the account of the Day of Pentecost by saying, "King Jesus has issued a decree that the Gospel be taken into all the earth. The Holy Spirit has come to supervise and empower and, as usual, He has brought the angel army, represented by the cloven tongues of fire hovering over the remnant army (believers)."

Angels appearing as flames of fire or with fire are common throughout the scriptures. Hebrews 1:7, referencing Psalm 104:4, describes angels as being flames of fire. The word "flame" here is the Greek word *phlox*, meaning flash of fire, blazing fire, tongue of fire or lightning bolt. Another example is found in Ezekiel 1:13, which describes angels as burning coals of fire or living lamps. Isaiah describes a whole class of angels, seraphim, as winged angels carrying coals of fire (Isaiah 6:6).

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to baptize the church in power and angels came with Him, lighting believers' lips on fire to declare God's Word. As Sheets describes it, "Bright fire, tongues of fire began to shoot back and forth above the 120. Brilliant torches of fire began to

THE GREATEST DAYS IN CHURCH HISTORY ARE NOT IN ITS PAST; THEY ARE IN ITS FUTURE.

hover over them ... Flashes of blazing light like lightening striking danced over their heads in Holy Spirit breezes." Angels ministered fresh fire off the altar of heaven to the believers as the Holy Spirit began to breathe His life upon a new campaign.

Sheets' revelation concerning angels began about 10 years ago. The Holy Spirit revealed to him that, as in Acts 2, a fresh outpouring of His Spirit will be released. According to Sheets, the Holy Spirit said, "I will now lead another campaign on this earth for Our King, and this time I am coming with far more of the angel armies." Then the Holy Spirit branded a phrase deep inside his spirit. "The greatest days in church history are not in its past; they are in its future."

The ramifications of that statement are enormous. Something greater than any move of God in kingdom history is now being released. Sheets declares, "The world has never seen anything like it before; hell has never faced anything like this before and in some aspects, the church has never done anything like it before."

Sheets sees the working of God's angel armies as essential to the Body of Christ as believers partner with them to release Jesus' ministry on the earth. According to Sheets, "Angels are present because we need them. They are needed beings beings of great purpose—on assignment to take the orders of the Holy Spirit and assist the heirs of God and joint-heirs of Christ. "

One reason for the releasing of angels in such great numbers is to activate the plan of God on the earth. Just as the sons of Issachar did, the Body of Christ must discern the times (1 Chronicles 12:32). Sheets explains, "A campaign is beginning on the earth that only the abilities of God can execute. We are called to discern it and participate. And as we do, the Holy Spirit will release divine power or ability, and He will release the angel armies."

RELEASE YOUR CAMPAIGN LORD; RELEASE THE ARMIES!

Another example of the angelic armies is found in Joshua 5. Sheets sees this account of the people of God entering the Promised Land as a parallel to Acts 2. In both cases, the people of God were entering new seasons. In Joshua, the walled city of Jericho stood in their way. As Joshua surveyed the city to determine how to overthrow it, he met a warrior with an unsheathed sword, ready for a fight. Joshua asked, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?" In reply, the warrior said, "No, as Captain of the Lord's host I come."

This is a theophany, or Old Testament appearance of Christ. In His appearance to Joshua, Christ is declaring that He has brought the angel army to assist in taking down the walls of Jericho. The word "host" is the Hebrew word *Tsaba*', meaning mass of angels organized for war. This is a very real angel army; they are organized and captained.

Just as Jesus came to shift Joshua to a new level of authority and to shift the people of God into their Promised Land, on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came with Heaven's angel army to shift the church to a new level of covenant. Sheets declares that if the Body of Christ can discern the times, Jesus is saying, "I am coming like that again."

Sheets continues, "It is time, the proper time, the appropriate time, to synergize the efforts of heaven and earth under Holy Spirit supervision into a New Testament on-fire happening, one that hell can't stop, one that sees millions saved, one that synergizes the generations, one that marches with determination, that runs with passion, stands in faith without compromise, declares Jesus is THE way, the truth, the life, that is ON FIRE with God's presence." It is up to the Body of Christ to prophetically decree God's word and say with Sheets, "Release Your campaign Lord; release the armies!"

Dr. Tim Sheets is an apostle, pastor and author based in southwestern Ohio. A graduate of CFNI, he returned to Ohio in 1979 to pastor The Oasis, a CityGate Church, in Middletown, OH, where he continues as Senior Pastor today. Find out more at www.timsheets.org.

QUALITIES OF THE ANGELIC ARMY

• ORGANIZED:

Jesus is the head of all principalities and powers; not merely demonic but also angelic (Colossians 2:10).

- CAPTAINED: Jesus is the Captain of the hosts, or angelic army (Joshua 5).
- **RESPONSIVE:** Angels obey God's word (Psalm 103:20).

• PURPOSEFUL:

Angels are beings of great purpose, on assignment to partner with God's remnant army (Acts 2:1-4).

• GREATER FOR THAN AGAINST: Two-thirds of the angels remained in heaven; more are in the angelic army than in the demonic hordes (Revelations 12:3-9).

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Helping the Hurting

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Many blessings! -A.S.



Helping the Needy

"We thank you very much for your financial help for us during a hard time in our life. Your assistance really helped us to not go deeply in debt until Yael was able to finish her chemotherapy treatment. Right now Yael prepares for the next step – radioactive treatment for about two months. She will live in Tel Aviv (we are from Eilat). Thank God, my job is much better now than a few months before and we can go on. Again, we thank you so much. You were a real blessing to us and we bless you and wish only the best in your help to people in need and who are going through their hard seasons."

In Yeshua's love, -Ariel & Yael Ben David

Helping Small & New Businesses



This truck has been purchased by the Joseph Project in Israel, founded by the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America. The Joseph Project ships boatloads of goods given to them by businesses all over the world directly to Israel. They have 40 distribution centers throughout Israel. In 2013, our partners through IstandwithIsrael.com outfitted a second warehouse in the south of Israel for \$50,000 with palletized shelving, a mandatory anti-fire sprinkler system and a forklift. The truck, which cost \$90,000, will carry the supplies from this new warehouse to distribution centers.

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NEWS:

BRAIN

- By Maike Skwara

We cannot afford to be ignorant in an educated world.

Christianity today is known for its interest in souls, change of life and mind. People come to church when they feel mentally weak, experience hard times or when they simply desire a change from their old lifestyle.

We can reach these people—as long as they have severe issues in their lives. In fact, we secretly hope sometimes that people would experience some inconveniences in their so far good life! Not because we want them to be unhappy, but because we find hardship to be a driving force for unbelievers to find Jesus. After all an old saying says, "Necessity teaches us to pray." But do we have to watch people run into a pit in order to show them the Person who can prevent them from falling into one in the first place?

The church is doing a great job at giving advice about life. We learn to be unselfish, to serve others and to lift up fallen ones. People that are not accepted anywhere else find acceptance and friendship in Christian environments. Church members—young and old—are always happy to give some wisdom about life's struggles and circumstances.

ACTIVITIES Now allowed in church

We have become masters at contemporary worship music, prayer and intercession, and our sermons are masterpieces. The subjects—God's love, healing of emotional wounds, obedience and how to change your lifestyle—are being taught all around the world and have a great influence on society.

However, what do we do with those people that never have any severe problems, do not run out of money and do not ever file for divorce? What do we do with people who have unsentimental personality types? Not everybody is led by emotions; some people are led by logic. For people with this personality type, their heart might not be moved, even in difficult times, by someone who loves them and offers them help. Logical people are led by facts and proven strategies; when such information is provided, trust and faith in other areas will follow.

The good news is, the Bible offers more than just emotional sustainability! Though God cannot be proven, many facts mentioned in the Holy Scripture can. Hundreds of years before science proved it, Isaiah 40:22 told us that the earth is round.

Even neuroscience gives scientific explanations for some content of the Bible. Philippians 4:4 says, "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice" (KJV).

As neuroscientists discovered, it is our decision to be happy or to be sad. According to these studies, a human is born with only positive thoughts. Negative thoughts are developed by a person and can be chosen to be replaced again by positive thinking. Thoughts are not only mental but physical. Thoughts are proteins and they can be detected as good or bad in the brain. When the Bible says that we should rejoice always, it is telling us that we are not bound to circumstances. Science then backs this up when it proves that rejoicing makes us physically healthy and strong. Let us put an end to ignorance, and revolutionize the world through the question "why?"

These are only two examples of explanatory facts in the Word of God; there are many more. But it often seems that the Church has created an environment in which strategic and logical thinking counts as unbiblical; as if questioning and learning from our questions is a sign of unbelief.

John 20:29 says, "Jesus said unto him, 'Thomas, because you have seen me, you have believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.""

Did we take this verse as an excuse to not think about the reasons for God's commandments and other biblical truths? Has questioning and hunger for knowledge become a taboo? What are we afraid of? That God could not explain the world He created? That He would not be pleased with us for asking why?

Jesus Himself encouraged us to be like children. As we know, -> Stronger trust in God their favorite question is "WHY?" We are meant to discover the secrets of life in many ways. God has equipped us with incredible brain functions, and we are more than welcome to use them.

Hosea 4:6 tells us, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children" (NKJV).

> Martin Luther-the German monkdid question. He questioned if it was

right that priests made people pay for the sins of deceased ancestors. By asking "why," he not only discovered this ritual to be unbiblical but also revolutionized the whole church and brought Christians back to the root of the Bible. Christianity is about more than emotions and keeping the laws; it is about science, understanding, logic, knowledge and wisdom. The Bible is supposed to make us smart; the Holy Spirit wants to bring us revelations that the world has been waiting for. This faith is not only for sentimental people-it is for people that want to know why. Why am I alive? Why does God allow things to happen? Why is the sky blue, but the sunset red and orange?

Asking why can give us all of these things and more:

- → Stronger relationship with God
- Stronger foundation in faith
- → Understanding the Bible and the world
- → Resolved anger towards God

Let us put an end to ignorance and revolutionize the world through the question "why?" God will be glad to give us the answers so many Christians crave! Understanding that occurrences are supposed to be understood will give us the ability to testify to logical, unsentimental people—through answers, not feelings. We do not have to wait for unbelievers to become sick or to be stuck in problems in order to bring them the good news. Jesus is more than a problem solver— He is the answer to all of life's questions!



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE LOGICAL THINKER

- Switch on Your Brain (Dr. Caroline Leaf)
- Who Switched off My Brain? (Dr. Caroline Leaf)
- The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics (Ed Hindson, Ergun Caner)
- The Creation Answers Book (Dr. David Catchpoole, Dr. Jonathan Safarti, Dr. Carl Wieland)

Maike Skwara was born and raised in Germany where she obtained degrees in multilingual administration. She wrote for several years for an internal magazine before coming to the States to study in CFNI. Maike loves to translate and write, especially writings that help people understand God and the Bible better, like her children's book Diego.

WORDS ARE CHEAP

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul—then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil. I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied (Deuteronomy 11:13–15, NIV).

• By Zach Neese

ave you ever heard someone say: "Words are cheap?" In a way, that's true ... especially when it comes to love. Because all love worth receiving is love worth demonstrating. Unexpressed love isn't love at all.

God certainly thinks so. That's why He demonstrated His love for us through the cross. He didn't just tell us; He showed us.

In the same way, while true worship always begins with the motivation in our hearts, it never stays there. Our love must be expressed in order to be considered worship. And since 55 percent of all communication is body language, our actions actually do speak louder than our words.

So how do you demonstrate your adoration for God? How do you demonstrate worship?

My pastor, Robert Morris, defines worship as "love expressed." That's true, but since we tend to be great at finding loopholes, allow me to expand on that definition—worship is love expressed God's way.

In his book, *The Five Love Languages*, Gary Chapman states that we all tend to express and receive love in one of five different ways. These "love languages" are words of affirmation (saying nice things), quality time, receiving and giving gifts, acts of service and physical touch.

Now, I'm a pretty simple guy. I'm a lot like a puppy. If you want to make me happy, just talk nice to me and scratch my belly every now and then. My wife, on the other hand, is an enigma. She speaks all five love languages fluently. My challenge is to discover via observation, subtle clues, the alignment of the stars, and much prayer and fasting which language she is speaking at which time.

Do you see the difficulty here? As a man, you might really feel loved if your wife buys you a fishing boat. But if you try to express your love for your wife by getting her a fishing boat, you'll probably quickly discover she doesn't see the love in it. Likewise, my wife got me a spa package as a gift once. It was very sweet of her, but I'm just not that guy. I have no idea why they call that thing they do to your fingers a manicure. I think it should be called a "womanicure."

The point is, we often go amiss when we try to speak our own love language to express love to someone else. We have to learn to speak their love language.

Did you know there actually are some ways you may think you're expressing love to God, but He doesn't see it as love? For instance, God doesn't feel loved just because we sing Him a song that says we love Him. I know I wouldn't feel loved if my wife picked up a Hallmark card, wrote her name on it and handed it to me in passing. I need more than empty Hallmark cards from my wife. So does God.

Fortunately, God speaks all five love languages. Words of affirmation? We Christians call that praise. Quality time? We call that quiet time—prayer, soaking in the Word and private worship. Receiving gifts? That's tithes and offerings. And acts of service speaks for itself. And finally, there's physical touch. We have a God who still wants to touch, comfort, heal and be near His people. He wants us to experience Him now—in our physical bodies—not just in some sweet by and by, airy-fairy, glorified future.

God wants to demonstrate His love to you physically—in the world you can touch. And He receives love when you demonstrate your love physically.

That's who God is. He invented love.

What great news! We have a God who receives love in all the same ways we do! Take some time today and consider all of the ways God has expressed His love for you. Then respond by expressing your love back to Him. I think you'll discover your Father is waiting to share a rich, ever-deepening worship relationship with you.

Proverbs 3:9; Psalm 95:1–7; Psalm 119:10–12; John 14:15–24; Philippians 4:6–7

Our entire being is fashioned as an instrument of praise. When we use body language to express praise, that which is internal becomes visible. — Lamar Boschman

www.ZachNeese.com

For Further Study

FINANCIAL FREEDOM GOD'S WAY

By Harvey Nowland

t is important to know why you want to become financially free. This may seem like a "no-brainer." After all, why would you want to be in financial bondage because of debt? Freedom from debt looks like the logical choice.

Nevertheless, your motivation for becoming debt free is important. Being released from the tension and anxiety of debt and being able to do what you want, when you want, might be high on a priority list.

But for the Christian, learning God's biblical principles of finances and practicing them in order to become debt free is actually a path to know Christ more intimately and be financially free to serve Him. This means, however, that you must trust God and be willing to submit to His will and direction.

We say we trust God, but there's a great difference between saying and trusting. Often we trust if it's convenient or necessary as a last resort. God expects us to trust Him daily, in all things.

If you're serious about becoming financially free, take these action steps:

Transfer ownership to God.

Recognize that God really owns what you have and that includes your family as well as your time and things. Recognize this biblical principle, or it will be impossible to free yourself financially. "The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it" (Psalm 24:1, NASB).

Get out of debt.

Break the habits that keep you in debt – like spending more than you earn and borrowing. Save so you don't have to borrow. "Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and turmoil with it" (Proverbs 15:16, NASB).

Accept God's provision for you.

God is wiser than you are, and He will provide for your needs just as He promised. "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'" (Matthew 6:31, NASB).

Refuse temptations to make hasty financial decisions.

Don't buy into get-rich-quick schemes or be pressured to make quick decisions based on incomplete information. "The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty" (Proverbs 21:5, NASB).

Strive for excellence in all you do.

Set high standards for yourself and your family. Humility doesn't mean second best. "Whoever speaks is to do so as one who is speaking the utterance of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever" (1 Peter 4:11, NASB).

Seek contentment through your relationship with God.

A discontented spirit produces greed and covetousness. Contentment results from a proper relationship with God based on accepting the lifestyle that He has made provision for in your life. "I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need" (Philippians 4:11-12, NASB).

Believe God's promise that your needs will be met.

Sometimes He'll do this through the abundance of others; however, He never promises to provide equally for everyone. As a Christian, learn to accept God's provision for you, because it is clear evidence of the role He has designed for you in His plan. Accept His provision without resentment because, "At this present time your abundance being a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may be equality" (2 Corinthians 8:14, NASB).

Harvey Nowland and his wife were missionaries in Peru, and he served as senior pastor in Texas, Georgia and Pennsylvania churches. Formerly a senior staff writer with Larry Burkett and Christian Financial Concepts, Harvey has contributed to many well-known ministries such as Focus on the Family. Parents of two and grandparents of six, he and his wife Bobbie live in Gainesville, Georgia.

EMPOWERED21

Israel and the Spirit-Empowered Movement

hrist For The Nations has partnered with the Empowered21 movement to witness an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Israel as Spirit-filled believers join together in Jerusalem on Pentecost at the Jerusalem 2015 Global Congress May 20-24, 2015. "This global congress could be a pivotal event for the future of the Spirit-empowered movement from around the globe," says Billy Wilson, Empowered21 Global Co-Chair and Oral Roberts University President. "Jerusalem 2015 will be a moving experience as thousands of Christians from around the world join together to ask for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit."

Empowered21 is witnessing a convergence and collaboration of Spirit-empowered ministries around the world. "There are somewhere around 620 million Spiritfilled believers in the world today and Empowered21 is a relational network designed to serve that movement's future and to help position us for the future ahead," says Wilson.

In anticipation of all that God will do, we have committed to pray daily for next year's assembly. Our concentrated efforts of prayer will be followed next year with a delegation of believers journeying to join the nearly 10,000 people from around the globe expected to attend the Jerusalem 2015 Congress. It is considered to be the largest Christian gathering in Jerusalem in modern-day history.

For the past 55 years, Israel has remained a treasured focus at Christ For The Nations, due to our co-founder, Gordon Lindsay's passion for Israel and the salvation of the Jewish people. "And, today we are joining the modern mission of Empowered21, to see the historic fulfillment of Gordon Lindsay's prophesy in which he described a genuine Acts 2 encounter with the Holy Spirit come to the land of Israel," says Dennis Lindsay, President and CEO of Christ For The Nations.

"The reason we are so excited about this partnership with Empowered21 is that we believe that God desires to pour out His Spirit on a new generation—the 21st century generation," Lindsay continues. "There is a Spiritempowered movement that MUST be passed to the next generation in order to receive an intergenerational blessing and impartation. And we believe that God will again visit Israel, making it the epicenter for a new Pentecost."

(To download the printer friendly pdf prayer guide or get the free itunes/ Google Play prayer app, or if you plan to join us for this historic event, go to: www. cfn.org/empowered21.)





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"Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits who forgives all your sins and heals **all your diseases**" Psalm 103:2-3

Voice<

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REGULAR REGISTRATION June 1st - Sept. 17th \$55 per person / \$70 per couple

DOOR REGISTRATION

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SPEAKER INFORMATION & REGISTRATION cfn.org/VOH

* Spanish translation available for evening sessions.

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Encounter amazing worship
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Learn to develop a family who moves in the supernatural
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(Saturday morning)